

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding the time.

I do encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Recently, National Geographic ranked this as the third best Civil War site to visit—the third best—and there is a reason for that. It is because of the dedication of the National Park Service personnel that are there at the Shiloh battlefield and the local volunteers from Tennessee and Mississippi that work to preserve and to enhance.

Mrs. TORRES was so right when she talked about the relevancy of the site and the opportunity for introspection and remembrance and the importance of preservation and the lessons that can be learned as individuals go and visit this park. It is significant, and in our Civil War history it is significant that we preserve this and work with the National Park Service.

The Battle of Shiloh was fought on April 6 and 7 in 1862. It was the bloodiest battle of the Civil War up to that point: 23,000 Americans died. General Grant's Union Army was victorious. The Confederate forces withdrew to Corinth, and the outcome of the battle eventually led to the fall of Vicksburg in July of 1863. This permanently divided the Confederacy and crippled the Southern war effort.

As we look at this legislation that goes around this battlefield, it does preserve the historical legacy of Tennessee, of Shiloh, and of our Nation. It gives the Park Service the authority that they would like to preserve more than 2,100 additional acres of the historic Shiloh National Military Park.

As the gentleman from California said, Fallen Timbers, Davis Bridge, and Russell House are all included in this, as well as Parker's Crossroads Battlefield, which would be named an affiliated area.

As we look at visitors to our Nation's park, the Shiloh National Military Park welcomes more than 500,000 visitors each and every year.

I thank my colleagues for the time and the support.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again thank Representative BLACKBURN for her efforts, and I urge adoption of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would join in asking for adoption of this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 88.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INDIAN EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND RELATED SERVICES CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 228) to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 228

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF SHORT TITLE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3401 note; 106 Stat. 2302) is amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

“This Act may be cited as the ‘Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992’.”

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in law to the ‘Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992’ shall be deemed to be a reference to the ‘Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992’.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.

Section 2 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3401), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended—

(1) by striking “The purposes of this Act are to demonstrate how Indian tribal governments can” and inserting “The purpose of this Act is to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes and tribal organizations to”;

(2) by inserting “from diverse Federal sources” after “they provide”;

(3) by striking “and serve tribally-determined” and inserting “, and serve tribally determined”; and

(4) by inserting “, while reducing administrative, reporting, and accounting costs” after “policy of self-determination”.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3402), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribe’ have the meaning given the term ‘Indian tribe’ in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

“(B) INCLUSION.—The term ‘Indian tribe’ includes tribal organizations (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means a program described in section 5(a).”.

SEC. 5. INTEGRATION OF SERVICES AUTHORIZED.

Section 4 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25

U.S.C. 3403), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. INTEGRATION OF SERVICES AUTHORIZED.

“The Secretary shall, after approving a plan submitted by an Indian tribe in accordance with section 8, authorize the Indian tribe to, in accordance with the plan—

“(1) integrate the programs and Federal funds received by the Indian tribe in accordance with waiver authority granted under section 7(d); and

“(2) coordinate the employment, training, and related services provided with those funds in a consolidated and comprehensive tribal plan.”.

SEC. 6. PROGRAMS AFFECTED AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

Section 5 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3404), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 5. PROGRAMS AFFECTED.

“(a) PROGRAMS AFFECTED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The programs that may be integrated pursuant to a plan approved under section 8 shall be only programs—

“(A) implemented for the purpose of—

“(i) job training;

“(ii) welfare to work and tribal work experience;

“(iii) creating or enhancing employment opportunities;

“(iv) skill development;

“(v) assisting Indian youth and adults to succeed in the workforce;

“(vi) encouraging self-sufficiency;

“(vii) familiarizing individual participants with the world of work;

“(viii) facilitating the creation of job opportunities;

“(ix) economic development; or

“(x) any services related to the activities described in clauses (i) through (x); and

“(B) under which an Indian tribe or members of an Indian tribe—

“(i) are eligible to receive funds—

“(I) under a statutory or administrative formula making funds available to an Indian tribe; or

“(II) based solely or in part on their status as Indians under Federal law; or

“(ii) have secured funds as a result of a noncompetitive process or a specific designation.

“(2) TREATMENT OF BLOCK GRANT FUNDS.—For purposes of this section, programs funded by block grant funds provided to an Indian tribe, regardless of whether the block grant is for the benefit of the Indian tribe because of the status of the Indian tribe or the status of the beneficiaries the grant serves, shall be eligible to be integrated into the plan.

