Reauthorization: S. 2724 (1990): Report 10

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To amend the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 to authorize the National Endowment for the Arts to assist States, local governments and private groups identify and prepare comprehensive plans to recognize and to encourage the wise and appropriate future use of significant American landscapes, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 1990

Mr. KOSTMAIER (for himself and Mr. GEJDENSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 to authorize the National Endowment for the Arts to assist States, local governments and private groups identify and prepare comprehensive plans to recognize and to encourage the wise and appropriate future use of significant American landscapes, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Great American Land-

5 escapes Act of 1990”.

H.R. 3963
SEC. 2. PLANS FOR SIGNIFICANT AMERICAN LANDSCAPES.

Section 5 of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 954) is amended by adding the following new subsection at the end thereof:

"(n) LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENTS AND PLANS.—(1) In addition to the other authorities provided in this section the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall make matching grants to States under paragraph (2) of this subsection for Statewide landscape assessments and to States, local governments, and private groups under paragraph (3) for individual comprehensive landscape plans. All grants under this subsection shall be on a competitive basis. No grant under this subsection shall cover more than 50 percent of the costs of any assessment or plan receiving assistance under this subsection.

"(2) Each Statewide landscape assessment funded under this subsection shall systematically identify, evaluate, and comparatively assess a variety of landscape values to the public, including a detailed, comparative assessment of nationally significant natural, historic, cultural, and aesthetic values. The assessment shall be carried out utilizing a task force of public and private interests representative of major landscape values and interests within the State.

"(3) Each comprehensive landscape plan funded under this subsection shall develop a guide for achieving desired community recommendation for future landscape manage-
ment with the area subject to the plan for one or more specific landscape areas that are threatened. Each plan under this paragraph shall meet each of the following criteria:

"(A) The area subject to the plan must have a recognized and definable boundary that is related to significant national or regional cultural patterns, traditional land uses, or topographic features or any combination thereof.

"(B) The area subject to the plan must contain identifiable and nationally recognized cultural, historic, aesthetic, natural, or tourism features, or a combination of these that are significant to the community and to the national citizenry.

"(C) The landscape subject to the plan must be already managed or used in ways that reflect its value as a resource and provide a clear sense of the value of the resources of the landscape.

"(D) A clear public benefit must be achieved from a cooperative effort.

"(E) An organization, agency, or group of agencies or organizations must be in place, or must be established to organize and facilitate the cooperative planning effort."
“(F) There must be State and local government and public support and involvement for and in the proposal.

“(G) There must be a demonstrated need for the assistance such as a precipitating event or imminent threat in the area.

Each such plan shall include a detailed, comparative assessment of historic, cultural, and aesthetic resource values. The plan shall be carried out utilizing a task force of public and private interests representative major landscape values and interests. The plan shall include each of the following elements:

“(i) A statement of goals and policies to guide the future of the area.

“(ii) An assessment of the attitudes of landowners, and local officials toward present and future uses of the landscape area.

“(iii) An evaluation of the areas issues, concerns, and needs.

“(iv) An identification of local, State, and Federal government and private landowner responsibilities for encouraging the wise and appropriate future uses of the area and for carrying out the plan.

“(v) A public involvement plan.

“(vi) A financial strategy to identify sources of revenue and assistance to help carry out the plan.
"(4) The Chairperson shall submit a report to the Congress at the end of each 2-year period following the enactment of this subsection setting forth the progress being made in meeting the goals and objectives of this subsection.

"(5) there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subsection."