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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

GAO's Review of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act

Source of the Work: GAO is conducting this work in response to a request from the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Preliminary Researchable Questions:

1. What information is available on the sales of misrepresented Indian arts and crafts items and the extent to which these items are imported from outside the United States?
2. What actions have been taken by agencies since 2005 to prevent the misrepresentation of Indian arts and crafts?
3. What is the capacity of law enforcement to address the problem under existing or potentially expanded authorities?
4. What is the potential for expanding the Act to cover other areas such as writing and performance arts?

Agencies Involved in the Review:

- Department of the Interior's Indian Arts and Crafts Board, Interior law enforcement offices;
- Department of Commerce's Patent and Trademark Office, and Census Bureau;
- Department Justice's U.S. Attorney's Office, and Federal Bureau of Investigation; and
- Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Control;

Other agencies (to be determined), on a limited basis.

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