“(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall, in cooperation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, after the Secretary approves a plan submitted by an Indian tribe or tribal organization under section 8, authorize the Indian tribe or tribal organization, as applicable, to coordinate, in accordance with the plan, federally funded employment, training, and related services programs and funding in a manner that integrates the programs and funding into a consolidated and comprehensive program.”.

SEC. 7. PLAN REQUIREMENTS.

Section 6 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25

U.S.C. 3405), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 6. PLAN REQUIREMENTS.

“A plan submitted to the Secretary for approval under this Act shall—

“(1) identify the programs to be integrated and consolidated;

“(2) be consistent with the purposes of this Act;

“(3) describe—

“(A) a comprehensive strategy identifying the full range of potential employment opportunities on and near the service area of the Indian tribe;

“(B) the education, training, and related services to be provided to assist Indians to access those employment opportunities;

“(C) the way in which services and program funds are to be integrated, consolidated, and delivered; and

“(D) the results expected, including the expected number of program participants in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program, from the plan;

“(4) identify the projected expenditures under the plan in a single budget covering all consolidated funds;

“(5) identify any agency of the Indian tribe to be involved in the delivery of the services integrated under the plan;

“(6) identify any statutory provisions, regulations, policies, or procedures that the Indian tribe believes need to be waived to implement the plan; and

“(7) be approved by the governing body of the Indian tribe.”.

SEC. 8. PLAN REVIEW; WAIVER AUTHORITY; AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

Section 7 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3406), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. PLAN REVIEW.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of a plan from an Indian tribe, the Secretary shall consult with—

“(1) the head of each Federal agency overseeing a program identified in the plan; and

“(2) the Indian tribe that submitted the plan.

“(b) IDENTIFICATION OF WAIVERS.—The parties identified in subsection (a) shall identify any waivers of applicable statutory, regulatory, or administrative requirements, or of Federal agency policies or procedures necessary to enable the Indian tribe to efficiently implement the plan.

“(c) TRIBAL WAIVER REQUEST.—In consultation with the Secretary, a participating Indian tribe may request that the head of each affected agency waive any statutory, regulatory, or administrative requirement, policy, or procedure identified subsection (b).

“(d) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), notwithstanding any other provision of law, the head of each affected Federal agency shall waive any applicable statutory, regulatory, or administrative requirement, regulation, policy, or procedure promulgated by the agency that has been identified by the parties under subparagraph (b).

“(2) EXCEPTION.—The head of an affected Federal agency shall not grant a waiver under paragraph (1) if the head of the affected agency determines that a waiver will be inconsistent with—

“(A) the purposes of this Act; or

“(B) the provision of law from which the program included in the plan derives its authority that is specifically applicable to Indians.

“(e) DECISION ON WAIVER REQUEST.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the head of an affected agency receives

a waiver request, the head of the affected agency shall decide whether to grant or deny the request.

“(2) DENIAL OF REQUEST.—If the head of the affected agency denies a waiver request, not later than 30 days after the date on which the denial is made, the head of the affected agency shall provide the requesting Indian tribe and the Secretary with written notice of the denial and the reasons for the denial.

“(3) FAILURE TO ACT ON REQUEST.—If the head of an affected agency does not make a decision under paragraph (1) by the deadline identified in that paragraph, the request shall be considered to be granted.

“(f) SECRETARIAL REVIEW.—If the head of an affected agency denies a waiver request under subsection (e)(2), not later than 30 days after the date on which the request is denied, the Secretary shall review the denial and determine whether granting the waiver—

“(1) will be inconsistent with the provisions of this Act; or

“(2) will prevent the affected agency from fulfilling the obligations of the affected agency under this Act.

“(g) INTERAGENCY DISPUTE RESOLUTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary determines that granting the waiver will not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Act and will not prevent the affected agency from fulfilling the obligations of the affected agency under this Act, the Secretary shall establish and initiate an interagency dispute resolution process involving—

“(A) the Secretary;

“(B) the participating Indian tribe; and

“(C) the head of the affected agency.

“(2) DURATION.—A dispute subject to paragraph (1) shall be resolved not later than 30 days after the date on which the process is initiated.

“(h) FINAL AUTHORITY.—If the dispute resolution process fails to resolve the dispute between a participating Indian tribe and an affected agency, the head of the affected agency shall have the final authority to resolve the dispute.

“(i) FINAL DECISION.—Not later than 10 days after the date on which the dispute is resolved under this section, the Secretary shall provide the requesting Indian tribe with—

“(1) the final decision on the waiver request; and

“(2) notice of the right to file an appeal in accordance with the applicable provisions described in section 8(d).”.

