

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2976

To provide for the issuance of a special entrance pass for free admission to any federally owned area which is operated and maintained by a Federal agency and used for outdoor recreation purposes to the survivors, victims' immediate families, and police, fire, rescue, recovery, and medical personnel directly affected by the September 11, 2001, terrorist hijackings and the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 2, 2001

Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. HANSEN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To provide for the issuance of a special entrance pass for free admission to any federally owned area which is operated and maintained by a Federal agency and used for outdoor recreation purposes to the survivors, victims' immediate families, and police, fire, rescue, recovery, and medical personnel directly affected by the September 11, 2001, terrorist hijackings and the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Healing Opportunities
3 in Parks and the Environment Pass Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The trauma associated with the terrorist hi-
7 jackings and attacks of September 11, 2001, has
8 been significant for the survivors, victims’ immediate
9 families, and police, fire, rescue, recovery, and med-
10 ical personnel directly involved in this national trag-
11 edy.

12 (2) America’s system of national parks, forests,
13 and public lands provides significant opportunities to
14 renew, refresh, and strengthen the physical, mental,
15 and spiritual well-being of those who use them.

16 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to help
17 those directly impacted by the tragic events of September
18 11, 2001, by enhancing opportunities for the use of Amer-
19 ica’s national parks, forests, and public lands as a means
20 of aiding in their recovery from the trauma associated with
21 these tragic events.

22 **SEC. 3. HOPE PASS.**

23 (a) ISSUANCE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall
24 make available at no cost to qualified individuals a special
25 entrance pass which shall be known as the “Hope Pass”
26 and shall provide for free admission into any federally

1 owned area which is operated and maintained by a Federal
2 agency and used for outdoor recreation purposes.

3 (b) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.—A qualified individual
4 shall be—

5 (1) an individual who was present at the World
6 Trade Center, the Pentagon, or the site of the air-
7 craft crash at Shanksville, Pennsylvania, at the time,
8 or in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist-re-
9 lated aircraft crashes of September 11, 2001;

10 (2) an individual who had an immediate family
11 member killed as a direct result of the terrorist-re-
12 lated aircraft crashes of September 11, 2001; or

13 (3) any police, fire, rescue, recovery, or medical
14 personnel who directly responded to the terrorist-re-
15 lated aircraft crashes of September 11, 2001.

16 (c) CONDITIONS.—Each Hope Pass shall—

17 (1) be issued upon acceptance by the Secretary
18 of the Interior of an application from a qualified ap-
19 plicant which shall include a signed statement attest-
20 ing to the applicant's eligibility for the pass;

21 (2) be valid for the life of the qualified pass
22 holder; and

23 (3) provide free admission to qualified pass
24 holders and their immediate family when accom-
25 panied by the qualified pass holder.

1 (d) NONELIGIBILITY.—No individual identified by
2 the Attorney General of the United States to have been
3 a participant or conspirator in the terrorist-related air-
4 craft crashes of September 11, 2001, or their family shall
5 be eligible to receive a Hope Pass.

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