

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1384

To authorize an interpretive center and related visitor facilities within the Four Corners Monument Tribal Park, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 1999

Mr. CANNON (for himself, Mr. McINNIS, and Mr. HAYWORTH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

---

## A BILL

To authorize an interpretive center and related visitor facilities within the Four Corners Monument Tribal Park, 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 “Four Corners Interpre-

5       tive Center Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8               (1) the Four Corners Monument is nationally  
9       significant as the only geographic location in the  
10       United States where 4 State boundaries meet;

1           (2) the States with boundaries that meet at the  
2 Four Corners area are Arizona, Colorado, New Mex-  
3 ico, and Utah;

4           (3) between 1868 and 1875 the boundary lines  
5 that created the Four Corners were drawn, and in  
6 1899 a monument was erected at the site;

7           (4) a United States postal stamp will be issued  
8 in 1999 to commemorate the centennial of the origi-  
9 nal boundary marker;

10          (5) the Four Corners area is distinct in char-  
11 acter and possesses important historical, cultural,  
12 and prehistoric values and resources within the sur-  
13 rounding cultural landscape;

14          (6) although there are no permanent facilities  
15 or utilities at the Four Corners Monument Tribal  
16 Park, each year the park attracts approximately  
17 250,000 visitors;

18          (7) the area of the Four Corners Monument  
19 Tribal Park falls entirely within the Navajo Nation  
20 or Ute Mountain Ute Tribe reservations;

21          (8) the Navajo Nation and the Ute Mountain  
22 Ute Tribe have entered into a Memorandum of Un-  
23 derstanding governing the planning and future de-  
24 velopment of the Four Corners Monument Tribal  
25 Park;

1           (9) in 1992, through agreements executed by  
2           the governors of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico,  
3           and Utah, the Four Corners Heritage Council was  
4           established as a coalition of State, Federal, tribal,  
5           and private interests;

6           (10) the State of Arizona has obligated \$45,000  
7           for planning efforts and \$250,000 for construction  
8           of an interpretive center at the Four Corners Monu-  
9           ment Tribal Park;

10          (11) numerous studies and extensive consulta-  
11          tion with American Indians have demonstrated that  
12          development at the Four Corners Monument Tribal  
13          Park would greatly benefit the people of the Navajo  
14          Nation and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe;

15          (12) the Arizona Department of Transportation  
16          has completed preliminary cost estimates that are  
17          based on field experience with rest-area development  
18          for the construction for a Four Corners Monument  
19          Interpretive Center and surrounding infrastructure,  
20          including restrooms, roadways, parking, water, elec-  
21          trical, telephone, and sewage facilities;

22          (13) an interpretive center would provide im-  
23          portant educational and enrichment opportunities  
24          for all Americans; and

1           (14) Federal financial assistance and technical  
2 expertise are needed for the construction of an inter-  
3 pretive center.

4           (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

5           (1) to recognize the importance of the Four  
6 Corners Monument and surrounding landscape as a  
7 distinct area in the heritage of the United States  
8 that is worthy of interpretation and preservation;

9           (2) to assist the Navajo Nation and the Ute  
10 Mountain Ute Tribe in establishing the Four Cor-  
11 ners Interpretive Center and related facilities to  
12 meet the needs of the general public;

13           (3) to highlight and showcase the collaborative  
14 resource stewardship of private individuals, Indian  
15 tribes, universities, federal agencies, and the govern-  
16 ments of States and political subdivisions thereof  
17 (including counties); and

18           (4) to promote knowledge of the life, art, cul-  
19 ture, politics, and history of the culturally diverse  
20 groups of the Four Corners region.

21 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

22 As used in this Act:

23           (1) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the  
24 Four Corners Interpretive Center established under  
25 section 4, including restrooms, parking areas, vendor

1 facilities, sidewalks, utilities, exhibits, and other vis-  
2 itor facilities.

3 (2) FOUR CORNERS HERITAGE COUNCIL.—The  
4 term “Four Corners Heritage Council” means the  
5 nonprofit coalition of Federal, State, and tribal enti-  
6 ties established in 1992 by agreements of the Gov-  
7 ernors of the States of Arizona, Colorado, New Mex-  
8 ico, and Utah.

9 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11 (4) RECIPIENT.—The term “Recipient” means  
12 the State of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, or  
13 Utah, or any consortium of two or more of these  
14 states.

15 (5) FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT.—The term  
16 “Four Corners Monument” means the physical  
17 monument where the boundaries of the states of Ari-  
18 zona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah meet.

19 (6) FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT TRIBAL  
20 PARK.—The term “Four Corners Monument Tribal  
21 Park” means lands within the legally defined bound-  
22 ary of the Four Corners Monument Tribal Park.

1 **SEC. 4. FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT INTERPRETIVE CEN-**  
2 **TER.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of  
4 appropriations, the Secretary is authorized to establish  
5 within the boundaries of the Four Corners Monument  
6 Tribal Park a center for the interpretation and commemo-  
7 ration of the Four Corners Monument, to be known as  
8 the “Four Corners Interpretive Center”.

9 (b) LAND DESIGNATED AND MADE AVAILABLE.—  
10 Land for the Center shall be designated and made avail-  
11 able by the Navajo Nation or the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
12 within the boundary of the Four Corners Monument Trib-  
13 al Park in consultation with the Four Corners Heritage  
14 Council and in accordance with—

15 (1) the memorandum of understanding between  
16 the Navajo Nation and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
17 that was entered into on October 22, 1996; and

18 (2) applicable supplemental agreements with  
19 the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park  
20 Service, the United States Forest Service.

