

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 28

AN ACT

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”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

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

6 (2) the States with boundaries that meet at the
7 Four Corners are Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico,
8 and Utah;

9 (3) between 1868 and 1875 the boundary lines
10 that created the Four Corners were drawn, and in
11 1899 a monument was erected at the site;

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

15 (5) the Four Corners area is distinct in char-
16 acter and possesses important historical, cultural,
17 and prehistoric values and resources within the sur-
18 rounding cultural landscape;

19 (6) although there are no permanent facilities
20 or utilities at the Four Corners Monument Tribal
21 Park, each year the park attracts approximately
22 250,000 visitors;

23 (7) the area of the Four Corners Monument
24 Tribal Park falls entirely within the Navajo Nation
25 or Ute Mountain Ute Tribe reservations;

1 (8) the Navajo Nation and the Ute Mountain
2 Ute Tribe have entered into a memorandum of un-
3 derstanding governing the planning and future de-
4 velopment of the Four Corners Monument Tribal
5 Park;

6 (9) in 1992, through agreements executed by
7 the Governors of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico,
8 and Utah, the Four Corners Heritage Council was
9 established as a coalition of State, Federal, tribal,
10 and private interests;

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

15 (11) numerous studies and extensive consulta-
16 tion with American Indians have demonstrated that
17 development at the Four Corners Monument Tribal
18 Park would greatly benefit the people of the Navajo
19 Nation and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe;

20 (12) the Arizona Department of Transportation
21 has completed preliminary cost estimates that are
22 based on field experience with rest-area development
23 for the construction of a Four Corners Interpretive
24 Center and surrounding infrastructure, including

1 restrooms, roadways, parking areas, and water, elec-
2 trical, telephone, and sewage facilities;

3 (13) an interpretive center would provide im-
4 portant educational and enrichment opportunities
5 for all Americans; and

6 (14) Federal financial assistance and technical
7 expertise are needed for the construction of an inter-
8 pretive center.

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

10 (1) to recognize the importance of the Four
11 Corners Monument and surrounding landscape as a
12 distinct area in the heritage of the United States
13 that is worthy of interpretation and preservation;

14 (2) to assist the Navajo Nation and the Ute
15 Mountain Ute Tribe in establishing the Four Cor-
16 ners Interpretive Center and related facilities to
17 meet the needs of the general public;

18 (3) to highlight and showcase the collaborative
19 resource stewardship of private individuals, Indian
20 tribes, universities, Federal agencies, and the gov-
21 ernments of States and political subdivisions thereof
22 (including counties); and

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

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 As used in this Act:

3 (1) **CENTER.**—The term “Center” means the
4 Four Corners Interpretive Center established under
5 section 4, including restrooms, parking areas, vendor
6 facilities, sidewalks, utilities, exhibits, and other vis-
7 itor facilities.

8 (2) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible enti-
9 ty” means the State of Arizona, Colorado, New Mex-
10 ico, or Utah, or any consortium of 2 or more of
11 those States.

12 (3) **FOUR CORNERS HERITAGE COUNCIL.**—The
13 term “Four Corners Heritage Council” means the
14 nonprofit coalition of Federal, State, tribal, and pri-
15 vate entities established in 1992 by agreements of
16 the Governors of the States of Arizona, Colorado,
17 New Mexico, and Utah.

18 (4) **FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT.**—The term
19 “Four Corners Monument” means the physical
20 monument where the boundaries of the States of Ar-
21 izona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah meet.

22 (5) **FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT TRIBAL**
23 **PARK.**—The term “Four Corners Monument Tribal
24 Park” means lands within the legally defined bound-
25 aries of the Four Corners Monument Tribal Park.

1 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of the Interior.

3 **SEC. 4. FOUR CORNERS INTERPRETIVE CENTER.**

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

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

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

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

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

1 (d) COMPONENTS OF CENTER.—The Center shall in-
2 clude—

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

6 (2) a venue for public education programs;

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

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

14 (5) visitor amenities including restrooms, public
15 telephones, and other basic facilities.

16 **SEC. 5. CONSTRUCTION GRANT.**

17 (a) GRANT.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
19 to award a grant to an eligible entity for the con-
20 struction of the Center in an amount not to exceed
21 50 percent of the cost of construction of the Center.