SEC. 9. PLAN APPROVAL; SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY; REVIEW OF DECISION.

Section 8 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3407), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 8. PLAN APPROVAL; SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY; REVIEW OF DECISION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall have exclusive authority to approve or disapprove a plan submitted by an Indian tribe in accordance with section 6.

“(b) APPROVAL PROCESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a plan, the Secretary shall, after coordinating with the Secretary of each Federal agency providing funds to be used to implement the plan, approve or deny the plan.

“(2) APPROVAL.—If the Secretary approves a plan under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall authorize the transfer of program funds identified in the plan in accordance with section 13.

“(3) DENIAL.—If the Secretary denies the plan under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide to the Indian tribe a written noti-

cation of disapproval of the plan that contains a specific finding that clearly demonstrates, or that is supported by a controlling legal authority, that the plan does not meet the requirements described in section 6.

“(4) PARTIAL APPROVAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a plan is denied under paragraph (3) solely on the basis that a request for a waiver that is part of the plan has not been approved (or is subject to dispute resolution) under section 7, the Secretary shall, upon a request from the tribe, grant partial approval for those portions of the plan not affected by the request for a waiver.

“(B) APPROVAL AFTER RESOLUTION.—With respect to a plan described in subparagraph (A), on resolution of the request for a waiver under section 7, the Secretary shall, on a request from the tribe, approve the plan or amended plan not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the request.

“(5) FAILURE TO ACT.—If the Secretary does not make a decision under paragraph (1) within 90 days of the date on which the Secretary receives the plan, the plan shall be considered to be approved.

“(c) EXTENSION OF TIME.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may extend or otherwise alter the 90-day period identified in subsection (b)(1) for not more than 90 additional days, if, before the expiration of the period, the Secretary obtains the express written consent of the Indian tribe.

“(d) REVIEW OF DENIAL.—

“(1) PROCEDURE UPON REFUSAL TO APPROVE PLAN.—If the Secretary denies a plan under subsection (b)(3), the Secretary shall—

“(A) state any objections in writing to the Indian tribe;

“(B) provide assistance to the Indian tribe to overcome the stated objections; and

“(C) unless the Indian tribe brings a civil action under paragraph (2), provide the Indian tribe with a hearing on the record with the right to engage in full discovery relevant to any issue raised in the matter and the opportunity for appeal on the objections raised, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may promulgate.

“(2) CIVIL ACTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The district courts of the United States shall have original jurisdiction of a civil action against the appropriate Secretary arising under this section.

“(B) ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING AND APPEAL NOT REQUIRED.—An Indian tribe may bring a civil action under this paragraph without regard to whether the Indian tribe had a hearing or filed an appeal under paragraph (1).

“(C) RELIEF.—In an action brought under this paragraph, the court may order appropriate relief (including injunctive relief to reverse a denial of a plan under this section or to compel an officer or employee of the United States, or any agency thereof, to perform a duty provided under this Act or regulations promulgated thereunder) against any action by an officer or employee of the United States or any agency thereof contrary to this Act or regulations promulgated thereunder.

“(3) FINAL AGENCY ACTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a decision by an official of the Department of the Interior or the Department of Health and Human Services, as appropriate (collectively referred to in this paragraph as the ‘Department’) that constitutes final agency action and that relates to an appeal within the Department that is conducted under paragraph (1)(C) shall be made—

“(A) by an official of the Department who holds a position at a higher organizational level within the Department than the level of the departmental agency (such as the Indian Health Service or the Bureau of Indian

Affairs) in which the decision that is the subject of the appeal was made; or

“(B) by an administrative law judge.”.

SEC. 10. EMPLOYER TRAINING PLACEMENTS.

Section 10 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3409), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 10. EMPLOYER TRAINING PLACEMENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), an Indian tribe that has in place an approved plan under this Act may use the funds made available for the plan under this Act—

“(1) to place participants in training positions with employers; and

“(2) to pay the participants a training allowance or wage for a training period of not more than 24 months, which may be non-consecutive.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—An Indian tribe may carry out subsection (a) only if the Indian tribe enters into a written agreement with each applicable employer under which the employer shall agree—

“(1) to provide on-the-job training to the participants; and

“(2) on satisfactory completion of the training period described in subsection (a)(2), to prioritize the provision of permanent employment to the participants.”.

