

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4513

To designate former United States Route 66 as “America’s Main Street”
and authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 1998

Mrs. WILSON (for herself, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To designate former United States Route 66 as “America’s Main Street” and authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance.

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. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ROUTE 66.—The term “Route 66” means—

6 (A) portions of the highway formerly des-

7 ignated as United States Route 66 that remain

8 in existence as of the date of enactment of this

9 Act; and

1 (B) public and private land in the vicinity
2 of the highway.

3 (2) PRESERVATION OFFICE.—The term “Pres-
4 ervation Office” means the Office for the Preserva-
5 tion of America’s Main Street established by the
6 Secretary under section 3.

7 (3) PRESERVATION OF ROUTE 66.—The term
8 “preservation of Route 66” means the preservation
9 or restoration of portions of the highway, businesses
10 and sites of interest or potentially of interest to the
11 public along the highway, or other resources of the
12 highway.

13 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
15 rector of the National Park Service.

16 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means a State
17 in which a portion of Route 66 is located.

18 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.**

19 Route 66 is designated as “America’s Main Street”.

20 **SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT.**

21 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.—The Secretary
22 shall establish an office, to be known as the “Office for
23 the Preservation of America’s Main Street”.

24 (b) DESIGNATION OF OFFICIALS.—The Secretary
25 shall designate officials of the National Park Service sta-

1 tioned at locations convenient to the States and interested
2 persons in the States, to perform the functions of the
3 Preservation Office under this Act.

4 (c) GENERAL FUNCTIONS.—The Preservation Office
5 shall—

6 (1) support efforts of State and local public and
7 private persons and entities in the States to preserve
8 Route 66 by providing technical assistance, partici-
9 pating in cost-sharing programs, and making grants
10 and loans;

11 (2) act as a clearinghouse for communication
12 among Federal, State, and local agencies and private
13 persons and entities interested in the preservation of
14 Route 66; and

15 (3) assist the States in determining the appro-
16 priate form of and establishing and supporting a
17 non-Federal entity or entities to perform the func-
18 tions of the Preservation Office after the Preserva-
19 tion Office is terminated.

20 (d) AUTHORITIES.—In carrying out this Act, the
21 Preservation Office may—

22 (1) enter into cooperative agreements;

23 (2) accept donations;

24 (3) provide cost-share grants;

1 (4) provide technical assistance in historic pres-
2 ervation and fundraising; and

3 (5) conduct research.

4 (e) ROAD SIGNS.—The Preservation Office shall
5 sponsor a road sign program on Route 66 to be imple-
6 mented on a cost-sharing basis with State and local orga-
7 nizations.

8 (f) PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Preservation Office
10 shall provide assistance in the preservation of Route
11 66 in a manner that is compatible with the idiosyn-
12 cratic nature of the highway.

13 (2) PLANNING.—The Preservation Office shall
14 not prepare or require preparation of an overall
15 management plan for Route 66, but shall cooperate
16 with the States and local public and private persons
17 and entities in developing local preservation plans to
18 guide efforts to protect the most important or rep-
19 resentative resources of Route 66.

20 **SEC. 4. RESOURCE TREATMENT.**

21 (a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Preservation Office
23 shall develop a program of technical assistance in
24 the preservation of Route 66.

25 (2) GUIDELINES FOR PRESERVATION NEEDS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—As part of the program
2 under paragraph (1), the Preservation Office
3 shall establish guidelines for setting priorities
4 for preservation needs.

5 (B) BASIS.—The guidelines under sub-
6 paragraph (A) may be based on national reg-
7 ister standards, modified as appropriate to meet
8 the needs of Route 66 so as to allow for the
9 preservation of the spirit of Route 66 by includ-
10 ing more modern resources that are integral to
11 the evolution of the Route 66 experience.

12 (b) PROGRAM FOR COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Preservation Office
14 shall coordinate a program of historic research,
15 curation, preservation strategies, and the collection
16 of oral and video histories of Route 66.

17 (2) DESIGN.—The program under paragraph
18 (1) shall be designed for continuing use and imple-
19 mentation by other organizations after the Preserva-
20 tion Office is terminated.

21 (c) COST-SHARE GRANTS.—Cost-share grants for
22 preservation of Route 66 shall be available for resources
23 that meet the guidelines under subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
3 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

4 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION.**

5 The Preservation Office shall terminate on the date
6 that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

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