

**LegSim Committee Report**

A Committee Report accompanies a bill that the committee reports to the full chamber. It is an important source of information for busy legislators and addresses specific questions about the bill, organized into two part. Any committee member may draft a Report on behalf of the committee, but in LegSim only the committee chair can enter the Report and schedule a motion to adopt the report. If the vote is affirmative, the bill and report are sent on to the chamber leader’s desk, who then places it on the calendar.

[Examples](https://www.congress.gov/house-reports/116th-congress) of actual House committee reports

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In LegSim, the Report contains two main sections:

The **Legislative Text** section contains the Committee's proposed version of the legislation. This could be the bill as originally introduced, or a different version that includes revisions recommended by the Committee.

The **Summary/Report** section details the Committee's deliberations for the benefit of other legislators. This is an opportunity for the committee to offer its opinions on the bill (both pro and con) and to explain any proposed committee changes.

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*This is an actual committee report for a fairly minor bill*.

LEGISLATIVE TEXT

Note: Amendments to the original bill proposed by the committee (if any) are specified in the 'Legislative Text' section. This is the version the committee would prefer to see enacted. It is usually the version that is considered by the full chamber. Formally, the legislature considers and amends the committee substitute version, then, as a final step, decides whether to substitute the committee substitute( as amended) for the original bill. The final vote is on whether to pass the bill (as amended).

[To accompany H.R. 139]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred

the bill (H.R. 139) to establish the Springfield Race Riot

National Historic Monument in the State of Illinois, and for

other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably

thereon with amendments and recommends that the bill as amended

do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the

following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ``Springfield Race Riot Study Act''.

SEC. 2. RESOURCE STUDY OF SPRINGFIELD RACE RIOT.

(a) Definitions.--In this section:

(1) Secretary.--The term ``Secretary'' means the Secretary of

the Interior.

(2) Study area.--The term ``study area'' means areas

identified in the Springfield Race Riot Reconnaissance Survey

conducted by the National Park Service, dated August 2019.

(b) Special Resource Study.--

(1) Study.--The Secretary shall conduct a special resource

study of the study area.

(2) Contents.--In conducting the study under paragraph (1),

the Secretary shall--

(A) evaluate the national significance of the study

area;

(B) determine the suitability and feasibility of

designating the study area as a unit of the National

Park System;

(C) consider other alternatives for preservation,

protection, and interpretation of the study area by the

Federal Government, State or local government entities,

or private and nonprofit organizations;

(D) consult with interested Federal agencies, State

or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit

organizations, or any other interested individuals; and

(E) identify cost estimates for any Federal

acquisition, development, interpretation, operation,

and maintenance associated with the alternatives.

(3) Applicable law.--The study required under paragraph (1)

shall be conducted in accordance with section 100507 of title

54, United States Code.

(4) Report.--Not later than 3 years after the date on which

funds are first made available for the study under paragraph

(1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural

Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on

Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that

describes--

(A) the results of the study; and

(B) any conclusions and recommendations of the

Secretary.

*And here’s a committee amendment*

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to direct the Secretary of Interior to conduct a

special resource study of the site associated with the 1908

Springfield Race Riot in the State of Illinois, and for other

purposes.

**SUMMARY/REPORT**

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 139 is to direct the Secretary of

Interior to conduct a special resource study of the site

associated with the 1908 Springfield Race Riot in the State of

Illinois.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

In August 1908, in Springfield, Illinois, two African

American men were arrested--one was accused of raping a young

white woman and the other was accused of attempted rape of a

white girl and of murdering her father, a white mining

engineer. Following the arrests, a mob of white persons

numbering in the thousands gathered with the stated intention

of lynching the two men. The local sheriff transferred the two

men to another jail outside of the city.

Upon learning of the transfer, the mob took to the streets

seeking to commit violence against African Americans. The mob

shot innocent people, burned almost fifty homes, looted and

destroyed two dozen stores, and mutilated and lynched two

elderly Black men who had no association or even alleged

association with the alleged crimes.

Not long after the riots, the woman who accused the Black

man of rape admitted her attacker had been a white man.\1\ The

other man was tried, convicted, and executed for murder based

on slight evidence.\2\

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\1\Springfield Race Riot, 1908, Ill. State Museum, http://

www.museum.state.il.us/RiverWeb/landings/Ambot/Archives/vignettes/

people/Springfield\_20Race\_20Riot.html (last visited June 9, 2020); Chi.

Comm'n On Race Rel., The Negro in Chicago: A Study OF Race Relations

and a Riot 68 (1922), available at http://moses.law.umn.edu/darrow/

documents/The\_Negro\_in\_Chicago\_1922.pdf; Megan Gannon, In Land of

Lincoln, Long-Buried Traces of a Race Riot Come to the Surface,

Smithsonian Mag. (Jan. 7, 2019), https://www.smithsonianmag.com/

history/land-lincoln-long-buried-traces-race-riot-come-surface-

180971036/.

\2\Gannon, supra note 1.

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In part as a direct response to the riot, the National

Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was

formed in 1909 to work to end segregation, discrimination, and

ensure African Americans are provided their constitutional

rights.\3\

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\3\Springfield Race Riot, Encyclopedia Britannica (2015), https://

www.britannica.com/event/Springfield-Race-Riot (last visited June 9,

2020).

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In August 2019, the Department of the Interior published a

reconnaissance survey recommending that a special resource

study be completed for the 1908 Springfield Race Riot Site.\4\

The special resource study would determine whether the site

meets the necessary criteria for inclusion in the National Park

System as well as provide opportunities for broad public

outreach and development of management alternatives that would

more deeply explore potential site development, management

scenarios, resource protection, interpretation possibilities,

partnerships, and costs. The special resource study may also

examine other sites in Springfield associated with the 1908

Springfield Race Riot to determine whether they could be

considered nationally significant and whether they could

enhance interpretation and preservation of the riot's history.

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\4\U.S. Dep't of the Interior, Nat'l Park Serv., Springfield Race

Riot Reconnaissance Survey 38 (2019), available at https://

parkplanning.nps.gov/

document.cfm?parkID=155&projectID=87260&documentID=98161.

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H.R. 139, as introduced, would have authorized the

Secretary of the Interior to acquire land to establish the

Springfield Race Riot National Historic Monument as a unit of

the National Park System.

The bill was amended at markup to replace the designation

of the Springfield Race Riot National Historic Monument with a

provision to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct

a special resource study of the site, as recommended by the

Department of the Interior. Designation of the site would be

postponed until the study is complete and a subsequent bill is

enacted to implement its findings.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 139 was introduced on January 3, 2019, by

Representative Rodney Davis (R-IL). The bill was referred

solely to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the

Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and

Public Lands. On October 29, 2019, the Subcommittee held a

hearing on the bill. On March 11, 2020, the Natural Resources

Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was

discharged by unanimous consent. Chair Raul M. Grijalva (D-AZ)

offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The

amendment was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as

amended, was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the

House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

*Note that it is imperative that the report include information about the outcome of the vote to report. In this case it was by unanimous consent. If it was a recorded vote, then the vote outcome should be specified. This provides valuable information to the full chamber. For example:*

*Of the nine members present, the final vote to pass this bill out of committee was as follows:   
9 Yea’s   
0 Nay’s   
0 Abstentions*

HEARINGS

For the purposes of section 103(i) of H. Res. 6 of the

116th Congress--the following hearing was used to develop or

consider H.R. 139: legislative hearing by the Subcommittee on

National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on October 29,

2019.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of

rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the

Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and

recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

*Minority (dissenting) views should also be included in the report if there is disagreement*

Report authored by Rep. LegSim