22 (2) ASSURANCES.—To be eligible for the grant,
23 the eligible entity that is selected to receive the
24 grant shall provide assurances that—

1 (A) the non-Federal share of the costs of
2 construction is paid from non-Federal sources
3 (which may include contributions made by
4 States, private sources, the Navajo Nation, and
5 the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe for planning, de-
6 sign, construction, furnishing, startup, and
7 operational expenses); and

8 (B) the aggregate amount of non-Federal
9 funds contributed by the States used to carry
10 out the activities specified in subparagraph (A)
11 will not be less than \$2,000,000, of which each
12 of the States that is party to the grant will con-
13 tribute equally in cash or in kind.

14 (3) FUNDS FROM PRIVATE SOURCES.—A State
15 may use funds from private sources to meet the re-
16 quirements of paragraph (2)(B).

17 (4) FUNDS OF STATE OF ARIZONA.—The State
18 of Arizona may apply \$45,000 authorized by the
19 State of Arizona during fiscal year 1998 for plan-
20 ning and \$250,000 that is held in reserve by the
21 State for construction toward the Arizona share.

22 (b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive a
23 grant under this Act, the eligible entity selected to receive
24 the grant shall—

25 (1) submit to the Secretary a proposal that—

1 (A) meets all applicable—

2 (i) laws, including building codes and
3 regulations; and

4 (ii) requirements under the memo-
5 randum of understanding described in
6 paragraph (2); and

7 (B) provides such information and assur-
8 ances as the Secretary may require; and

9 (2) enter into a memorandum of understanding
10 with the Secretary providing—

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

13 (B) assurances that design, architectural,
14 and construction contracts will be competitively
15 awarded;

16 (C) specifications meeting all applicable
17 Federal, State, and local building codes and
18 laws;

19 (D) arrangements for operations and
20 maintenance upon completion of construction;

21 (E) a description of the Center collections
22 and educational programming;

23 (F) a plan for design of exhibits including,
24 but not limited to, the selection of collections to
25 be exhibited, and the providing of security,

1 preservation, protection, environmental controls,
2 and presentations in accordance with profes-
3 sional museum standards;

4 (G) an agreement with the Navajo Nation
5 and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe relative to site
6 selection and public access to the facilities; and

7 (H) a financing plan developed jointly by
8 the Navajo Nation and the Ute Mountain Ute
9 Tribe outlining the long-term management of
10 the Center, including—

11 (i) the acceptance and use of funds
12 derived from public and private sources to
13 minimize the use of appropriated or bor-
14 rowed funds;

15 (ii) the payment of the operating costs
16 of the Center through the assessment of
17 fees or other income generated by the Cen-
18 ter;

19 (iii) a strategy for achieving financial
20 self-sufficiency with respect to the Center
21 by not later than 5 years after the date of
22 enactment of this Act; and

23 (iv) appropriate vendor standards and
24 business activities at the Four Corners
25 Monument Tribal Park.

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

2 The Four Corners Heritage Council may make rec-
3 ommendations to the Secretary on grant proposals regard-
4 ing the design of facilities at the Four Corners Monument
5 Tribal Park.

6 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 (a) AUTHORIZATIONS.—There are authorized to be
8 appropriated to the Department of the Interior to carry
9 out this Act—

10 (1) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2000; and

11 (2) \$50,000 for each of fiscal years 2001
12 through 2005 for maintenance and operation of the
13 Center, program development, or staffing in a man-
14 ner consistent with the requirements of section 5(b).

15 (b) CARRYOVER.—Funds made available under sub-
16 section (a)(1) that are unexpended at the end of the fiscal
17 year for which those funds are appropriated, may be used
18 by the Secretary through fiscal year 2002 for the purposes
19 for which those funds are made available.

20 (c) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may
21 reserve funds appropriated pursuant to this Act until a
22 grant proposal meeting the requirements of this Act is
23 submitted, but no later than September 30, 2001.

24 **SEC. 8. DONATIONS.**

25 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for pur-
26 poses of the planning, construction, and operation of the

1 Center, the Secretary may accept, retain, and expend do-
2 nations of funds, and use property or services donated,
3 from private persons and entities or from public entities.

4 **SEC. 9. STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.**

5 Nothing in this Act is intended to abrogate, modify,
6 or impair any right or claim of the Navajo Nation or the
7 Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, that is based on any law (includ-
8 ing any treaty, Executive order, agreement, or Act of Con-
9 gress).

Passed the Senate September 9, 1999.

Attest:

Secretary.

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