

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/107/s/2598

# S 2598

Enhanced Protection of Our Cultural Heritage Act of 2002

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Arts, Culture, Religion

Introduced: Jun 6, 2002

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 575.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 575. (Sep 9, 2002)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/2598

### **Sponsor**

Name: Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]

Party: Democratic • State: VT • Chamber: Senate

#### **Cosponsors** (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	<b>Date Joined</b>
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	$D \cdot NM$		Jun 6, 2002
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 6, 2002
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 6, 2002
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jun 6, 2002

# **Committee Activity**

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jul 23, 2002

## **Subjects & Policy Tags**

### **Policy Area:**

Arts, Culture, Religion

### **Related Bills**

No related bills are listed.

#### Summary (as of Sep 9, 2002)

Enhanced Protection of Our Cultural Heritage Act of 2002 - Amends the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 to increase penalties for violating, or for counseling, procuring, soliciting, or employing another to violate, prohibitions regarding: (1) unauthorized excavation, removal, damage, alteration, or defacement of archaeological resources; (2) trafficking in archaeological resources the excavation or removal of which was wrongful under Federal law; and (3) trafficking in interstate or foreign commerce in archaeological resources the excavation, removal, sale, purchase, exchange, transportation, or receipt of which was wrongful under State or local law.

Amends the Federal criminal code to increase penalties for: (1) embezzlement and theft from Indian tribal organizations; and (2) illegal trafficking in Native American human remains and cultural items.

Provides for lesser penalties where the sum of the commercial and archaeological value of the archaeological resources involved and the cost of restoration and repair of such resources does not exceed \$500.

#### **Actions Timeline**

- Sep 9, 2002: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Bingaman with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 107-258.
- Sep 9, 2002: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Bingaman with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 107-258.
- Sep 9, 2002: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 575.
- Jul 31, 2002: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- Jul 23, 2002: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 107-794.
- Jun 6, 2002: Introduced in Senate
- Jun 6, 2002: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S5210)
- Jun 6, 2002: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5210-5211)