Appendix A:
EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ESTABLISHMENT ACT (P.L. 106-307)

EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO
NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ACT

Public Law 106–307
106th Congress

An Act

Oct. 13, 2000
[S. 366]

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro as a National Historic Trail.

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

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail Act.
New Mexico.
Texas.
16 USC 1241 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (the Royal Road of the Interior), served as the primary route between the colonial Spanish capital of Mexico City and the Spanish provincial capitals at San Juan de Los Caballeros (1598–1600), San Gabriel (1600–1609) and then Santa Fe (1610–1821).

(2) The portion of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro that resided in what is now the United States extended between El Paso, Texas and present San Juan Pueblo, New Mexico, a distance of 404 miles;

(3) El Camino Real is a symbol of the cultural interaction between nations and ethnic groups and of the commercial exchange that made possible the development and growth of the borderland;

(4) American Indian groups, especially the Pueblo Indians of the Rio Grande, developed trails for trade long before Europeans arrived;

(5) In 1598, Juan de Onate led a Spanish military expedition along those trails to establish the northern portion of El Camino Real;

(6) During the Mexican National Period and part of the United States Territorial Period, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro facilitated the emigration of people to New Mexico and other areas that would become the United States;

(7) The exploration, conquest, colonization, settlement, religious conversion, and military occupation of a large area of the borderlands was made possible by this route, whose historical period extended from 1598 to 1882;

(8) American Indians, European emigrants, miners, ranchers, soldiers, and missionaries used El Camino Real during the historic development of the borderlands. These travelers promoted cultural interaction among Spaniards, other Europeans, American Indians, Mexicans, and Americans;

(9) El Camino Real fostered the spread of Catholicism, mining, an extensive network of commerce, and ethnic and cultural traditions including music, folklore, medicine, foods, architecture, language, place names, irrigation systems, and Spanish law.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended—

(1) by designating the paragraphs relating to the California National Historic Trail, the Pony Express National Historic Trail, and the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail as paragraphs (18), (19), and (20), respectively; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(21) EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO.—

"(A) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (the Royal Road of the Interior) National Historic Trail, a 404 mile long trail from the Rio Grande near El Paso, Texas to San Juan Pueblo, New Mexico, as generally depicted on the maps entitled 'United States Route: El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro', contained in the report prepared pursuant to subsection (b) entitled 'National Historic Trail Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment: El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, Texas-New Mexico', dated March 1997.

"(B) MAP.—A map generally depicting the trail shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

"(C) ADMINISTRATION.—The Trail shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior.

"(D) LAND ACQUISITION.—No lands or interests therein outside the exterior boundaries of any federally administered area may be acquired by the Federal Government for El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro except with the consent of the owner thereof.

"(E) VOLUNTEER GROUPS; CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of the Interior shall—

"(i) encourage volunteer trail groups to participate in the development and maintenance of the trail; and

"(ii) consult with other affected Federal, State, local governmental, and tribal agencies in the administration of the trail.

"(F) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of the Interior may coordinate with United States and Mexican public and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the government of Mexico and its political subdivisions, for the purpose of exchanging trail information and research, fostering trail preservation and educational programs, providing technical assistance, and working to establish an international historic trail with complementary preservation and education programs in each nation.".

Approved October 13, 2000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 366:

SENATE REPORTS: No. 106–22 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 145 (1999): Nov. 19, considered and passed Senate.
Vol. 146 (2000): Oct. 3, considered and passed House.

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