103D CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 79

To authorize a study of the struggle for American Independence within the Northern Frontier.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 5, 1993

Mr. Boehlert introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize a study of the struggle for American Independence within the Northern Frontier.

1	Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2	tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3	CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS
4	Section 1. The Congress finds and declares that:
5	(1) The area comprising historic Tryon County
6	in the Mohawk Valley of New York State and the
7	Country of the Six Nations (Iroquois Confederacy),
8	the "Northern Frontier", offers excellent opportuni-
9	ties to study a little known or understood aspect of
10	the American Revolution—the frontier experience.

- (2) The Northern Frontier territory was extremely valuable to both sides and hotly contested because of its unique geopolitical, military, agricultural, transportation, and commercial attributes.
 - (3) Because such a complex social, economic, and political society was emerging on the Northern Frontier, the Continental Congress established the Northern Indian Department to conduct affairs there, and the English made the area, and its Indian population, the centerpiece of its strategy to split the colonies.
 - (4) Due to the struggle to control the Northern Frontier, profound privation and hardship were inflicted upon nearly all who lived there; a diverse mix of ethnic and racial groups willingly and unwillingly thrust into the struggle for independence, leaving many of them dead, homeless, orphaned, or dislocated by the end of the hostilities.
 - (5) The tensions on the Northern Frontier reached such a pitch that a civil war erupted, and pitted neighbors, families, tribes, and clans against each other and led to among the bloodiest, intensely savage, and most destructive battles of the Revolution.

- 1 (6) New interpretations and interdisciplinary 2 studies of this human drama are not only necessary, but timely because of the abundant supply of assets 3 in the area, including sites, buildings, celebrations, folklore, and collections, many safely preserved and 6 many at risk. 7 (7) If these Northern Frontier assets can be thematically related and portrayed for the education 8 9 and enjoyment of Americans and foreign visitors, an important and often overlooked chapter in America's 10 11 heritage will be displayed for the benefit and edifi-12 cation of all peoples. 13 STUDY SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter re-14 ferred to as the "Secretary") shall conduct a study to 15 identify potential means to preserve and interpret the cultural resources in the Northern Frontier associated with the American Revolution. As part of the study, the Secretary shall propose alternatives for cooperation in the
- 21 CONTENTS OF STUDY
- SEC. 3. The study of the Secretary shall contain, but

preservation and interpretation of the resources.

- 23 not be limited to, findings with respect to—
- (1) the role played by the Northern Frontier inthe American Revolution;

1	(2) the historical, cultural, natural, and outdoor
2	recreational values of the Northern Frontier;
3	(3) the types of Federal, State, and local pro-
4	grams that are available to preserve, develop, and
5	make accessible the Northern Frontier;
6	(4) the use of, and coordination with, Federal,
7	State, and local programs to manage in the public
8	interest the historical, cultural, natural, and rec-
9	reational resources of the Northern Frontier; and
10	(5) the possible kinds and general intensities of
11	development that could be associated with public en-
12	joyment and use of, and conservation and protection
13	of, the resources, including location and anticipated
14	costs.
15	CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW
16	SEC. 4. The Secretary shall transmit the study to the
17	Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House
18	of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and
19	Natural Resources of the Senate within twelve months
20	after funding is made available for the study.
21	CONSULTATION
22	SEC. 5. In preparing the study the Secretary shall
23	consult with the public, representatives of the affected
24	communities and the State of New York, historians, plan-
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25	ners, recreation specialists, and historic preservationists

- 1 tion. The Secretary shall seek expertise from both local
- 2 and national organizations.
- 3 AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS
- 4 Sec. 6. There is authorized to be appropriated such
- 5 sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of
- 6 this Act.

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