

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1979

To direct the Chief of Engineers to transfer an archaeological collection, commonly referred to as the Kennewick Man or the Ancient One, to the Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2015

Mrs. MURRAY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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## A BILL

To direct the Chief of Engineers to transfer an archaeological collection, commonly referred to as the Kennewick Man or the Ancient One, to the Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation.

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 “Bring the Ancient One  
5       Home Act of 2015”.

6       **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF HUMAN REMAINS.**

7       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) CLAIMANT TRIBES.—The term “claimant  
2       tribes” means the Indian tribes and band referred to  
3       in the letter from Secretary of the Interior Bruce  
4       Babbitt to Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, re-  
5       lating to the human remains and dated September  
6       21, 2000.

7           (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
8       means the Washington State Department of Archae-  
9       ology and Historic Preservation.

10          (3) HUMAN REMAINS.—The term “human re-  
11       mains” means the human remains—

12               (A) that are known as Kennewick Man or  
13       the Ancient One, which includes the projectile  
14       point lodged in the right ilium bone, as well as  
15       any residue from previous sampling and stud-  
16       ies; and

17               (B) that are part of archaeological collec-  
18       tion number 45BN495.

19       (b) TRANSFER.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
20       sion of Federal law or law of the State of Washington,  
21       including the Native American Graves Protection and Re-  
22       patriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), not later than  
23       90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
24       retary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers,  
25       shall transfer the human remains to the Department, on

1 the condition that the Department, acting through the  
2 State Historic Preservation Officer, disposes of the re-  
3 mains and repatriates the remains to claimant tribes.

4 (c) COST.—The Corps of Engineers shall be respon-  
5 sible for any costs associated with the transfer.

6 (d) LIMITATIONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The transfer shall be limited  
8 solely to the human remains portion of the archae-  
9 ological collection.

10 (2) CORPS OF ENGINEERS.—The Corps of En-  
11 gineers shall have no further responsibility for the  
12 human remains transferred pursuant to subsection

13 (b) after the date of the transfer.

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