

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 660

To provide for the acknowledgment of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2005

Mrs. DOLE (for herself and Mr. BURR) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the acknowledgment of the Lumbee Tribe
of North Carolina, 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 “Lumbee Recognition
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PREAMBLE.**

7 The preamble to the Act of June 7, 1956 (70 Stat.
8 254), is amended—

9 (1) by striking “and” at the end of each clause;

1 (2) by striking “: Now, therefore,” at the end
 2 of the last clause and inserting a semicolon; and
 3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

“Whereas the Lumbee Indians of Robeson and adjoining
 counties in North Carolina are descendants of coastal
 North Carolina Indian tribes, principally Cheraw, and
 have remained a distinct Indian community since the
 time of contact with white settlers;

“Whereas since 1885 the State of North Carolina has recog-
 nized the Lumbee Indians as an Indian tribe;

“Whereas in 1956 the Congress of the United States ac-
 knowledged the Lumbee Indians as an Indian tribe, but
 withheld from the Lumbee Tribe the benefits, privileges
 and immunities to which the Tribe and its members oth-
 erwise would have been entitled by virtue of the Tribe’s
 status as a federally recognized Indian tribe; and

“Whereas the Congress finds that the Lumbee Indians should
 now be entitled to full Federal recognition of their status
 as an Indian tribe and that the benefits, privileges and
 immunities that accompany such status should be ac-
 corded to the Lumbee Tribe: Now, therefore,”.

4 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL RECOGNITION.**

5 The Act of June 7, 1956 (70 Stat. 254), is amend-
 6 ed—

7 (1) by striking the last sentence of the first sec-
 8 tion; and

9 (2) by striking section 2 and inserting the fol-
 10 lowing:

1 **“SEC. 2. RECOGNITION.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Federal recognition is extended
3 to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. All laws and regu-
4 lations of the United States of general application to Indi-
5 ans and Indian tribes shall apply to the Lumbee Tribe
6 of North Carolina and its members.

7 “(b) PETITION.—Notwithstanding the first section,
8 any group of Indians in Robeson and adjoining counties,
9 North Carolina, whose members are not enrolled in the
10 Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina as determined under sec-
11 tion 3(c), may petition under part 83 of title 25, Code
12 of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation) for
13 acknowledgment of tribal existence.

14 **“SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES AND BENEFITS.**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

16 “(1) SERVICES AND BENEFITS.—The Lumbee
17 Tribe of North Carolina and its members shall be el-
18 igible for all services and benefits provided to Indi-
19 ans because of their status as members of a feder-
20 ally recognized Indian tribe.

21 “(2) RESIDENCE ON OR NEAR RESERVATION.—
22 For the purposes of the delivery of such services,
23 members of the Tribe residing in Robeson, Cum-
24 berland, Hoke, and Scotland counties in North Caro-
25 lina shall be deemed to be residing on or near an In-
26 dian reservation.

1 “(b) DETERMINATION OF NEEDS AND BUDGET.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—On verification by the Sec-
3 retary of the Interior of a tribal roll under sub-
4 section (c), the Secretary of the Interior and the
5 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall de-
6 velop, in consultation with the Lumbee Tribe of
7 North Carolina, a determination of needs and budg-
8 et to provide the services to which members of the
9 Tribe are eligible.

10 “(2) INCLUSION IN BUDGET REQUEST.—The
11 Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of
12 Health and Human Services shall each submit a
13 written statement of those needs and a budget with
14 the first budget request submitted to Congress after
15 the fiscal year in which the tribal roll is verified.

16 “(c) TRIBAL ROLL.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the deliv-
18 ery of Federal services, the tribal roll in effect on
19 the date of enactment of this section shall, subject
20 to verification by the Secretary of the Interior, de-
21 fine the service population of the Tribe.

22 “(2) VERIFICATION.—The Secretary’s
23 verification shall be limited to confirming compliance
24 with the membership criteria set out in the Tribe’s
25 constitution adopted on November 11, 2000, which

1 verification shall be completed not less than 1 year
2 after the date of enactment of this section.

3 **“SEC. 4. FEE LAND.**

4 “Fee land that the Tribe seeks to convey to the
5 United States to be held in trust shall be treated by the
6 Secretary of the Interior as on-reservation trust acquisi-
7 tions under part 151 of title 25 Code of Federal Regula-
8 tions (or any successor regulation) if the land is located
9 within Robeson County, North Carolina.

10 **“SEC. 5. STATE JURISDICTION.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The State of North Carolina
12 shall exercise jurisdiction over—

13 “(1) all criminal offenses that are committed
14 on; and

15 “(2) all civil actions that arise on;
16 land located within the state of North Carolina that is
17 owned by, or held in trust by the United States for, the
18 Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, or any dependent Indian
19 community of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.

20 “(b) TRANSFER.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-
22 rior may accept on behalf of the United States, after
23 consulting with the Attorney General of the United
24 States, any transfer by the State of North Carolina
25 to the United States of any portion of the jurisdic-

1 tion of the State of North Carolina described in
2 paragraph (1) under an agreement between the
3 Lumbee Tribe and the State of North Carolina.

4 “(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A transfer of jurisdic-
5 tion under paragraph (1) shall not take effect until
6 2 years after the effective date of the agreement.

7 “(c) EFFECT OF SECTION.—This section shall not af-
8 fect the application of section 109 of the Indian Child Wel-
9 fare Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1919).

10 **“SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 “‘There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
12 as are necessary to carry out this Act.’”.

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