

Representative Steve Eliason proposes the following substitute bill:

LITTLE SAHARA STATE PARK DESIGNATION

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill deals with the creation of the Little Sahara State Park.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ authorizes the Division of Parks and Recreation to enter into an agreement with the United States Bureau of Land Management to use the Little Sahara Recreation Area as a state park; and

▶ states that the Little Sahara Recreation Area shall be included within the state park system upon the division entering into the agreement described above.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

79-4-605, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:



26 Section 1. Section **79-4-605** is enacted to read:

27 **79-4-605. Little Sahara included within state park system.**

28 (1) As used in this section, "Little Sahara Recreation Area" means the area of land in
29 the Sevier Desert, approximately 55,905 acres, fully described by the map and legal description
30 on file with the division.

31 (2) The division may:

32 (a) enter into an agreement for the use of the Little Sahara Recreation Area as a state
33 park with the United States Bureau of Land Management; and

34 (b) receive donations of land or facilities at the Little Sahara Recreation Area for
35 inclusion within the state park.

36 (3) In entering the agreement described in Subsection (2)(a), the division:

37 (a) may pursue a land transfer agreement with the United States Bureau of Land
38 Management; and

39 (b) may, if a land transfer agreement is not possible, seek to purchase or lease the land
40 from the United States Bureau of Land Management through the Recreation and Public
41 Purposes Act, 43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.; and

42 (c) shall finalize an agreement to receive land by transfer, purchase, or lease, as
43 described in Subsections (3)(a) and (b), if the resulting state park would be financially
44 self-sustaining, other than one-time, up-front costs.

45 (4) The Little Sahara Recreation Area shall be included within the state park system
46 upon the division entering into the agreement described in Subsection (2)(a).

47 (5) (a) Upon the division entering into the agreement described in Subsection (2)(a),
48 the division shall rename the approximately 9,000-acre area known as the Rockwell
49 Outstanding Natural Area to the "Bill Orton State Wilderness Area."

50 (b) The director shall recommend the Bill Orton State Wilderness Area to the governor
51 for designation as a protected wilderness area, as described in Section [63L-7-105](#).