

# Committee on Natural Resources

Rob Bishop, Chairman  
Markup Memorandum

January 29, 2016

To: All Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Majority Committee Staff, Terry Camp  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x6-7736)

Markup: Markup on H.R. 3004 (Rep. James Clyburn, D-SC), To amend the  
Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act to extend the authorization for the  
Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission  
February 2-3, 2016 1324 Longworth HOB

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## **H.R. 3004 (Rep. James Clyburn, D-SC), To amend the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act to extend the authorization for the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission**

### **Bill Summary**

H.R. 3004, introduced by Rep. Clyburn (D-SC-6), amends the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act (P.L. 109-338; 120 Stat. 1833; 16 U.S.C. 461 note) by extending the authorization for the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission through October 12, 2021.

### **Cosponsors:**

None

### **Background**

Congress designated the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, an area of land stretching from North Carolina to Florida, on October 12, 2006 (Public Law 109-338). As a National Heritage Area, the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor is not part of the National Park System; however, the act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide technical and financial assistance for the development and implementation of a management plan.

The Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act authorized the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission to implement the corridor's management plan, ultimately adopted in 2012. Although the Heritage Corridor was authorized through October 12, 2021, the Commission was only authorized through October 12, 2016. Without any legislative change, the Corridor will have to be managed by a different, yet un-constituted entity.

## Cost

The Congressional Budget Office has not completed a cost estimate of this bill.

## Administration Position

The Administration has not taken a position.

## Effect on Current Law (Ramseyer)

### **Showing Current Law as Amended by H.R. 3004**

[new text highlighted in yellow; text to be deleted bracketed and highlighted in blue]

## Public Law 109-338

SEC. 295D. GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION.

(a) Establishment.--There is hereby established a local coordinating entity to be known as the ``Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission'' whose purpose shall be to assist Federal, State, and local authorities in the development and implementation of a management plan for those land and waters specified in section 295C(b).

(b) Membership.--The local coordinating entity shall be composed of 15 members appointed by the Secretary as follows:

(1) Four individuals nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer of South Carolina and two individuals each nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer of each of Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida and appointed by the Secretary.

(2) Two individuals from South Carolina and one individual from each of Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida who are recognized experts in historic preservation, anthropology, and folklore, appointed by the Secretary.

(c) Terms.--Members of the local coordinating entity shall be appointed to terms not to exceed 3 years. The Secretary may stagger the terms of the initial appointments to the local coordinating entity in order to assure continuity of operation. Any member of the local coordinating entity may serve after the expiration of their term until a successor is appointed. A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(d) Termination.--The local coordinating entity shall terminate [10] 15 years after the date of enactment of this Act.