

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2768

[Report No. 119-]

To amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national scenic trail.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2025

Mr. FLEISCHMANN (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mrs. MCBATH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

APRIL --, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 9, 2025]

A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national scenic trail.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

6 **SEC. 2. BENTON MACKAYE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL FEASI-**
7 **BILITY STUDY.**

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

11 “(50) *BENTON MACKAYE TRAIL.*—

12 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Benton MacKaye*
13 *Trail, a scenic, nonmotorized trail that traverses*
14 *approximately 287 miles in the States of Geor-*
15 *gia, Tennessee, and North Carolina.*

16 “(B) *STUDY.*—*Not later than 2 years after*
17 *the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the*
18 *Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with*
19 *interested organizations, including the Benton*
20 *MacKaye Trail Association, shall complete and*
21 *submit to Congress the feasibility study for desig-*
22 *inating the Benton MacKaye Trail as a national*
23 *scenic trail.”.*