

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 2768
OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN OF ARKANSAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Benton MacKaye Na-
3 tional Scenic Trail Feasibility Study Act of 2026”.

**4 SEC. 2. BENTON MACKAYE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL FEASI-
5 BILITY STUDY.**

6 Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16
7 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(50) BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Benton MacKaye
11 Trail, a scenic, nonmotorized trail that tra-
12 verses approximately 287 miles in the States of
13 Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

14 “(B) STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after
15 the date of the enactment of this paragraph,
16 the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation
17 with interested organizations, including the
18 Benton MacKaye Trail Association, shall com-

1 plete and submit to Congress the feasibility
2 study for designating the Benton MacKaye
3 Trail as a national scenic trail.”.

