

Public Law 107-214
107th Congress

An Act

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route in Arizona and New Mexico which the Navajo and Mescalero Apache Indian tribes were forced to walk in 1863 and 1864, for study for potential addition to the National Trails System.

Aug. 21, 2002

[H.R. 1384]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Long Walk National Historic Trail Study Act”.

Long Walk
National Historic
Trail Study Act.
16 USC 1241
note.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Beginning in the fall of 1863 and ending in the winter of 1864, the United States Government forced thousands of Navajos and Mescalero Apaches to relocate from their ancestral lands to Fort Sumner, New Mexico, where the tribal members were held captive, virtually as prisoners of war, for over 4 years.

(2) Thousands of Native Americans died at Fort Sumner from starvation, malnutrition, disease, exposure, or conflicts between the tribes and United States military personnel.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY.

Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“() The Long Walk Trail, a series of routes which the Navajo and Mescalero Apache Indian tribes were forced to walk beginning in the fall of 1863 as a result of their removal by the United States Government from their ancestral lands, generally located within a corridor extending through portions of Canyon de Chelly, Arizona, and Albuquerque, Canyon Blanco, Anton Chico, Canyon Piedra Pintado, and Fort Sumner, New Mexico.”.

Approved August 21, 2002.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1384:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 107-222 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 107-184 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 147 (2001): Oct. 2, considered and passed House.

Vol. 148 (2002): Aug. 1, considered and passed Senate.