Calendar No. 95

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 231

[Report No. 105–37]

To establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in the State
of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 29, 1997

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. DOMENICI) intro-
duced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Com-
mittee on Energy and Natural Resources

JUNE 26, 1997

Reported by Mr. MURKOWSKI, without amendment

A BILL

To establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute
in the State of New Mexico, 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 ''National Cave and

5 Karst Research Institute Act of 1997''.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

    (1) to further the science of speleology;

    (2) to centralize and standardize speleological information;

    (3) to foster interdisciplinary cooperation in cave and karst research programs;

    (4) to promote public education;

    (5) to promote national and international cooperation in protecting the environment for the benefit of cave and karst landforms; and

    (6) to promote and develop environmentally sound and sustainable resource management practices.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary"), acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute (referred to in this Act as the "Institute").

(b) PURPOSES.—The Institute shall, to the extent practicable, further the purposes of this Act.

(c) LOCATION.—The Institute shall be located in the vicinity of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, in the State of New Mexico. The Institute shall not be located inside the boundaries of Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

1 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF THE INSTITUTE.**

2 (a) MANAGEMENT.—The Institute shall be jointly ad-

3 ministered by the National Park Service and a public or

4 private agency, organization, or institution, as determined

5 by the Secretary.

6 (b) GUIDELINES.—The Institute shall be operated

7 and managed in accordance with the study prepared by

8 the National Park Service pursuant to section 203 of the

9 Act entitled "An Act to conduct certain studies in the

10 State of New Mexico", approved November 15, 1990

11 (Public Law 101–578; 16 U.S.C. 4310 note).

12 (c) CONTRACTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

13 The Secretary may enter into a contract or cooperative

14 agreement with a public or private agency, organization,

15 or institution to carry out this Act.

16 (d) FACILITY.—

17   (1) LEASING OR ACQUIRING A FACILITY.—The

18   Secretary may lease or acquire a facility for the In-

19   stitute.

20   (2) CONSTRUCTION OF A FACILITY.—If the

21   Secretary determines that a suitable facility is not

22   available for a lease or acquisition under paragraph

23   (1), the Secretary may construct a facility for the

24   Institute.

25 (e) ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND TRANSFERS.—To

26 carry out this Act, the Secretary may accept—

1   (1) a grant or donation from a private person;

2   or

3   (2) a transfer of funds from another Federal

4   agency.

5 **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

6   (a) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary may spend

7 only such amount of Federal funds to carry out this Act

8 as is matched by an equal amount of funds from non-Fed-

9 eral sources.

10   (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There

11 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be

12 necessary to carry out this Act.

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