

**Statement for the Record
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**House Natural Resources Committee
Subcommittee on Federal Lands**

**Legislative Hearing on
H.R.8735, American Sovereignty and Monterey Historic Military Site Study Act**

May 21, 2026

Chairman Tiffany, Ranking Member Neguse, and members of the Subcommittee, the Department of the Interior is pleased to provide this statement for the record on H.R. 8735, American Sovereignty and Monterey Historic Military Site Study Act.

H.R. 8735 directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Lower Presidio Historic Park in Monterey, California to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the area as unit of the National Park Service.

The Department recognizes the historical and cultural significance of the Lower Presidio Historic Park. However, we do not support H.R. 8735 as the National Park Service is focusing its resources on addressing other critical needs, including reducing the deferred maintenance backlog.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a Statement for the Record on this legislation.