SEC. 11. FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

Section 11 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3410), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 11. FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

“(a) LEAD AGENCY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the lead agency responsible for implementation of this Act shall be the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

“(2) INCLUSIONS.—The responsibilities of the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in carrying out this Act shall include—

“(A) in coordination with the head of each Federal agency overseeing a program identified in the plan, the development of a single model report for each Indian tribe that has in place an approved plan under this Act to submit to the Director reports on any consolidated activities undertaken and joint expenditures made under the plan;

“(B) the provision, directly or through contract, of appropriate voluntary and technical assistance to participating Indian tribes;

“(C) the development and use of a single monitoring and oversight system for plans approved under this Act;

“(D)(i) the receipt of all funds covered by a plan approved under this Act; and

“(ii) the distribution of the funds to the respective Indian tribes by not later than 45 days after the date of receipt of the funds from the appropriate Federal department or agency; and

“(E)(i) the performance of activities described in section 7 relating to agency waivers; and

“(ii) the establishment of an interagency dispute resolution process.

“(3) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017, the Secretary (acting through the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs), in conjunction with the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, Transportation, and Veterans Affairs and the Attorney General, shall enter into an interdepartmental memorandum of agreement providing for the implementation of this Act.

“(B) INCLUSIONS.—The memorandum of agreement under subparagraph (A) shall include provisions relating to—

“(i) an annual meeting of participating Indian tribes and Federal departments and agencies, to be co-chaired by—

“(I) a representative of the President; and

“(II) a representative of the participating Indian tribes;

“(ii) an annual review of the achievements under this Act, including the number and percentage of program participants in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program, and any statutory, regulatory, administrative, or policy obstacles that prevent participating Indian tribes from fully and efficiently carrying out the purposes of this Act; and

“(iii) a forum comprised of participating Indian tribes and Federal departments and agencies to identify and resolve interagency conflicts and conflicts between the Federal Government and Indian tribes in the administration of this Act.

“(b) REPORT FORMAT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall develop and distribute to Indian tribes that have in place an approved plan under this Act a single report format, in accordance with the requirements of this Act.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The lead agency shall ensure that the report format developed under paragraph (1), together with records maintained by each participating Indian tribe, contains information sufficient—

“(A) to determine whether the Indian tribe has complied with the requirements of the approved plan of the Indian tribe;

“(B) to determine the number and percentage of program participants in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program; and

“(C) to provide assurances to the head of each applicable Federal department or agency that the Indian tribe has complied with all directly applicable statutory and regulatory requirements not waived under section 7.

“(3) LIMITATION.—The report format developed under paragraph (1) shall not require a participating Indian tribe to report on the expenditure of funds expressed by fund source or single agency code transferred to the Indian tribe under an approved plan under this Act but instead shall require the Indian tribe to submit a single report on the expenditure of consolidated funds under such plan.”.

SEC. 12. NO REDUCTION IN AMOUNTS.

Section 12 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3411), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. NO REDUCTION IN AMOUNTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In no case shall the amount of Federal funds available to an Indian tribe that has in place an approved plan under this Act be reduced as a result of—

“(1) the enactment of this Act; or

“(2) the approval or implementation of a plan of an Indian tribe under this Act.

“(b) INTERACTION WITH OTHER LAWS.—The inclusion of a program in a tribal plan under this Act shall not—

“(1) modify, limit, or otherwise affect the eligibility of the program for contracting under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.); or

“(2) eliminate the applicability of any provision of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), as the provision relates to a specific program eligible for contracting under that Act.”.

SEC. 13. TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

Section 13 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25

U.S.C. 3412), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 13. TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 30 days after the date of apportionment to the applicable Federal department or agency, the head of a Federal agency overseeing a program identified in a plan approved under this Act shall transfer to the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs for distribution to an Indian tribe any funds identified in the approved plan of the Indian tribe.

“(b) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the request of the Indian tribe, all program funds transferred to an Indian tribe in accordance with the approved plan of the Indian tribe shall be transferred to the Indian tribe pursuant to an existing contract, compact, or funding agreement awarded pursuant to title I or IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.).”.

SEC. 14. ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS.

Section 14 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3413), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (d);

(2) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“SEC. 14. ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS.

“(a) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) CONSOLIDATION AND REALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts transferred to a tribe pursuant to an approved plan may be consolidated, reallocated, and rebudgeted as specified in the approved plan to best meet the employment, training, and related needs of the local community served by the Indian tribe.

