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1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
104-41

DESIGNATION OF THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL FOR INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM

APRIL 7 (legislative day, APRIL 5), 1995.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 587]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 587) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail and the Northern Branch of the Old Spanish Trail for potential inclusion in the National Trails System, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE

The propose of S. 587, as ordered reported, is to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail and the Northern Branch of the Old Spanish Trail for study for potential inclusion the National Trails System. The Old Spanish Trail begins in New Mexico, passes through Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and ends in California.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

The Old Spanish Trail spans 1,200 miles, from Santa Fe to Los Angeles, and began as part of prehistoric trade routes used by the Ute Indians of the Colorado Rockies to reach the Pueblos of northern New Mexico. After the settlement of New Mexico by Spaniards, Utes led mounted Spaniards north into their homelands in the mountains and the Great Basin. These early Spanish travels included an early, though failed attempt to reach California by the

Franciscan fathers Dominguez and Escalante in 1776. This use by the Spanish eventually gave the trail its time.

According to an early historian, the trail "headed northwest from Santa Fe * * * eased over the continental divide in northern New Mexico, cut through a spur of the Rocky Mountains into Colorado, forded * * * the Colorado and the Green rivers * * * dipped over the rim of the Great Basin into Utah, and crept southwest through desert stretches of Nevada and California to Los Angeles."

The northern branch of the trail begins near Espanola, New Mexico, proceeds through Colorado and ends near Crescent Junction, Utah. This branch was used by trappers and traders en route to northwestern Colorado and northeastern Utah. The trail entered Colorado near the towns of Alamosa and Monte Vista and passed the present day towns of Gunnison, Montrose, Delta, and Grand Junction. From Grand Junction, the trail followed the Colorado River for some 50 miles, and then struck out across the desert and joined the main Spanish Trail 20 miles southeast of the Green River crossing, which was a major rendezvous point for trappers in the West.

Parts of the trail began as a footpath for Native Americans. It later witnessed more than two centuries of Spanish use, a quarter-century of Mexican use, and, finally, a half-century of American travel before transcontinental railroads replaced it. A number of independent scholars have already begun examination of portions of the trail. An Old Spanish Trail Association has been founded in Colorado, and its members have located wagon ruts into the rock in the San Luis Valley, which happens to be the oldest settled community in Colorado, along the Northern Branch of the trail.

S. 587 would amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail and the Northern Branch of the Old Spanish Trail for study for potential inclusion in the National Trails System.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S.587 was introduced by Senators Campbell, Brown, Bennett, Reid, Bryan, Bingaman, Domenici, and Feinstein on March 22, 1995, and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

In the 103d Congress, identical legislation, S. 2078, was introduced by Senator Campbell and others on May 5, 1994. The Subcommittee on Public Land, National Parks and Forests held a hearing on S. 2078 on August 4, 1994, and reported the bill favorably on September 21, 1994. No further action was taken in the Senate prior to the adjournment of the 103d Congress.

At the business meeting on March 29, 1995, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources ordered S. 587 favorably reported, without amendment.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND TABULATION OF VOTES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on March 29, 1995, by a unanimous vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 587 without amendment.

The rollcall vote on reporting the measure was 20 yeas, 0 nays, as follows:

YEAS	NAYS
Mr. Murkowski	
Mr. Hatfield ¹	
Mr. Domenici	
Mr. Nickles ¹	
Mr. Craig	
Mr. Campbell ¹	
Mr. Thomas ¹	
Mr. Kyl ¹	
Mr. Grams	
Mr. Jeffords ¹	
Mr. Burns ¹	
Mr. Johnston	
Mr. Bumpers	
Mr. Ford	
Mr. Bradley	
Mr. Bingaman	
Mr. Akaka	
Mr. Wellstone ¹	
Mr. Heflin ¹	
Mr. Dorgan	

¹ Indicates voted by proxy.

SUMMARY OF THE MEASURE

S. 587 would amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail and the Northern Branch of the Old Spanish Trail for study for potential inclusion in the National Trails System.

COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

The following estimate of costs of this measure has been provided by the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, April 5, 1995.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed S. 587, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail and the Northern Branch of the Old Spanish Trail for potential inclusion into the National Trails System, and for other purposes. The bill was ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on March 29, 1995.

S. 587 would add two segments of the Old Spanish Trail to the list of routes to be studied for possible designation as national scenic trails. Assuming appropriation of the necessary sums, CBO es-

timates that the National Park Service would spend about \$250,000 over the next three years to prepare the required study.

The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. Enactment of S. 587 also would have no impact on the budgets of state or local governments.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. BLUM
(For June E. O'Neill, *Director*).

REGULATORY IMPACT EVALUATION

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 587. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards or significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses.

No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy.

Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from the enactment of S. 587, as ordered reported.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

On March 24, 1995, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources requested legislative reports from the Department of the Interior and the Office of Management and Budget setting forth Executive agency recommendations on S. 587. These reports had not been received at the time the report on S. 587 was filed. When these reports become available, the Chairman will request that they be printed in the Congressional Record for the advice of the Senate.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill S. 587, as ordered reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

§ 1244. National scenic and national historic trails

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Section 5(c) * * *

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(36) The Old Spanish Trail, beginning in Santa Fe, New Mexico, proceeding through Colorado and Utah, and ending in Los Angeles, California, and the Northern Branch of the Old Spanish Trail, be-

*ginning near Espanola, New Mexico, proceeding through Colorado,
and ending near Crescent Junction, Utah.*

