

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To expand the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness and Sampson Mountain Wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ROE of Tennessee introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To expand the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness and Sampson Mountain Wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, 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 “Tennessee Wilderness  
5 Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL WILDERNESS, CHER-**  
7 **OKEE NATIONAL FOREST, TENNESSEE.**

8 (a) DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS.—In accordance  
9 with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the fol-

1 lowing parcels of Federal land in the Cherokee National  
2 Forest in the State of Tennessee are designated as wilder-  
3 ness and as additions to existing components of the Na-  
4 tional Wilderness Preservation System:

5 (1) Certain land comprising approximately  
6 4,446 acres, as generally depicted as the “Big Lau-  
7 rel Branch Addition” on the map entitled “Proposed  
8 Wilderness Areas and Additions-Cherokee National  
9 Forest” and dated January 20, 2010, which shall be  
10 incorporated in, and shall be considered to be a part  
11 of, the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness.

12 (2) Certain land comprising approximately  
13 2,922 acres, as generally depicted as the “Sampson  
14 Mountain Addition” on the map referred to in para-  
15 graph (1), which shall be incorporated in, and shall  
16 be considered to be a part of, the Sampson Moun-  
17 tain Wilderness.

18 (b) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after  
20 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
21 of Agriculture shall submit maps and legal descrip-  
22 tions of the wilderness designated by subsection (a)  
23 with the appropriate committees of Congress.

24 (2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The maps and  
25 legal descriptions submitted under paragraph (1)

1 shall be on file and available for public inspection in  
2 the office of the Chief of the Forest Service and the  
3 office of the Supervisor of the Cherokee National  
4 Forest.

5 (3) FORCE OF LAW.—The maps and legal de-  
6 scriptions submitted under paragraph (1) shall have  
7 the same force and effect as if included in this Act,  
8 except that the Secretary may correct typographical  
9 errors in the maps and descriptions.

10 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing  
12 rights, the Secretary of Agriculture shall administer  
13 the Federal land designated as wilderness by sub-  
14 section (a) in accordance with the Wilderness Act  
15 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), except that any reference  
16 in that Act to the effective date of that Act shall be  
17 deemed to be a reference to the date of the enact-  
18 ment of this Act.

19 (2) FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT.—In ac-  
20 cordance with section 4(d)(7) of the Wilderness Act  
21 (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(7)), nothing in this Act affects  
22 the jurisdiction of the State of Tennessee with re-  
23 spect to fish and wildlife management (including the  
24 regulation of hunting, fishing, and trapping) on the

- 1 Federal land designated as wilderness by subsection
- 2 (a).