

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2098

To establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in the State
of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 1997

Mr. SKEEN (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. REDMOND) introduced the
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute
in the State of New Mexico, 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 “National Cave and
5 Karst Research Institute Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are—

8 (1) to further the science of speleology;

9 (2) to centralize and standardize speleological

10 information;

- 1 (3) to foster interdisciplinary cooperation in
2 cave and karst research programs;
3 (4) to promote public education;
4 (5) to promote national and international co-
5 operation in protecting the environment for the ben-
6 efit of cave and karst landforms; and
7 (6) to promote and develop environmentally
8 sound and sustainable resource management prac-
9 tices.

10 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (re-
12 ferred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), acting through
13 the Director of the National Park Service, shall establish
14 the National Cave and Karst Research Institute (referred
15 to in this Act as the “Institute”).

16 (b) PURPOSES.—The Institute shall, to the extent
17 practicable, further the purposes of this Act.

18 (c) LOCATION.—The Institute shall be located in the
19 vicinity of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, in the State
20 of New Mexico. The Institute shall not be located inside
21 the boundaries of Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

22 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF THE INSTITUTE.**

23 (a) MANAGEMENT.—The Institute shall be jointly ad-
24 ministered by the National Park Service and a public or

1 private agency, organization, or institution, as determined
2 by the Secretary.

3 (b) GUIDELINES.—The Institute shall be operated
4 and managed in accordance with the study prepared by
5 the National Park Service pursuant to section 203 of the
6 Act entitled “An Act to conduct certain studies in the
7 State of New Mexico”, approved November 15, 1990
8 (Public Law 101–578; 16 U.S.C. 4310 note).

9 (c) CONTRACTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—
10 The Secretary may enter into a contract or cooperative
11 agreement with a public or private agency, organization,
12 or institution to carry out this Act.

13 (d) FACILITY.—

14 (1) LEASING OR ACQUIRING A FACILITY.—The
15 Secretary may lease or acquire a facility for the In-
16 stitute.

17 (2) CONSTRUCTION OF A FACILITY.—If the
18 Secretary determines that a suitable facility is not
19 available for a lease or acquisition under paragraph
20 (1), the Secretary may construct a facility for the
21 Institute.

22 (e) ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND TRANSFERS.—To
23 carry out this Act, the Secretary may accept—

24 (1) a grant or donation from a private person;
25 or

1 (2) a transfer of funds from another Federal
2 agency.

3 **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

4 (a) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary may spend
5 only such amount of Federal funds to carry out this Act
6 as is matched by an equal amount of funds from non-Fed-
7 eral sources.

8 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
9 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
10 necessary to carry out this Act.

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