

INCLUDING THE PRESENT AREA OF ZION NATIONAL
MONUMENT WITHIN ZION NATIONAL PARK, IN THE
STATE OF UTAH

JUNE 11, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. ENGLE, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 10535]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 10535) to include the present area of Zion National Monument within Zion National Park, in the State of Utah, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF H. R. 10535

If enacted, H. R. 10535 would combine the Zion National Monument and the Zion National Park, which are contiguous and have a common boundary between them, into a single national park unit in order to simplify and economize on the management of the area and to eliminate the public confusion caused by the differing designations given to adjacent areas—one called a national monument and the other a national park. The Zion National Park hereafter would embrace the adjacent area now designated as the Zion National Monument.

No appropriation of Federal funds is required by this legislation.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

The Zion National Park was created by an act of Congress in 1939 and contains 94,881 gross acres. The Zion National Monument, which abuts the park was established under the authority of the President in 1937 and contains 48,413 gross acres.

The committee notes that the names of the two areas, the manner in which they were created, and their size constitute the only essential differences between the two.

The committee concludes that, since these two areas are contiguous and are related in their geological and scenic characteristics, one supplementing the other in this respect, the area within the Zion National Monument should be included within the Zion National Park as recommended by the Department of the Interior.

The committee points out that H. R. 10535, introduced by Representative Dixon, of Utah, provides that the measure, if enacted, shall not affect adversely any valid rights or privileges heretofore existing within the area established by the act as the Zion National Park.

AGENCY REPORTS

The favorable reports of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of the Budget are set forth following:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., May 15, 1956.

HON. CLAIR ENGLE,

*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. ENGLE: Your committee has requested a report on H. R. 10535, a bill to include the present area of Zion National Monument within Zion National Park, in the State of Utah, and for other purposes.

We recommend that H. R. 10535 be enacted.

This proposed legislation would combine the Zion National Park and the Zion National Monument into a single national park unit. Because of the fact that these two areas of the national park system are contiguous, because of their related geological and scenic characteristics, and the public benefits that may be expected from the administration of the two areas as a single unit, we consider this proposed legislation to be in the public interest. The two areas form a natural park unit. Consequently, the enactment of this proposed legislation will strengthen and improve an important segment of the national park system, with resulting public benefits.

While the scenic beauty and geological character of Zion National Park are well known, it should be noted that the area within Zion National Monument contains a grandeur of colorful canyon and mesa scenery that ranks among the superlative scenic areas of the world. The monument area supplements the Zion National Park scene and brings to the visitor an understanding and realization of the mobility of the earth's crust. Here are manifested geological exhibits of faulting, folding, and volcanism that has produced an erosional pattern of tremendous proportions. Also, the plants and animals that have been influenced by the geologic processes in this region are of great interest as they span life zones from the desert to the mountains.

The traveler to this national park will cross through the area of the Hurricane Fault, the west edge of the huge uplifted block which is Zion. Through meandering valleys may be viewed the towering peaks, flat-topped mesas, sheer pinnacles, arches, cinder cones, and fields of lava. This area is an elaborate outdoor museum of nature's

master work in a colorful setting, serene and peaceful, like an outdoor cathedral. A visit to this area is an inspirational experience filled with awe and wonder, the type of public benefit for which the national parks have been established.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this proposed legislation to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

FRED G. AANDAHL,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D. C., May 15, 1956.

HON. CLAIR ENGLE,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of this Bureau concerning H. R. 10535, to include the present area of Zion National Monument within Zion National Park, in the State of Utah, and for other purposes.

If enacted, this bill would combine into a single administrative unit the Zion National Park and Zion National Monument, Utah. These areas are adjacent to each other and their scenic attractions are about equal. Consolidation of the areas into a single unit should permit more effective management and at the same time contribute to the enjoyment of the areas by the visiting public.

It is recommended that the bill receive favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT E. MERRIAM,
Assistant to the Director.

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs recommends that H. R. 10535 be enacted.

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