

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5571

To establish the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area in the State of California, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 12, 2021

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

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## A BILL

To establish the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area in the State of California, 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 “Monterey Bay National  
5       Heritage Area Study Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

8               (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage  
9       Area” means the Monterey Bay National Heritage  
10      Area.

1           (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2       the Secretary of the Interior.

3           (3) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
4       of California.

5           (4) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”  
6       means the Counties of Monterey, San Benito, and  
7       Santa Cruz in the State of California.

8   **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

9       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation  
10   with State and local historic preservation officers, State  
11   and local historical societies, State and local tourism of-  
12   fices, local Tribal organizations, and other appropriate or-  
13   ganizations and governmental agencies, shall conduct a  
14   study to assess the suitability and feasibility of desig-  
15   nating the study area as a National Heritage Area, to be  
16   known as the “Monterey Bay National Heritage Area”.

17       (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-  
18   ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the  
19   study area—

20           (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and  
21       cultural resources that—

22                (A) represent distinctive aspects of the her-  
23       itage of the United States;

24                (B) are worthy of recognition, conserva-  
25       tion, interpretation, and continuing use; and

1 (C) would be best managed—

2 (i) through partnerships among public  
3 and private entities; and

4 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes  
5 noncontiguous resources and active com-  
6 munities;

7 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and  
8 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the  
9 United States;

10 (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

11 (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,  
12 or scenic features; and

13 (B) for recreation and education;

14 (4) contains resources that—

15 (A) are important to any identified themes  
16 of the study area; and

17 (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of  
18 supporting interpretation;

19 (5) includes residents, business interests, non-  
20 profit organizations, and State and local govern-  
21 ments that—

22 (A) are involved in the planning of the  
23 Heritage Area;

24 (B) have developed a conceptual financial  
25 plan that outlines the roles of all participants in

1 the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-  
2 ernment; and

3 (C) have demonstrated support for the des-  
4 ignation of the Heritage Area;

5 (6) has a potential management entity to work  
6 in partnership with the individuals and entities de-  
7 scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage  
8 Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-  
9 tivity;

10 (7) could impact the rights of private property  
11 owners with respect to private property; and

12 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-  
13 ported by the public.

14 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

15 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds  
16 are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-  
17 retary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Nat-  
18 ural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Nat-  
19 ural Resources of the House of Representatives a report  
20 that describes—

21 (1) the findings of the study under section 3;  
22 and

23 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the  
24 Secretary.

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