

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2130

To establish within the Department of the Interior the Outdoor Recreation  
Advisory Committee.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2017

Mr. TESTER 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 within the Department of the Interior the  
Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

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 “Outdoor Economy  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. OUTDOOR RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within  
8 the Department of the Interior a committee, to be known  
9 as the “Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee” (re-  
10 ferred to in this section as the “Committee”).

1 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

2 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Committee shall be  
3 composed of 17 members, of whom—

4 (A) one shall be the Chief of the Forest  
5 Service (or a designee);

6 (B) one shall be the Director of the United  
7 States Fish and Wildlife Service (or a des-  
8 igned);

9 (C) one shall be the Director of the Bu-  
10 reau of Land Management (or a designee);

11 (D) one shall be the Director of the Na-  
12 tional Park Service (or a designee);

13 (E) one shall be the Chief of Engineers (or  
14 a designee);

15 (F) one shall be the Commissioner of the  
16 Bureau of Reclamation (or a designee); and

17 (G) eleven shall be appointed jointly by the  
18 Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of  
19 the Interior, with special consideration given to  
20 appointees who represent diverse or underrep-  
21 resented groups in the outdoor recreation econ-  
22 omy, of whom one shall be a representative of  
23 each of—

24 (i) State fish and wildlife management  
25 agencies;

- 1 (ii) Tribal governments;  
2 (iii) hunting organizations;  
3 (iv) angler organizations;  
4 (v) motorized recreation organiza-  
5 tions;  
6 (vi) horsemen organizations;  
7 (vii) human-powered transportation  
8 organizations;  
9 (viii) organizations that provide out-  
10 reach or education to encourage youth par-  
11 ticipation in the outdoors, with specific  
12 preference given to organizations that en-  
13 gage economically disadvantaged or other  
14 underserved youth populations;  
15 (ix) veterans service organizations;  
16 (x) the outdoor recreation retail in-  
17 dustry; and  
18 (xi) conservation organizations.

19 (2) DATE OF APPOINTMENTS.—The appoint-  
20 ment of a member of the Committee shall be made  
21 not later than 180 days after the date of enactment  
22 of this Act.

23 (3) TERM; VACANCIES.—

24 (A) TERM.—A member shall be appointed  
25 for the life of the Committee.

1 (B) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Com-  
2 mittee—

3 (i) shall not affect the powers of the  
4 Committee; and

5 (ii) shall be filled in the same manner  
6 as the original appointment was made.

7 (4) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

8 The Committee shall select a chairperson and vice  
9 chairperson from among the members of the Com-  
10 mittee.

11 (c) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet at the  
12 call of the chairperson.

13 (d) DUTIES.—

14 (1) STUDY.—The Committee shall conduct a  
15 study and develop recommendations relating to the  
16 following:

17 (A) Increasing public access to public land.

18 (B) Identifying and addressing the mainte-  
19 nance needs on public land that most directly  
20 impact recreational opportunities.

21 (C) Reducing barriers for underserved  
22 communities to engage in outdoor recreation.

23 (D) Promoting new and existing service  
24 opportunities on public land for youth and oth-  
25 ers.

1           (E) Methods to engage the outdoor recre-  
2           ation community to curb the spread of invasive  
3           species.

4           (F) Any other strategies to strengthen the  
5           outdoor recreation economy and increase re-  
6           sponsible recreation on public land.

7           (2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the  
8           date of enactment of this Act, and not less fre-  
9           quently than once every 2 years thereafter, the Com-  
10          mittee shall submit to Congress a report that con-  
11          tains—

12           (A) a detailed statement of the findings  
13           and conclusions of the Committee under para-  
14           graph (1); and

15           (B) recommendations of the Committee for  
16           such legislation and administrative actions as  
17           the Committee considers to be appropriate.

18          (e) POWERS.—

19           (1) HEARINGS.—The Committee may hold such  
20           hearings, meet and act at such times and places,  
21           take such testimony, and receive such evidence as  
22           the Committee considers to be advisable to carry out  
23           this section.

24           (2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

1           (A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee may  
2           secure directly from a Federal department or  
3           agency such information as the Committee con-  
4           siders to be necessary to carry out this section.

5           (B) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—On re-  
6           quest of the chairperson of the Committee, the  
7           head of a Federal department or agency shall  
8           provide the information to the Committee.

9           (3) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Committee may  
10          use the United States mails in the same manner and  
11          under the same conditions as other Federal depart-  
12          ments and agencies.

13         (f) COMMITTEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

14                 (1) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

15                         (A) NON-FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A mem-  
16                         ber of the Committee who is not an officer or  
17                         employee of the Federal Government shall be  
18                         compensated at a rate equal to the daily equiva-  
19                         lent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed  
20                         for level IV of the Executive Schedule under  
21                         section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for  
22                         each day (including travel time) during which  
23                         the member is engaged in the performance of  
24                         the duties of the Committee.

1           (B) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of  
2           the Committee who is an officer or employee of  
3           the Federal Government shall serve without  
4           compensation in addition to the compensation  
5           received for the services of the member as an  
6           officer or employee of the Federal Government.

7           (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the  
8           Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, includ-  
9           ing per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates author-  
10          ized for an employee of an agency under subchapter  
11          I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while  
12          away from the home or regular place of business of  
13          the member in the performance of the duties of the  
14          Committee.

15          (3) STAFF.—

16                (A) IN GENERAL.—The chairperson of the  
17                Committee may, without regard to the civil  
18                service laws (including regulations), appoint  
19                and terminate an executive director and such  
20                other additional personnel as are necessary to  
21                enable the Committee to perform the duties of  
22                the Committee.

23                (B) CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE DIREC-  
24                TOR.—The employment of an executive director

1 shall be subject to confirmation by the Com-  
2 mittee.

3 (C) COMPENSATION.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided  
5 in subparagraph (B), the chairperson of  
6 the Committee may fix the compensation  
7 of the executive director and other per-  
8 sonnel without regard to the provisions of  
9 chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter  
10 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating  
11 to classification of positions and General  
12 Schedule pay rates.

13 (ii) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The  
14 rate of pay for the executive director and  
15 other personnel shall not exceed the rate  
16 payable for level V of the Executive Sched-  
17 ule under section 5316 of title 5, United  
18 States Code.

19 (4) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTER-  
20 MITTENT SERVICES.—The chairperson of the Com-  
21 mittee may procure temporary and intermittent serv-  
22 ices in accordance with section 3109(b) of title 5,  
23 United States Code, at rates for individuals that do  
24 not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of



1        basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive  
2        Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

3        (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
4        authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
5        \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year, to remain available until  
6        expended.

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