

S 4693

National Discovery Trails Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Aug 1, 2022

Current Status: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks. Hearings held. (Sep 21, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4693>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]

Party: Democratic • **State:** DE • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		Aug 1, 2022
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Aug 1, 2022
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Sep 19, 2022
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Nov 30, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Sep 21, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 4878	Identical bill	Apr 28, 2022: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

National Discovery Trails Act

This bill amends the National Trails System Act to include national discovery trails as part of the national trails system. Such trails (1) shall be extended, continuous, interstate trails located to provide for outstanding outdoor recreation and travel and to connect representative examples of America's trails and communities; (2) shall provide for the conservation and enjoyment of significant natural, cultural, and historic resources and be so located as to represent metropolitan, urban, rural, and back country regions of the Nation; and (3) may be designated on federal lands and, with the owner's consent, on nonfederal lands.

The 6,000-mile American Discovery Trail extending from Cape Henlopen State Park in Delaware, to Point Reyes National Seashore in California, splitting into northern and southern routes near Cincinnati, Ohio, and rejoining at Denver, Colorado, is designated as a national discovery trail.

The bill sets forth requirements for designation of a trail as a national discovery trail.

The appropriate federal department for each national discovery trail shall (1) administer the trail in cooperation with at least one competent trailwide volunteer-based organization; and (2) submit a comprehensive plan for the trail's protection, management, development, and use.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 21, 2022:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks. Hearings held.
- **Aug 1, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 1, 2022:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.