

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVER
MONGAUP VISITOR CENTER ACT OF 1999

OCTOBER 4, 1999.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 20]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 20) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by the State of New York, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 20 is to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by the State of New York.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a 99-year lease for state-owned land within the boundaries of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River located at Mongaup, New York. The bill also directs the Secretary to construct and operate a visitor center on that land.

In June 1993, the State of New York authorized a 99-year lease between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the National Park Service for the construction and operation of the Mongaup Visitor Center. Because the Act which established the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and its approved river management plan limits federal authority to ac-

quire land, Congressional action is needed to authorize the expenditure of appropriated funds for the construction and subsequent operation of the visitor center on the leased land.

The visitor center will serve as an information point for area services and attractions, as well as supply basic traveler services such as restrooms and telephones. The center will also provide river safety information, exhibits and programs on bald eagles, and a rotation of exhibits on natural and valley history and site interpretation.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 20 was introduced on January 6, 1999, by Congressman Benjamin Gilman (R-NY). The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands. On July 13, 1999, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill where the Administration testified in favor of the bill. On August 5, 1999, the Subcommittee met to consider the bill. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the Full Committee by voice vote. On September 22, 1999, the Full Committee met to consider the bill. No amendments were offered and the bill was then ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by voice vote.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. Government Reform Oversight Findings. Under clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received no report of oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Reform on this bill.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 29, 1999.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 20, the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Mongaup Visitor Center Act of 1999.

If you wish further details in this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

*H.R. 20—Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Mongaup
Visitor Center Act of 1999*

H.R. 20 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to enter into a 99-year lease with the state of New York for state-owned land located near the Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. The bill also would authorize the NPS to construct and operate a visitor center on the leased land.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the agency would spend about \$7 million over the next four years to construct a visitor center on land leased from New York. We estimate that the costs of the long-term lease would be negligible. Once the center has been completed, the NPS would spend about \$600,000 annually to operate it.

H.R. 20 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

4

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.

○