the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**WILDERNESS BATTLEFIELD LAND ACQUISITION**

The bill (H.R. 1665) to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA IMPROVEMENT**

The bill (H.R. 2140) to improve protection and management of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area in the State of Georgia, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**PERKINS COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM ACT OF 1999**

The bill (H.R. 970) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the Perkins County Rural Water System, Inc., for the construction of water supply facilities in Perkins County, South Dakota, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**NATIONAL GEOLOGIC MAPPING REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1999**

The bill (H.R. 1528) to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVER MONGAUP VISITOR CENTER ACT OF 1999**

The bill (H.R. 20) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by the State of New York, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

**WORLD WAR VETERANS PARK AT MILLER FIELD**

The bill (H.R. 592) to designate a portion of gateway National Recreation Area as “World War Veterans Park at Miller Field,” was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.
EMERGENCY RESCUES AT DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

The bill (S. 698) to review the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues at Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed; as follows:

S. 698  
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no later than nine months after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall complete a report on the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues on Mt. McKinley, within Denali National Park and Preserve. The Secretary shall also report on the suitability and feasibility of requiring climbers to provide proof of medical insurance prior to the issuance of a climbing permit by the National Park Service. The report shall also review the amount of fees charged for a climbing permit and make such recommendations for changing the fee structure as the Secretary deems appropriate. Upon completion, the report shall be submitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) In furtherance of the goals of sections 1307 and 1308 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and the provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) implement pilot programs to employ residents of local communities at the following units of the National Park System located in northwest Alaska:

(A) Bering Land Bridge National Preserve;

(B) Cape Krusenstern National Monument;

(C) Kobuk Valley National Park; and

(D) Noatak National Preserve; and

(2) report on the results of the programs within one year to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate; and the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives.

(b) In implementing the programs, the Secretary shall—

(1) consult with the Native Corporations, non-profit organizations, and Tribal entities in the immediate vicinity of such units and shall also, to the extent practicable, involve the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) implement pilot programs to employ residents of local communities at the following units of the National Park System located in northwest Alaska:

(A) Bering Land Bridge National Preserve;

(B) Cape Krusenstern National Monument;

(C) Kobuk Valley National Park; and

(D) Noatak National Preserve; and

(2) report on the results of the programs within one year to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate; and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 1. REPORT.

(a) Within six months after the enactment of this Act the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall submit a report detailing the progress the Department has made in the implementation of the provisions of sections 1307 and 1308 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The report shall include a detailed action plan on the future implementation of the provisions of sections 1307 and 1308 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and [section 638] provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The report shall describe, in detail, the measures and actions that will be taken, along with a description of the anticipated results to be achieved during the fiscal years. The report shall focus on lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior in Alaska and shall also address any laws, rules, regulations and policies which act as a deterrent to hiring Native Americans or contracting with Native Americans to perform and conduct activities and programs of those agencies and bureaus under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior.

(b) The report shall be completed within existing appropriations and shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior in Alaska and shall also address any laws, rules, regulations and policies which act as a deterrent to hiring Native Americans or contracting with Native Americans to perform and conduct activities and programs of those agencies and bureaus under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior.

(c) The objective of such programs shall be, to the extent possible, to establish cooperative arrangements, through contracts or other means, that will allow local communities and residents to assume administrative and management responsibilities for those units, or portions of those units, of the National Park System in a manner that will accomplish the purposes for which the units were established and consistent with policies set forth in the Act of August 23, 1916 (39 Stat. 535, 16 U.S.C. 1).

(d) PARK SERVICE EMPLOYEES.—(1) Any career employee of the National Park Service, employed at one of the Alaska northwest parks at the time of the transfer of an operation or program to a local Native entity by contract, shall be hired from the Service by reason of such transfer.

(2) Any career employee of the National Park Service employed at one of the Alaska northwest parks at the time of the transfer of an operation or program to a local Native entity shall be given priority placement for any available position within the National Park Service, notwithstanding any priority reemployment lists, directives, rules, regulations or other orders from the Department of the Interior, the Office of Management and Budget, or other Federal agencies.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 748), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 748  
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, SECTION 1. REPORT.

(a) Within six months after the enactment of this Act the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall submit a report detailing the progress the Department has made in the implementation of the provisions of sections 1307 and 1308 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The report shall include a detailed action plan on the future implementation of the provisions of sections 1307 and 1308 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The report shall describe, in detail, the measures and actions that will be taken, along with a description of the anticipated results to be achieved during the fiscal years. The report shall focus on lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior in Alaska and shall also address any laws, rules, regulations and policies which act as a deterrent to hiring Native Americans or contracting with Native Americans to perform and conduct activities and programs of those agencies and bureaus under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior.