

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6108

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## AN ACT

To provide for partnerships among State and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance the visitor experience at nationally significant battlefields of the American Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War, and for other purposes.



1           “(2) According to the Report on the Nation’s  
2 Civil War Battlefields, prepared by the National  
3 Park Service and updated in 2010, of the 383 Civil  
4 War battlefields identified as national preservation  
5 priorities—

6           “(A) only at 31 battlefields is more than  
7 half of the surviving landscape permanently  
8 protected;

9           “(B) at 227 battlefields, less than half of  
10 the surviving landscape is permanently pro-  
11 tected;

12           “(C) 65 battlefields have no protection at  
13 all; and

14           “(D) 113 battlefields have been severely  
15 hampered by development since the Civil War  
16 or are on the verge of being overwhelmed.

17           “(3) According to the 2007 Report to Congress  
18 on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War  
19 and War of 1812 Sites in the United States, pre-  
20 pared by the National Park Service, of the 243 prin-  
21 cipal Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battle-  
22 fields identified as national preservation priorities—

23           “(A) almost 70 percent lie within urban  
24 areas as denoted in the 2000 U.S. Census;

1           “(B) 141 are lost or extremely fragmented,  
2           with residential and commercial development  
3           being the chief threats;

4           “(C) 100 other battlefields retain signifi-  
5           cant features and lands from the period of bat-  
6           tle, although on average these battlefields retain  
7           only 37 percent of the original historic scene;

8           “(D) of these 100 surviving but diminished  
9           battle landscapes, 82 are partially owned and  
10          protected by public and nonprofit stewards, al-  
11          though the extent of that protection varies from  
12          site to site;

13          “(E) 18 are without any legal protection;

14          “(F) the condition of two battlefields is un-  
15          known, with additional research and survey  
16          being required to determine their exact location  
17          and condition; and

18          “(G) the paucity of existing battlefield  
19          landscapes necessitates preservation and main-  
20          tenance of what precious little remains today.

21          “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

22                 “(1) to act quickly and proactively to preserve  
23                 and protect nationally significant battlefields of the  
24                 American Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War

1 through conservation easements and fee-simple pur-  
2 chases of those battlefields from willing sellers; and

3 “(2) to create partnerships among State and  
4 local governments, regional entities, and the private  
5 sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance the visitor  
6 experience at nationally significant battlefields of the  
7 American Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War.”.

8 **SEC. 3. PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE.**

9 Section 308103(f) of title 54, United States Code, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
12 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to pro-  
13 vide grants under this section \$15,000,000 for each fiscal  
14 year through 2025, of which not more than 10 percent  
15 may be used each fiscal year as follows:

16 “(1) Not more than \$1,000,000 for projects  
17 and programs that modernize battlefield interpretive  
18 and educational assets through the deployment of  
19 technology, disbursed through the competitive grant  
20 process to non-profit organizations.

21 “(2) Not more than \$1,000,000 for grants to  
22 organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the  
23 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from  
24 taxation under section 501(a) of such Code to be  
25 used for projects that restore day-of-battle condi-

1 tions on land preserved through Battlefield Land  
2 Acquisition Grant Program funds.”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 10,  
2018.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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