



## NPCA support for H.R.1647

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Representative,

Since 1919, National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) has been the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System. On behalf of our 1.6 million members and supporters nationwide, we write to share our position on H.R. 1645 - Salem Maritime National Historical Park Redesignation and Boundary Study Act.

### **H.R.1647- Salem Maritime National Historical Park Redesignation and Boundary Study Act:**

NPCA **supports** this legislation to redesignate Salem Maritime National Historic Site (NHS) to Salem Maritime National Historical Park and to initiate a boundary study to identify opportunities to preserve and interpret our shared defense and maritime heritage. This redesignation aligns with the increasing number of historic and cultural resources that are protected and interpreted at Salem Maritime NHS. Since the original designation in 1938, Salem Maritime NHS has acquired new properties that broadened national narratives and educate visitors about the contributions of Salem, MA to global maritime trade, northern slavery and immigration. Redesignating Salem Maritime would serve as a more accurate account of the breadth of resources and cultural landscapes that are protected and interpreted by NPS in Salem, MA. This legislation also instructs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a boundary study to evaluate the inclusion of nearby sites and resources associated with Salem's maritime history, coastal defenses and military history, including National Guard and militia activity that date back to the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Leading up to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, this boundary study would uncover new opportunities to preserve Salem's defense and maritime history for future generations.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Tucker Johnson  
Interim Legislative Director, Government Affairs  
National Parks Conservation Association

**NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION**

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