

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2085

To protect Native American sacred sites located within the Valley of Chiefs,
Montana, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2001

Mr. RAHALL (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GEORGE MILLER
of California, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA)
introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Re-
sources

A BILL

To protect Native American sacred sites located within the
Valley of Chiefs, Montana, 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 “Valley of Chiefs Native
5 American Sacred Site Preservation Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY OF MINERAL MINING, LEASING,**
7 **AND DISPOSAL LAWS.**

8 (a) REFERENCE.—Any reference in this Act to the
9 “Valley of Chiefs” is a reference to the Weatherman Draw

1 Area of Critical Environmental Concern located in Carbon
2 County, Montana, designated by the Bureau of Land
3 Management pursuant to a document entitled “Areas of
4 Critical Environmental Concern, Decision Record and Ap-
5 proved Amendment of the Billings, Powder River and
6 South Dakota Resource Management Plans” dated March
7 1999, United States Department of the Interior, Bureau
8 of Land Management, Billings Field Office.

9 (b) RESTRICTION.—After the date of enactment of
10 this Act—

11 (1) lands within the Valley of Chiefs shall not
12 be open to the location of mining claims, mill, and
13 tunnel sites under the general mining laws of the
14 United States;

15 (2) the Secretary of the Interior shall not issue
16 any lease under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
17 181 and following) or the Geothermal Steam Act of
18 1970 (30 U.S.C. 100 and following) for lands within
19 the Valley of Chiefs; and

20 (3) lands within the Valley of Chiefs shall not
21 be available for disposal of mineral materials under
22 the Act of July 31, 1947, commonly known as the
23 Materials Act of 1947 (30 U.S.C. 601 and fol-
24 lowing).

1 (c) DEADLINE FOR PERMIT APPLICATION APPROV-
2 ALS.—After June 6, 2001, the Secretary of the Interior
3 shall not approve any application for a permit to drill for
4 any lease issued under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
5 181 and following) within the Valley of Chiefs.

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