



The administration of President Ronald Reagan supported the National Heritage Area concept as a cost-effective way of telling America's stories and conserving the nation's cultural, natural and historic resources. For the past 30 years, this approach has been validated as 49 National Heritage Areas around the country have developed dynamic partnerships among local governments, nonprofit groups and businesses.

H.R.1002: National Program Legislation

The Alliance of National Heritage Areas has worked with the National Park Service and members of Congress to draft the National Heritage Area Act of 2015, H.R. 581, with more than 45 co-sponsors. The legislation is being re-introduced in 2017 by Congressman Charles Dent (R-PA) and Congressman Paul Tonko (D-NY), as H.R.1002.

What does this bill do?

- Establishes a standardized set of criteria for new NHAs
- Establishes a rigorous process for existing NHAs to ensure accountability
- Modernizes the program to ensure long-term sustainability
- Clearly defines an oversight structure that will allow these popular public/private partnerships to better preserve the nation's heritage and spur economic growth with basic federal support
- Remains consistent with recommendations of both the Bush and Obama administrations

“National Heritage Areas are considered one of the Department of the Interior’s most cost effective initiatives, relying on a public/private partnership in which every federal dollar is matched with an average of \$5.50 in other public and private financing.”

—Congressmen Charles Dent (R-PA) & Paul Tonko (D-NY)

NHAs SUPPORT REGIONAL ECONOMIES

NHAs DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY GENERATE \$12.9 BILLION PER YEAR IN THE U.S.



CREATE AND SUPPORT 148,000 JOBS



**\$1.2 BILLION
IN TAX REVENUE**

ECONOMIC REPORT PREPARED BY TRIPP UMBACH 2015



www.NationalHeritageAreas.us

THE ALLIANCE OF NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS works collectively to protect and promote the people and the places that tell America's stories.

We are a membership organization of congressionally designated National Heritage Areas and partner/affiliated organizations promoting the professionalism and benefits of the program through education and advocacy. Together, we facilitate and celebrate partnerships that improve our effectiveness and impact.

OUR GOALS:

- Serve as one voice on interests related to all NHAs
- Educate key constituencies about success and image of the NHA program
- Facilitate strategic links among NHAs and partners
- Enhance the organizational capacity of its members
- Provide a network for sharing best practices regarding a variety of disciplines

TO JOIN THE CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS ON NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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