

# 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. 4119 (Rep. Steven M. Palazzo, R-MS), To authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and for other purposes.  
February 2-3, 2016 1324 Longworth HOB

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## **H.R. 4119 (Rep. Steven M. Palazzo, R-MS), “Gulf Islands National Seashore Land Exchange Act of 2015”**

### **Bill Summary**

H.R. 4119, introduced by Representative Steven M. Palazzo (R-MS-04), authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to convey to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 5699 approximately 1 acre of real property located within the Gulf Islands National Seashore in Jackson County, Mississippi, in exchange for a parcel of 1.76 acres. Land and interests acquired by the United States by this Act shall be administered as part of the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

### **Background**

VFW Post 5699, in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, owns a 3.3 acre lot adjacent to Gulf Islands National Seashore's Davis Bayou Area. The Post's property is essentially landlocked, with the only reasonable access via a long driveway across NPS property from VFW Road. The VFW post proposed a land swap of 1.76 acres owned by the Post in exchange for the 1 acre owned by the Federal government containing the existing driveway.

### **Administration Position**

The Administration has not provided an official position, but likely supports this bill with the proposed amendment described below.

### **Cost**

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

## Amendments

Federal Lands Subcommittee Chairman, Tom McClintock (R-CA-4), will introduce an amendment adjusting the acreages involved in the exchange. The new acreage totals will be 2.16 acres owned by the Post in exchange for 1.54 acres owned by the Federal Government. Both the VFW Post and NPS agreed with this change.

