

Calendar No. 886

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 2749****[Report No. 106–441]**

To establish the California Trail Interpretive Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the settling of the western portion of the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 19, 2000

Mr. REID introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of September 28 (legislative day, September 22), 2000, by Mr. MURKOWSKI, without amendment

A BILL

To establish the California Trail Interpretive Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the settling of the western portion of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “California Trail Inter-
3 pretive Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

6 (1) the nineteenth century westward movement
7 in the United States over the California National
8 Historic Trail, which occurred from 1840 until the
9 completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869,
10 was an important cultural and historical event in—

11 (A) the development of the western land of
12 the United States; and

13 (B) the prevention of colonization of the
14 west coast by Russia and the British Empire;

15 (2) the movement over the California Trail was
16 completed by over 300,000 settlers, many of whom
17 left records or stories of their journeys; and

18 (3) additional recognition and interpretation of
19 the movement over the California Trail is appro-
20 priate in light of—

21 (A) the national scope of nineteenth cen-
22 tury westward movement in the United States;
23 and

24 (B) the strong interest expressed by people
25 of the United States in understanding their his-
26 tory and heritage.

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

2 (1) to recognize the California Trail, including
3 the Hastings Cutoff and the trail of the ill-fated
4 Donner-Reed Party, for its national, historical, and
5 cultural significance; and

6 (2) to provide the public with an interpretive fa-
7 cility devoted to the vital role of trails in the West
8 in the development of the United States.

9 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

10 In this Act:

11 (1) CALIFORNIA TRAIL.—The term “California
12 Trail” means the California National Historic Trail,
13 established under section 5(a)(18) of the National
14 Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(18)).

15 (2) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the
16 California Trail Interpretive Center established
17 under section 4(a).

18 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
19 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
20 rector of the Bureau of Land Management.

21 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
22 of Nevada.

23 **SEC. 4. CALIFORNIA TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER.**

24 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In furtherance of the pur-
2 poses of section 7(c) of the National Trails System
3 Act (16 U.S.C. 1246(c)), the Secretary may estab-
4 lish an interpretation center to be known as the
5 “California Trail Interpretive Center”, near the city
6 of Elko, Nevada.

7 (2) PURPOSE.—The Center shall be established
8 for the purpose of interpreting the history of devel-
9 opment and use of the California Trail in the set-
10 tling of the West.

11 (b) MASTER PLAN STUDY.—To carry out subsection
12 (a), the Secretary shall—

13 (1) consider the findings of the master plan
14 study for the California Trail Interpretive Center in
15 Elko, Nevada, as authorized by page 15 of Senate
16 Report 106–99; and

17 (2) initiate a plan for the development of the
18 Center that includes—

19 (A) a detailed description of the design of
20 the Center;

21 (B) a description of the site on which the
22 Center is to be located;

23 (C) a description of the method and esti-
24 mated cost of acquisition of the site on which
25 the Center is to be located;

1 (D) the estimated cost of construction of
2 the Center;

3 (E) the cost of operation and maintenance
4 of the Center; and

5 (F) a description of the manner and extent
6 to which non-Federal entities shall participate
7 in the acquisition and construction of the Cen-
8 ter.

9 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—To carry out subsection (a),
10 the Secretary may—

11 (1) acquire land and interests in land for the
12 construction of the Center by—

13 (A) donation;

14 (B) purchase with donated or appropriated
15 funds; or

16 (C) exchange;

17 (2) provide for local review of and input con-
18 cerning the development and operation of the Center
19 by the Advisory Board for the National Historic
20 California Emigrant Trails Interpretive Center of
21 the city of Elko, Nevada;

22 (3) periodically prepare a budget and funding
23 request that allows a Federal agency to carry out
24 the maintenance and operation of the Center;

25 (4) enter into a cooperative agreement with—

1 (A) the State, to provide assistance in—

2 (i) removal of snow from roads;

3 (ii) rescue, firefighting, and law en-
4 forcement services; and

5 (iii) coordination of activities of near-
6 by law enforcement and firefighting de-
7 partments or agencies; and

8 (B) a Federal, State, or local agency to de-
9 velop or operate facilities and services to carry
10 out this Act; and

11 (5) notwithstanding any other provision of law,
12 accept donations of funds, property, or services from
13 an individual, foundation, corporation, or public en-
14 tity to provide a service or facility that is consistent
15 with this Act, as determined by the Secretary, in-
16 cluding 1-time contributions for the Center (to be
17 payable during construction funding periods for the
18 Center after the date of enactment of this Act)
19 from—

20 (A) the State, in the amount of
21 \$3,000,000;

22 (B) Elko County, Nevada, in the amount
23 of \$1,000,000; and

24 (C) the city of Elko, Nevada, in the
25 amount of \$2,000,000.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this Act \$12,000,000.

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