# IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*November* 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Mr. Stołów for himself (and Mr. Claus, of Jefferson) introduced the following bill;

# **ABILL**

To better fund the reconstruction of our nation's National Parks.

Be it enacted by the Congress assembled,

### **SECTION ONE - SHORT TITLE.**

(A) This Act may be cited as the "National Park Reconstruction Act of 2023."

#### SECTION TWO - DEFINITIONS.

- (A) "SECRETARY" or "THE SECRETARY" shall mean the Secretary of the Interior, unless specified otherwise.
- (B) "The Director" shall refer to the Director of the National Parks Service.
- (C) "THE FUND" shall refer to the National Park Reconstruction Fund.

#### SECTION THREE - THE FUND.

- (A) The "National Park Reconstruction Fund" is hereby established as a budgetary item of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior.
- (B) The Fund shall be appropriated \$150,000,000 dollars annually, or \$25,000,000 per budgetary period.
  - (i) The National Park Service is not obligated to spend all monies appropriated to the Fund in every budgetary period. Remaining funds shall roll over into the next budgetary period.
  - (ii) The Congress may increase funding to the Fund as needed; the amount of funding appropriated, including unspent monies, shall not be below \$25,000,000 dollars per budgetary period or \$150,000,000 dollars annually.
- (C) The Director shall use the funds appropriated to supplement reconstruction efforts in National Parks.
  - (i) Applications of the funds include, but are not limited to
    - (a) compensation of staff involved in construction,
    - (b) replacement, refurbishment, repair, or purchase of construction equipment,
    - (c) construction of or repairs to roads and related infrastructure,
    - (d) and construction of or repairs to visitor and staff facilities.
- (D) At the behest of the Congress, the President of the United States, the President of the Commonwealth of Jefferson, the Governor of the North, or the Governor of Dixie, the Secretary shall produce a report detailing the expenditures of the Fund.
  - (i) The Secretary shall detail current allotments of monies from the Fund, including any left over funds from the previous budgetary period, and amounts of money spent during the current budgetary period at time of request,
  - (ii) the National Park being served by each allotment, details of damages sustained, and repair plans,
  - (iii) and the expected time to complete all repairs funded by the Fund, taking into account the extra monies appropriated.

### SECTION FOUR - ENACTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS.

- (A) SUPREMACY. Any provision of any statute that contradicts any section of this act shall be struck and nullified.
- (B) SEVERABILITY. If any section or clause of this act is deemed unconstitutional or unenforceable, it shall be struck. The remaining sections and clauses shall remain valid, enforceable, and in effect.
- (C) EFFECTIVE DATE. The provisions of this Act shall come into force immediately.