

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 7618
OFFERED BY MRS. KIGGANS OF VIRGINIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Battlefield
3 Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026”.

**4 SEC. 2. AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM
5 GRANT PROGRAMS.**

6 (a) REAUTHORIZATION OF BATTLEFIELD ACQUI-
7 TION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308103(f) of title 54,
8 United States Code, is amended by striking “2028” and
9 inserting “2036”.

10 (b) BATTLEFIELD INTERPRETATION MODERNIZA-
11 TION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308104 of title 54,
12 United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (d).

13 (c) BATTLEFIELD RESTORATION GRANT PRO-
14 GRAM.—Section 308105 of title 54, United States Code,
15 is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
16 following:

17 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to pro-

1 vide grants under section 308104 and this section
2 \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2036.”.

3 **SEC. 3. FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR AND MEXICAN-AMER-**
4 **ICAN WAR SITES STUDIES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
6 propriations made in advance for such purpose, the Sec-
7 retary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the
8 National Park Service) (referred to in this section as the
9 “Secretary”), shall prepare or certify, pursuant to sub-
10 section (b), studies of sites and structures located in the
11 United States that are thematically tied with nationally
12 significant events that occurred during—

13 (1) the French and Indian War from 1754–
14 1763; and

15 (2) the Mexican-American War from 1846–
16 1848.

17 (b) PREPARATION.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The studies under sub-
19 section (a) may be carried out—

20 (A) by the Secretary, in consultation with
21 affected States, Indian Tribes, local govern-
22 ments, the American Battlefield Trust, historic
23 preservation organizations, and any other inter-
24 ested individuals or entities, as determined by
25 the Secretary; or

1 (B) by interested individuals or entities, if
2 the Secretary certifies that the completed study
3 meets the requirements of subsection (c).

4 (2) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year
5 after receiving a study carried out by interested indi-
6 viduals or entities under subsection (b)(1)(B), the
7 Secretary shall review and certify whether the study
8 meets the requirements of subsection (c).

9 (c) CONTENTS.—The studies prepared under sub-
10 section (a) shall—

11 (1) identify French and Indian War and Mexi-
12 can-American War sites, respectively, located within
13 the United States;

14 (2) determine the relative significance of the
15 identified sites;

16 (3) assess short- and long-term threats to the
17 integrity of the identified sites; and

18 (4) provide alternatives for the preservation and
19 interpretation of the identified sites by the Federal
20 Government, State, local, and Tribal governments,
21 or other public or private entities, including potential
22 designation of the identified sites as units of the Na-
23 tional Park System, as appropriate.

24 (d) CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS STUDIES AND RE-
25 PORTS.—In preparing the studies under subsection (b)(1),

1 the Secretary shall consider and may include information
2 from previous studies and reports relating to French and
3 Indian War or Mexican-American War historic sites pre-
4 pared by the National Park Service, the American Battle-
5 field Trust, or other historic preservation organizations,
6 as appropriate.

7 (e) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

8 (1) STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY THE SEC-
9 RETARY.—With respect to studies carried out by the
10 Secretary in accordance with subsection (b)(1)(A),
11 the Secretary shall submit such studies to the Com-
12 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives and Committee on Energy and Natural
14 Resources of the Senate not later than 2 years after
15 the date on which funds are made available to carry
16 out such studies.

17 (2) STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY OTHER INTER-
18 ESTED PARTIES.—With respect to studies carried
19 out by interested individuals or entities in accord-
20 ance with subsection (b)(1)(B), the Secretary shall
21 submit such studies to the Committee on Natural
22 Resources of the House of Representatives and Com-
23 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
24 ate not later than 180 days after the date on which

- 1 the Secretary certifies under subsection (b)(2) that
- 2 the studies meet the requirements of subsection (c).

