

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9416

To redesignate the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park as the
“Ocmulgee Mounds National Park”, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2026

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. JACK, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. FULLER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mrs. MCBATH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To redesignate the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park as the “Ocmulgee Mounds National Park”, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ocmulgee Mounds Na-
5 tional Park Redesignation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
2 means an Indian tribe, as defined in section 4 of the
3 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
4 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304), that has a cultural affiliation,
5 as defined in section 2 of the Native American
6 Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C.
7 3001), to the Ocmulgee Mounds region, to be deter-
8 mined by the Secretary after appropriate tribal con-
9 sultation.

10 (2) MAP.—The term “Map” means map titled
11 “Ocmulgee Mounds National Park”, numbered 363/
12 193026, and dated May 2026.

13 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of the Interior.

15 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
16 of Georgia.

17 **SEC. 3. REDESIGNATION OF OCMULGEE MOUNDS NA-**
18 **TIONAL PARK.**

19 (a) REDESIGNATION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Ocmulgee Mounds Na-
21 tional Historical Park designated by section
22 2102(b)(1)(A) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conserva-
23 tion, Management, and Recreation Act (16 U.S.C.
24 410yyy-3(b)(1)(A)) shall be known and designated
25 as the “Ocmulgee Mounds National Park”.

1 (2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law,
2 map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of
3 the United States to the “Ocmulgee Mounds Na-
4 tional Historical Park” shall be considered to be a
5 reference to the “Ocmulgee Mounds National Park”.

6 (b) MAP.—

7 (1) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary may make
8 technical corrections to the Map.

9 (2) AVAILABILITY.—The Map shall be on file
10 and available for public inspection in the appropriate
11 offices of the National Park Service.

12 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF OCMULGEE MOUNDS NA-**
13 **TIONAL PARK.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Ocmulgee Mounds National
15 Park shall be administered as a unit of the National Park
16 System in accordance with this section and the laws gen-
17 erally applicable to units of the National Park System, in-
18 cluding—

19 (1) section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and sec-
20 tions 100751(a), 100752, 100753, and 102101 of
21 title 54, United States Code; and

22 (2) chapter 3201 of title 54, United States
23 Code.

24 (b) FISHING.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allow
2 fishing on waters under the jurisdiction of the Sec-
3 retary within the boundaries of the Ocmulgee
4 Mounds National Park in accordance with applicable
5 Federal and State laws.

6 (2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may designate
7 zones in which, and establish periods during which,
8 no fishing shall be allowed for reasons of public safe-
9 ty, administration, fish or wildlife management, or
10 emergencies.

11 (3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall en-
12 sure any regulations prescribing restrictions under
13 this subsection shall be put into effect only after
14 consultation with the State.

15 (4) PRIVATE LAND.—Nothing in this subsection
16 prohibits hunting, fishing, or trapping on private
17 land in accordance with applicable State and Federal
18 laws.

19 (5) CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.—Nothing in this
20 Act shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the au-
21 thority, jurisdiction, or responsibility of the State to
22 manage, control, or regulate fish and wildlife on
23 lands and waters, including Federal lands and
24 waters, within the State.

1 (c) **HIRING PREFERENCE.**—The Secretary shall, to
2 the maximum extent practicable and consistent with appli-
3 cable law, seek to increase employment opportunities for
4 members of Indian tribes in the Ocmulgee Mounds Na-
5 tional Park.

6 (d) **TRIBAL CONSULTATION.**—Nothing in this Act
7 prevents continued consultation with Indian tribes pursu-
8 ant to Executive Order 13175 (25 U.S.C. 5301 note; re-
9 lating to consultation and coordination with Indian tribal
10 governments) and other applicable laws.

11 (e) **SACRED AND CULTURAL SITES.**—The Secretary
12 shall ensure the protection of traditional cultural and reli-
13 gious sites within the Ocmulgee Mounds National Park
14 and provide access to the sites by members of Indian
15 tribes who have ancestral connections to the Ocmulgee
16 River Corridor, in accordance with the laws (including reg-
17 ulations) applicable to the Secretary concerned.

18 **SEC. 5. AGREEMENTS.**

19 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may seek to enter
20 into memoranda of understanding, cooperative agree-
21 ments, or other legally authorized agreements with the
22 Muscogee (Creek) Nation and other interested Indian
23 tribes to address issues pertaining to the management,
24 conservation, and preservation of natural and cultural re-
25 sources within the Ocmulgee Mounds National Park.

1 (b) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall promptly
2 notify the parties to an agreement described in subsection
3 (a) of any requests received from other Indian tribes seek-
4 ing similar agreements concerning the management, con-
5 servation, and preservation of natural and cultural re-
6 sources within the Ocmulgee Mounds National Park.

7 **SEC. 6. LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE TRIBE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Upon request of the Muscogee
9 (Creek) Nation, not later than 180 days after receipt of
10 such request, the Secretary shall take into trust for the
11 benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation the approximately
12 133.88 acres of land held in fee by the Muscogee (Creek)
13 Nation, as generally depicted as “The Muscogee Creek
14 Nation - Fee” on the map titled “Muscogee Creek Nation
15 Fee Lands” and dated June 16, 2026.

16 (b) STATUS OF LAND.—The land taken into trust
17 under subsection (a) shall be—

18 (1) part of the Muscogee Creek Indian Reserva-
19 tion; and

20 (2) administered in accordance with the laws
21 and regulations generally applicable to property held
22 in trust by the United States for the benefit of an
23 Indian Tribe.

24 (c) GAMING PROHIBITED.—The land taken into trust
25 under subsection (a) shall not be used for any class II

1 gaming or class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Reg-
2 ulatory Act (as those terms are defined in section 4 of
3 that Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

○