21 (c) CONCURRENCE.—Notwithstanding any other pro-  
22 vision of this act, no such center shall be established with-  
23 out the consent of the Navajo Nation and the Ute Moun-  
24 tain Ute Tribe.

25 (d) COMPONENTS OF CENTER.—The Center shall  
26 include—

1           (1) a location for permanent and temporary ex-  
2           hibits depicting the archaeological, cultural, and nat-  
3           ural heritage of the Four Corners region;

4           (2) a venue for public education programs;

5           (3) a location to highlight the importance of ef-  
6           forts to preserve southwestern archaeological sites  
7           and museum collections;

8           (4) a location to provide information to the gen-  
9           eral public about cultural and natural resources,  
10          parks, museums, and travel in the Four Corners re-  
11          gion; and

12          (5) visitor amenities including restrooms, public  
13          telephones, and other basic facilities.

14 **SEC. 5. CONSTRUCTION GRANT.**

15          (a) GRANT.—The Secretary is authorized to award  
16          a Federal grant to the recipient described in section 3(4)  
17          for up to 50 percent of the cost to construct the Center.  
18          To be eligible for the grant, the recipient shall provide as-  
19          surances that—

20                (1) the non-Federal share of the costs of con-  
21                struction is paid from non-Federal sources. The non-  
22                Federal sources may include contributions made by  
23                States, private sources, the Navajo Nation and the  
24                Ute Mountain Ute Tribe for planning, design, con-

1 construction, furnishing, startup, and operational ex-  
2 penses;

3 (2) the aggregate amount of non-Federal funds  
4 contributed by the States used to carry out the ac-  
5 tivities specified in subparagraph (A) will not be less  
6 than \$2,000,000, of which each of the states that is  
7 party to the grant will contribute equally in cash or  
8 in kind;

9 (3) States may use private funds to meet the  
10 requirements of paragraph (2); and

11 (4) the State of Arizona may apply \$45,000 au-  
12 thorized by the State of Arizona during fiscal year  
13 1998 or fiscal year 1999 for planning and \$250,000  
14 that is held in reserve by that State for construction  
15 towards the Arizona share.

16 (b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive a  
17 grant under this act, the recipient shall—

18 (1) submit to the Secretary a proposal that  
19 meets all applicable—

20 (A) laws, including building codes and reg-  
21 ulations;

22 (B) requirements under the Memorandum  
23 of Understanding described in paragraph (2) of  
24 this subsection; and



1 (C) provides such information and assur-  
2 ances as the Secretary may require;

3 (2) enter into a Memorandum of Understanding  
4 (MOU) with the Secretary providing—

5 (A) a timetable for completion of construc-  
6 tion and opening of the Center;

7 (B) assurances that design, architectural  
8 and construction contracts will be competitively  
9 awarded;

10 (C) specifications meeting all applicable  
11 Federal, State, and local building codes and  
12 laws;

13 (D) arrangements for operations and  
14 maintenance upon completion of construction;

15 (E) a description of center collections and  
16 educational programming;

17 (F) a plan for design of exhibits including,  
18 but not limited to, collections to be exhibited,  
19 security, preservation, protection, environmental  
20 controls, and presentations in accordance with  
21 professional museum standards;

22 (G) an agreement with the Navajo Nation  
23 and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe relative to site  
24 selection and public access to the facilities; and

1 (H) a financing plan developed jointly by  
2 the Navajo Nation and the Ute Mountain Ute  
3 Tribe outlining the long-term management of  
4 the Center, including but not limited to—

5 (i) the acceptance and use of funds  
6 derived from public and private sources to  
7 minimize the use of appropriated or bor-  
8 rowed funds;

9 (ii) the payment of the operating costs  
10 of the Center through the assessment of  
11 fees or other income generated by the Cen-  
12 ter;

13 (iii) a strategy for achieving financial  
14 self-sufficiency with respect to the Center  
15 by not later than 5 years after the date of  
16 enactment of this Act; and

17 (iv) appropriate vendor standards and  
18 business activities at the Four Corners  
19 Monument Tribal Park.

20 **SEC. 6. SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENT.**

21 The Secretary is authorized to award a grant in ac-  
22 cordance with the provisions of this Act. The Four Cor-  
23 ners Heritage Council may make recommendations to the  
24 Secretary on grant proposals regarding the design of fa-  
25 cilities at the Four Corners Monument Tribal Park.

1 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be ap-  
3 propriated to carry out this Act—

4 (1) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2000; and

5 (2) \$50,000 for each of fiscal years 2001–2005  
6 for maintenance and operation of the center, pro-  
7 gram development, or staffing in a manner con-  
8 sistent with the requirements of section 5(b).

9 (b) CARRYOVER.—Funds made available under this  
10 section that are unexpended at the end of the fiscal year  
11 for which those funds are appropriated may be used by  
12 the Secretary through fiscal year 2002 for the purposes  
13 for which those funds were made available.

14 (c) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may  
15 reserve funds appropriated to carry out this Act until a  
16 proposal meeting the requirements of this Act is sub-  
17 mitted, but no later than September 30, 2001.

18 **SEC. 8. DONATIONS.**

19 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for pur-  
20 poses of the planning, construction, and operation of the  
21 Center, the Secretary may accept, retain, and expand do-  
22 nations of funds, and use property or services donated  
23 from private persons and entities or from public entities.

24 **SEC. 9. STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.**

25 Nothing in this Act is intended to abrogate, modify,  
26 or impair any right or claim of the Navajo Nation or the

1 Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, that is based on any law (in-  
2 cluding any treaty, Executive order, agreement, or Act of  
3 Congress).

○