

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 3141

To establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 2, 2021

Mr. DURBIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois 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 “New Philadelphia Na-  
5 tional Historical Park Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) Frank McWorter, an enslaved man, bought  
9 his freedom and the freedom of 15 family members  
10 by—

1 (A) mining for crude niter in Kentucky  
2 caves and processing the mined material into  
3 saltpeter;

4 (B) hiring his time to other settlers; and

5 (C) selling lots in New Philadelphia, which  
6 was—

7 (i) the town founded by Frank  
8 McWorter; and

9 (ii) the first town planned and legally  
10 registered by a free African American be-  
11 fore the Civil War;

12 (2) the first railroad constructed in the area of  
13 New Philadelphia bypassed New Philadelphia, which  
14 led to the decline of New Philadelphia; and

15 (3) the site of New Philadelphia is a registered  
16 National Historic Landmark.

17 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this Act:

19 (1) **PARK.**—The term “Park” means the New  
20 Philadelphia National Historical Park established by  
21 section 4(a).

22 (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means  
23 the Secretary of the Interior.

24 (3) **STATE.**—The term “State” means the State  
25 of Illinois.

1 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PHILADELPHIA NA-**  
2 **TIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
4 State as a unit of the National Park System the New  
5 Philadelphia National Historical Park.

6 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Park are—

7 (1) to protect, preserve, and interpret the many  
8 significant aspects of the Park; and

9 (2) to the extent feasible, to coordinate preser-  
10 vation and interpretation activities with the State  
11 and other public and nonpublic entities through co-  
12 operative agreements entered into under section  
13 5(c).

14 (c) BOUNDARY.—The Park shall consist of the ap-  
15 proximately 124.33 acres of land within the boundary gen-  
16 erally depicted as “Legislative Boundary” on the map pre-  
17 pared by the National Park Service entitled “New Phila-  
18 delphia National Historic Site Proposed Boundary”, num-  
19 bered 591/176,516, and dated July 2021.

20 **SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer  
22 land within the boundary of the Park in accordance  
23 with—

24 (1) this Act; and

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

1 (A) section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and  
2 sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753, and  
3 102101 of title 54, United States Code; and

4 (B) chapter 3201 of title 54, United States  
5 Code.

6 (b) MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS.—The Lincoln  
7 Home National Historic Site shall be responsible for the  
8 management and operations of the Park.

9 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary  
10 may enter into cooperative agreements with the State or  
11 other public and nonpublic entities under which the Sec-  
12 retary may identify, interpret, and provide assistance for  
13 the preservation of non-Federal land within the bound-  
14 aries of the Park and at sites in close proximity to the  
15 Park but located outside the boundaries of the Park, in-  
16 cluding providing for—

17 (1) the placement of directional and interpretive  
18 signage;

19 (2) exhibits; and

20 (3) technology-based interpretive devices.

21 (d) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
23 the Secretary may acquire land and interests in land  
24 (including any buildings or structures) for inclusion  
25 in the Park by—

1 (A) donation;

2 (B) purchase with donated or appropriated  
3 funds; or

4 (C) exchange.

5 (2) LIMITATION.—Any land owned by the State  
6 or a political subdivision of the State may be ac-  
7 quired for inclusion in the Park only by donation.

8 (e) TECHNICAL AND PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE.—  
9 The Secretary may provide public interpretation and tech-  
10 nical assistance for the preservation of historic structures  
11 of, the maintenance of the cultural landscape of, and local  
12 preservation planning for, related historic and cultural re-  
13 sources within the boundaries of the Park.

14 (f) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3 fiscal  
15 years after the date on which funds are first made avail-  
16 able to carry out this Act, the Secretary, in consultation  
17 with the State, shall complete a general management plan  
18 for the Park in accordance with—

19 (1) section 100502 of title 54, United States  
20 Code; and

21 (2) any other applicable laws.

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