

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—118th Cong., 1st Sess.**

**S. 594**

To require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to prioritize the completion of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended  
to be proposed by \_\_\_\_\_

Viz:

1       Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-  
2       lowing:

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Continental Divide Na-  
5       tional Scenic Trail Completion Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

8               (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
9       the Secretary of Agriculture.

10              (2) TRAIL.—The term “Trail” means the Con-  
11       tinenta Divide National Scenic Trail.

1           (3) TRAIL COMPLETION TEAM.—The term  
2           “Trail Completion Team” means the joint Forest  
3           Service-Bureau of Land Management Trail comple-  
4           tion team established under section 4(a).

5 **SEC. 3. COMPLETION OF CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL**  
6                                   **SCENIC TRAIL.**

7           Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Sec-  
8           retary and the Secretary of the Interior shall seek to com-  
9           plete the Trail as a continuous route not later than the  
10          50th anniversary of the date of designation of the Trail  
11          as a national scenic trail.

12 **SEC. 4. TRAIL COMPLETION TEAM.**

13          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
14          date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Sec-  
15          retary of the Interior shall establish a joint Forest Service-  
16          Bureau of Land Management Trail completion team to  
17          work in coordination with the administrator of the Trail—

18                 (1) to facilitate the completion and optimization  
19                 of the Trail, consistent with the purposes of the  
20                 Trail; and

21                 (2) to assist in the development of the com-  
22                 prehensive development plan for the Trail under sec-  
23                 tion 5.

24          (b) CONSULTATION.—As appropriate, the Trail Com-  
25          pletion Team shall consult with other Federal agencies,

1 affected State, Tribal, and local governments, landowners,  
2 affected land-grant mercedes owners and users, acequias,  
3 and other interested parties in—

4 (1) the completion and optimization of the  
5 Trail; and

6 (2) the development and completion of the com-  
7 prehensive development plan for the Trail under sec-  
8 tion 5.

9 **SEC. 5. COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE**  
10 **CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL SCENIC**  
11 **TRAIL.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the  
13 date of establishment of the Trail Completion Team under  
14 section 4(a), the Secretary shall complete a comprehensive  
15 development plan for the Trail.

16 (b) PLAN INCLUSIONS.—The comprehensive develop-  
17 ment plan under subsection (a) shall—

18 (1) identify any gaps in the Trail for which the  
19 Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior have not  
20 been able to acquire land;

21 (2) identify opportunities for the use of ease-  
22 ments acquired from willing sellers to facilitate com-  
23 pletion of the Trail; and

1           (3) include general and site-specific Trail devel-  
2           opment plans, including anticipated costs of the  
3           plans.

4 **SEC. 6. PARTNERSHIPS.**

5           The Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior shall  
6           seek to enter into agreements with volunteer and nonprofit  
7           organizations, as appropriate, to facilitate the completion  
8           and administration of the Trail.

9 **SEC. 7. EFFECT.**

10          Nothing in this Act—

11           (1) provides any authority to acquire land or in-  
12           terests in land for inclusion in the Trail beyond the  
13           authorities provided for the Trail in the National  
14           Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.), includ-  
15           ing acquisition by eminent domain; or

16           (2) makes the acquisition of land or interests in  
17           land for the Trail a priority over other land acquisi-  
18           tion authorizations.