

Union Calendar No. 224

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2408

[Report No. 108-385]

To amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 10, 2003

Mr. SAXTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

NOVEMBER 20, 2003

Reported with amendments, 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 italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 10, 2003]

A BILL

To amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “National Wildlife Refuge*
 3 *Volunteer Act of 2003”.*

4 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS**
 5 **AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS UNDER**
 6 **FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956.**

7 *Section 7(f) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16*
 8 *U.S.C. 742f(f)) is amended to read as follows:*

9 *“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is*
 10 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Inte-*
 11 *rior to carry out subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) \$2,000,000*
 12 *for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.”.*

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF PROJECTS UNDER NATIONAL**
 14 **WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM VOLUNTEER AND**
 15 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ENHANCEMENT**
 16 **ACT OF 1998.**

17 *Section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System*
 18 *Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act*
 19 *of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f note) is amended—*

20 *(1) in the heading by striking “PILOT”;*

21 *(2) by striking “pilot project” each place it ap-*
 22 *pears and inserting “project”;*

23 *(3) in paragraph (1) by striking “, but not more*
 24 *than 20 pilot projects nationwide”;*

25 *(4) in paragraph (3)—*

1 (A) by striking “pilot projects” and insert-
2 ing “projects”; and

3 (B) by striking “after the date of the enact-
4 ment of this Act” and inserting “after the date
5 of the enactment of the National Wildlife Refuge
6 Volunteer Act of 2003, and every 3 years there-
7 after”; and

8 (5) in paragraph (4) by striking “each of fiscal
9 years 1999 through 2002” and inserting “for each fis-
10 cal year through fiscal year 2009”.

11 **SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AU-**
12 **THORITY.**

13 Section 7(d)(2) (A) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of
14 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(d)(2)(A)) is amended to read as fol-
15 lows:

16 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding chap-
17 ter 63 of title 31, United States Code, the Sec-
18 retary of the Interior may negotiate and enter
19 into a cooperative agreement with a partner or-
20 ganization, academic institution, State or local
21 government agency, or other person to implement
22 one or more projects or programs for a refuge or
23 complex of geographically related refuges in ac-
24 cordance with the purposes of this subsection and

- 1 *in compliance with the policies of other relevant*
2 *authorities, regulations, and policy guidance.”.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes.”.

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