

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To establish the Fort Ontario National Monument in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. GILLIBRAND introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish the Fort Ontario National Monument in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System, 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 “Fort Ontario Holo-
5 caust Refugee Shelter National Historical Park Establish-
6 ment Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
10 titled “Fort Ontario Holocaust Refugee Shelter Na-

1 tional Historical Park Proposed Boundary”, num-
2 bered 962/194,681, and dated September 2024.

3 (2) NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.—The term
4 “National Historical Park” means the Fort Ontario
5 Holocaust Refugee Shelter National Historical Park
6 established by section 3(a)(1).

7 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
8 the Secretary of the Interior.

9 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
10 of New York.

11 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT ONTARIO HOLOCAUST**
12 **REFUGEE SHELTER NATIONAL HISTORICAL**
13 **PARK.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3),
16 there is established in the State as a unit of the Na-
17 tional Park System the Fort Ontario Holocaust Ref-
18 ugee Shelter National Historical Park.

19 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the National
20 Historical Park is to preserve, protect, and interpret
21 for the benefit of present and future generations re-
22 sources associated with the stories of the 982 refu-
23 gees from World War II who were housed at Fort
24 Ontario from August of 1944 until February of
25 1946.

1 (3) CONDITIONS OF ESTABLISHMENT.—

2 (A) DETERMINATION BY THE SEC-
3 RETARY.—The National Historical Park shall
4 not be established until the date on which the
5 Secretary determines that a sufficient quantity
6 of land or interests in land has been acquired
7 from land identified as “Proposed Boundary”
8 on the map to constitute a manageable park
9 unit.

10 (B) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days
11 after the date on which the Secretary makes a
12 determination under subparagraph (A), the
13 Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register
14 notice of the establishment of the National His-
15 torical Park.

16 (4) MAP.—The map shall be on file and avail-
17 able for public inspection in the appropriate offices
18 of the National Park Service.

19 (5) BOUNDARY.—The boundary of the National
20 Historical Park shall include any land or interests in
21 land acquired by the Secretary under this section.

22 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall admin-
24 ister the National Historical Park in accordance
25 with—

1 (A) this section; and

2 (B) the laws generally applicable to units
3 of the National Park System, including—

4 (i) sections 100101(a), 100751(a),
5 100752, 100753, and 102101 of title 54,
6 United States Code; and

7 (ii) chapters 1003 and 3201 of title
8 54, United States Code.

9 (2) AGREEMENTS.—

10 (A) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—In ac-
11 cordance with section 101702 of title 54,
12 United States Code, the Secretary may enter
13 into cooperative agreements with the State or
14 other public and private entities to provide in-
15 terpretive and educational services within the
16 National Historical Park.

17 (B) INTERPRETATION AND RESTORATION
18 AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into
19 agreements to identify, interpret, and restore
20 nationally significant historic or cultural re-
21 sources located on non-Federal land within the
22 boundary of, or in close proximity to, the Na-
23 tional Historical Park.

24 (C) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Any cooperative
25 agreement entered into under subparagraph (B)

1 to provide assistance to non-Federal land shall
2 provide for reasonable public access to the non-
3 Federal land.

4 (3) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
6 graph (B), the Secretary may acquire land and
7 interests in land located within the boundary of
8 the National Historical Park by—

9 (i) donation;

10 (ii) purchase with donated or appro-
11 priated funds; or

12 (iii) exchange.

13 (B) LIMITATION.—Any land owned by the
14 State or a political subdivision of the State may
15 be acquired for inclusion in the National His-
16 torical Park only by donation.

17 (4) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3 fis-
18 cal years after the date on which funds are made
19 available to carry out this section, the Secretary, in
20 consultation with the State, shall complete a general
21 management plan for the National Historical Park
22 in accordance with—

23 (A) section 100502 of title 54, United
24 States Code; and

25 (B) any other applicable laws.