

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1469

To provide for the expansion of the historic community cemetery of El Rito, New Mexico, through the special designation of five acres of Carson National Forest adjacent to the cemetery.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 8, 1997

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

A BILL

To provide for the expansion of the historic community cemetery of El Rito, New Mexico, through the special designation of five acres of Carson National Forest adjacent to the cemetery.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 (a) The village of El Rito, New Mexico (El Rito), is
5 a small community of approximately 2,500 residents, com-
6 pletely surrounded by the Carson National Forest in New
7 Mexico.

1 (b) The historic community cemetery El Rito is adja-
2 cent to the lands of the Carson National Forest in New
3 Mexico. After generations of use, there is no more avail-
4 able space left in the cemetery and the community mem-
5 bers are required to get special permits to bury their de-
6 ceased on Forest Service land.

7 (c) The requirement for special use permits creates
8 an undue bureaucratic requirement upon families within
9 the El Rito community times when they are suffering from
10 grief.

11 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF LANDS.**

12 The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the
13 United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service
14 shall designate five acres of land in the Carson National
15 Forest adjacent to the historic El Rito cemetery as special
16 use land for use as cemetery land for members of the El
17 Rito community to bury their deceased.

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