

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1447

To revise the boundaries of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 1995

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts (for himself, Mr. BLUTE, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. REED) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To revise the boundaries of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, 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 “Blackstone River  
5 Valley National Heritage Corridor Amendments Act of  
6 1995”.

7 **SEC. 2. BOUNDARY CHANGES.**

8 Section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act to establish the  
9 Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in

1 Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, approved November  
2 10, 1986 (Public Law 99–647; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), is  
3 amended by striking the first sentence and inserting the  
4 following new sentence: “The boundaries shall include the  
5 lands and water generally depicted on the map entitled  
6 Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor  
7 Boundary Map, numbered BRV–80–80,011, and dated  
8 May 2, 1993.”.

9 **SEC. 3. TERMS.**

10 Section 3(c) of the Act entitled “An Act to establish  
11 the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor  
12 in Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, approved November  
13 10, 1986 (Public Law 99–647; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), is  
14 amended by inserting immediately before the period at the  
15 end the following: “, but may continue to serve after the  
16 expiration of this term until a successor has been ap-  
17 pointed”.

18 **SEC. 4. REVISION OF PLAN.**

19 Section 6 of the Act entitled “An Act to establish the  
20 Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in  
21 Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, approved November  
22 10, 1986 (Public Law 99–647; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), is  
23 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
24 section:

1       “(d) REVISION OF PLAN.—(1) Not later than 1 year  
2 after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Com-  
3 mission, with the approval of the Secretary, shall revise  
4 the Cultural Heritage and Land Management Plan. The  
5 revision shall address the boundary change and shall in-  
6 clude a natural resource inventory of areas or features  
7 that should be protected, restored, managed, or acquired  
8 because of their contribution to the understanding of na-  
9 tional cultural landscape values.

10       “(2) No changes other than minor revisions may be  
11 made in the approved plan as amended without the ap-  
12 proval of the Secretary. The Secretary shall approve or  
13 disapprove any proposed change in the plan, except minor  
14 revisions, in accordance with subsection (b).”.

15 **SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF COMMISSION.**

16       Section 7 of the Act entitled “An Act to establish the  
17 Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in  
18 Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, approved November  
19 10, 1986 (Public Law 99–647; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21                   “TERMINATION OF COMMISSION

22       “SEC. 7. (a) TERMINATION.—Except as provided in  
23 subsection (b), the Commission shall terminate on the date  
24 that is 10 years after the date of enactment of the Black-  
25 stone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Amend-  
26 ments Act of 1995.

1       “(b) EXTENSION.—The Commission may be extended  
2 for an additional term of 10 years if—

3           “(1) not later than 180 days before the termi-  
4 nation of the Commission, the Commission deter-  
5 mines that an extension is necessary to carry out  
6 this Act;

7           “(2) the Commission submits a proposed exten-  
8 sion to the appropriate committees of the Senate  
9 and the House of Representatives; and

10          “(3) the Secretary, the Governor of Massachu-  
11 setts, and the Governor of Rhode Island each ap-  
12 prove the extension.

13       “(c) DETERMINATION OF APPROVAL.—The Secretary  
14 shall approve the extension if the Secretary finds that—

15           “(1) the Governor of Massachusetts and the  
16 Governor of Rhode Island provide adequate assur-  
17 ances of continued tangible contribution and effec-  
18 tive policy support toward achieving the purposes of  
19 this Act; and

20           “(2) the Commission is effectively assisting  
21 Federal, State, and local authorities to retain, en-  
22 hance, and interpret the distinctive character and  
23 nationally significant resources of the Corridor.”.

1 **SEC. 6. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN.**

2 Subsection (c) of section 8 of the Act entitled “An  
3 Act to establish the Blackstone River Valley National Her-  
4 itage Corridor in Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, ap-  
5 proved November 10, 1986 (Public Law 99-647; 16  
6 U.S.C. 461 note), is amended to read as follows:

7 “(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—(1) To assist in the imple-  
8 mentation of the Cultural Heritage and Land Manage-  
9 ment Plan in a manner consistent with purposes of this  
10 Act, the Secretary is authorized to undertake a limited  
11 program of financial assistance for the purpose of provid-  
12 ing funds for the preservation and restoration of struc-  
13 tures on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register  
14 of Historic Places within the Corridor which exhibit na-  
15 tional significance or provide a wide spectrum of historic,  
16 recreational, or environmental education opportunities to  
17 the general public.

18 “(2) To be eligible for funds under this section, the  
19 Commission shall submit an application to the Secretary  
20 that includes—

21 “(A) a 10-year development plan including  
22 those resource protection needs and projects critical  
23 to maintaining or interpreting the distinctive char-  
24 acter of the Corridor; and

25 “(B) specific descriptions of annual work pro-  
26 grams that have been assembled, the participating

1 parties, roles, cost estimates, cost-sharing, or cooper-  
2 ative agreements necessary to carry out the develop-  
3 ment plan.

4 “(3) Funds made available pursuant to this sub-  
5 section shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the  
6 work programs.

7 “(4) In making the funds available, the Secretary  
8 shall give priority to projects that attract greater non-Fed-  
9 eral funding sources.

10 “(5) Any payment made for the purposes of conserva-  
11 tion or restoration of real property or structures shall be  
12 subject to an agreement either—

13 “(A) to convey a conservation or preservation  
14 easement to the Department of Environmental Man-  
15 agement or to the Historic Preservation Commis-  
16 sion, as appropriate, of the State in which the real  
17 property or structure is located; or

18 “(B) that conversion, use, or disposal of the re-  
19 sources so assisted for purposes contrary to the pur-  
20 poses of this Act, as determined by the Secretary,  
21 shall result in a right of the United States for reim-  
22 bursement of all funds expended upon such re-  
23 sources or the proportion of the increased value of  
24 the resources attributable to such funds as deter-

1       mined at the time of such conversion, use, or dis-  
2       posal, whichever is greater.

3       “(6) The authority to determine that a conversion,  
4 use, or disposal of resources has been carried out contrary  
5 to the purposes of this Act in violation of an agreement  
6 entered into under paragraph (5)(A) shall be solely at the  
7 discretion of the Secretary.”.

8       **SEC. 7. LOCAL AUTHORITY.**

9       Section 5 of the Act entitled “An Act to establish the  
10 Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in  
11 Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, approved November  
12 10, 1986 (Public Law 99–647; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), is  
13 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
14 section:

15       “(j) LOCAL AUTHORITY AND PRIVATE PROPERTY  
16 NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed  
17 to affect or to authorize the Commission to interfere  
18 with—

19               “(1) the rights of any person with respect to  
20 private property; or

21               “(2) any local zoning ordinance or land use  
22 plan of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or a  
23 political subdivision of such Commonwealth.”.

1 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 Section 10 of the Act entitled “An Act to establish  
3 the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor  
4 in Massachusetts and Rhode Island”, approved November  
5 10, 1986 (Public Law 99–647; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), as  
6 amended, is further amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “\$350,000”  
8 and inserting “\$650,000”; and

9 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as  
10 follows:

11 “(b) DEVELOPMENT FUNDS.—For fiscal years 1996,  
12 1997, and 1998, there is authorized to be appropriated  
13 to carry out section 8(c), \$5,000,000 in the aggregate.”.

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