

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2617

To establish the Apollo Lunar Landing Sites National Historical Park on the Moon, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 8, 2013

Ms. EDWARDS (for herself and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish the Apollo Lunar Landing Sites National Historical Park on the Moon, and for other purposes.

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 “Apollo Lunar Landing
5 Legacy Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) on July 20, 1969, Neil A. Armstrong and
2 Edwin E. “Buzz” Aldrin Jr. became the first people
3 to set foot on another celestial body, during the
4 Apollo 11 mission;

5 (2) between 1969 and 1972, Apollo Missions
6 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17 all saw American astro-
7 nauts visit the surface of the Moon;

8 (3) the 1970 Apollo 13 mission, which was
9 aborted due to a serious malfunction en route to the
10 Moon, also circled the Moon;

11 (4) the Apollo lunar program was one of the
12 greatest achievements in American history;

13 (5) as commercial enterprises and foreign na-
14 tions acquire the ability to land on the Moon it is
15 necessary to protect the Apollo lunar landing sites
16 for posterity; and

17 (6) establishing the Historical Park under this
18 Act will expand and enhance the protection and
19 preservation of the Apollo lunar landing sites and
20 provide for greater recognition and public under-
21 standing of this singular achievement in American
22 history.

23 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

24 The purposes of this Act are—

1 (1) to preserve and protect for the benefit of
2 present and future generations the nationally signifi-
3 cant historic sites associated with the Historical
4 Park;

5 (2) to preserve and protect for scientific inquiry
6 the artifacts described in section 5(b); and

7 (3) to improve public understanding of the
8 Apollo program and its legacy through preservation
9 of the historic resources associated with the Apollo
10 lunar landing sites.

11 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this Act:

13 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
14 trator” means the Administrator of the National
15 Aeronautics and Space Administration.

16 (2) APOLLO LUNAR LANDING SITES.—The term
17 “Apollo lunar landing sites” means all areas of the
18 Moon where astronauts and instruments connected
19 to the Apollo program between 1969 and 1972
20 touched the lunar surface.

21 (3) HISTORICAL PARK.—The term “Historical
22 Park” means the Apollo Lunar Landing Sites Na-
23 tional Historical Park established under section 5.

24 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
25 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF APOLLO LUNAR LANDING**
2 **SITES NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 1 year after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, there shall be estab-
5 lished as a unit of the National Park System the Apollo
6 Lunar Landing Sites National Historical Park.

7 (b) **PARK COMPONENTS.**—The Historical Park may
8 only be comprised, as determined by the Secretary in con-
9 sultation with the Administrator, of—

10 (1) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
11 sociated with the Apollo 11 mission, which landed on
12 the lunar surface July 20, 1969, at Mare
13 Tranquillitatis;

14 (2) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
15 sociated with the Apollo 12 mission, which landed on
16 the lunar surface November 19, 1969, at Oceanus
17 Procellarum;

18 (3) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
19 sociated with the Apollo 13 mission, which had an
20 instrumentality crash land on the lunar surface
21 April 14, 1970;

22 (4) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
23 sociated with the Apollo 14 mission, which landed on
24 the lunar surface February 5, 1971, at Fra Mauro;

25 (5) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
26 sociated with the Apollo 15 mission, which landed on

1 the lunar surface July 30, 1971, at Hadley-Apen-
2 nines;

3 (6) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
4 sociated with the Apollo 16 mission, which landed on
5 the lunar surface April 21, 1972, at Descartes; and

6 (7) the artifacts on the surface of the Moon as-
7 sociated with the Apollo 17 mission, which landed on
8 the lunar surface December 11, 1972, at Taurus-
9 Littrow.

10 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer
12 the Historical Park in accordance with—

13 (1) this Act;

14 (2) the laws generally applicable to units of the
15 National Park System, including—

16 (A) the National Park System Organic Act
17 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

18 (B) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C.
19 461 et seq.); and

20 (3) applicable international law and treaties.

21 (b) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than
22 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the
23 Secretary and the Administrator, pursuant to the inter-
24 agency management agreement entered into under section

1 7(a), shall jointly complete a general management plan for
2 the Historical Park.

3 (c) DONATIONS; COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

4 (1) AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGEN-
5 CIES.—The Secretary may enter into one or more
6 agreements with the head of a Federal agency to
7 provide public access to, and management, interpreta-
8 tion, and historic preservation of, historically sig-
9 nificant Apollo lunar landing site resources under
10 the jurisdiction or control of the Federal agency.

11 (2) DONATIONS; COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

12 The Secretary may accept donations from, and enter
13 into cooperative agreements with, foreign govern-
14 ments and international bodies, organizations, or in-
15 dividuals to further the purpose of an interagency
16 agreement entered into under paragraph (1) or to
17 provide visitor services and administrative facilities
18 within reasonable proximity to the Historical Park.

19 (3) DONATIONS TO NASA.—For the purposes of
20 this Act, the Administrator may accept, hold, admin-
21 ister, and use gifts, bequests, and devises (including
22 labor and services).

23 **SEC. 7. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
25 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Ad-

1 administrator shall enter into an agreement providing for the
2 primary management of the Historical Park by the Ad-
3 ministrator. The agreement shall delineate the respective
4 duties and responsibilities of the Secretary and the Admin-
5 istrator in managing the Historical Park. Responsibilities
6 of the Administrator shall specifically include—

7 (1) ensuring proper monitoring of the Apollo
8 lunar landing sites;

9 (2) managing access to the sites, including
10 through coordination with other spacefaring nations
11 and entities; and

12 (3) in conjunction with the Director of the
13 Smithsonian Institution, ensuring an accurate cata-
14 loguing of items in the Historical Park.

15 (b) OTHER AGENCIES.—The Secretary and the Ad-
16 ministrator shall consult with other agencies, as needed,
17 to effectively carry out management of the Historical
18 Park.

19 **SEC. 8. WORLD HERITAGE SITE DESIGNATION.**

20 Not later than 1 year after the establishment of the
21 Historical Park, the Secretary, in consultation with the
22 Administrator, shall submit the Apollo 11 lunar landing
23 site to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and
24 Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for designation as a
25 World Heritage Site.

1 **SEC. 9. SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.**

2 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to alter or ter-
3 minate any existing agreements between the National Aer-
4 onautics and Space Administration and the Smithsonian
5 Institution concerning the management of National Aero-
6 nautics and Space Administration historical artifacts.

○