“(B) AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS.—The amounts used to carry out a plan approved under this Act shall be administered in such manner as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure the amounts are spent on activities authorized under the approved plan.

“(C) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section interferes with the ability of the Secretary or the lead agency to use accounting procedures that conform to generally accepted accounting principles, auditing procedures, and safeguarding of funds that conform to chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Single Audit Act of 1984’).

“(2) SEPARATE RECORDS AND AUDITS NOT REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations and circulars of any agency (including Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133)), an Indian tribe that has in place an approved plan under this Act shall not be required—

“(A) to maintain separate records that trace any service or activity conducted under the approved plan to the program for which the funds were initially authorized or transferred;

“(B) to allocate expenditures among such a program; or

“(C) to audit expenditures by the original source of the program.

“(b) CARRYOVER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any funds transferred to an Indian tribe under this Act that are not obligated or expended prior to the beginning of the fiscal year after the fiscal year for which the funds were appropriated shall remain available for obligation or expenditure without fiscal year limitation, subject to the condition that the funds shall be obligated or

expended in accordance with the approved plan of the Indian tribe.

“(2) NO ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION.—The Indian tribe shall not be required to provide any additional justification or documentation of the purposes of the approved plan as a condition of receiving or expending the funds.

“(c) INDIRECT COSTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Indian tribe shall be entitled to recover 100 percent of any indirect costs incurred by the Indian tribe as a result of the transfer of funds to the Indian tribe under this Act.”; and

(3) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) by striking “All administrative” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—All administrative”; and

(B) by striking “regulations”) and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting the following: “regulations).

“(2) TREATMENT.—The amount equal to the difference between the amount of the commingled funds and the actual administrative cost of the programs, as described in paragraph (1), shall be considered to be properly spent for Federal audit purposes if the amount is used to achieve the purposes of this Act.

“(e) MATCHING FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds transferred to an Indian tribe under this Act shall be treated as non-Federal funds for purposes of meeting matching requirements under any other Federal law, except those administered by the Department of Labor or the Department of Health and Human Services.

“(f) CLAIMS.—The following provisions of law shall apply to plans approved under this Act:

“(1) Section 314 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1991 (Public Law 101-512; 104 Stat. 1959).

“(2) Chapter 171 of title 28 (commonly known as the ‘Federal Tort Claims Act’).

“(g) INTEREST OR OTHER INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An Indian tribe shall be entitled to retain interest earned on any funds transferred to the tribe under an approved plan and such interest shall not diminish the amount of funds the Indian tribe is authorized to receive under the plan in the year the interest is earned or in any subsequent fiscal year.

“(2) PRUDENT INVESTMENT.—Funds transferred under a plan shall be managed in accordance with the prudent investment standard.”.

SEC. 15. LABOR MARKET INFORMATION ON INDIAN WORK FORCE.

Section 17(a) of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3416(a)), as amended by section 2 of this Act, is amended in the first sentence—

(1) by striking “The Secretary” and all that follows through “manner,” and inserting “The Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary, Indian tribes, and the Director of the Bureau of the Census, shall”; and

(2) by striking “, by gender,”.

SEC. 16. REPEALS; CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) REPEALS.—Sections 15 and 16 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3414, 3415), as amended by section 2 of this Act, are repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Sections 17 and 18 of the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3416, 3417) (as amended by this Act) are redesignated as sections 15 and 16, respectively.

SEC. 17. EFFECT OF ACT.

Nothing in this Act or any amendment made by this Act—

(1) affects any plan approved under the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3401 et seq.) (as so redesignated) before the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) requires any Indian tribe or tribal organization to resubmit a plan described in paragraph (1); or

(3) modifies the effective period of any plan described in paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 228, the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act, is sponsored by my colleague from Alaska, Congressman DON YOUNG. This bipartisan legislation would make the Tribal 477 Program permanent and make improvements to its administration.

The 477 Program was established by Congress in 1992 as a demonstration program. It allows tribes to combine employment, childcare, and job training funding from a variety of Federal sources and conduct consolidated, comprehensive reporting. The 477 Program embodies tribal self-determination by allowing tribes to provide opportunities tailored to the unique needs of their communities.

The bill improves accounting procedures and reporting mechanisms to uphold the original intent of the program, ensures that agencies treat tribes fairly, and sets a foundation for participants’ continued success.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman KEVIN BRADY of the Ways and Means Committee and Chairwoman VIRGINIA FOXX of the Education and the Workforce Committee for agreeing to help expedite consideration of this bill.

I urge adoption of H.R. 228.

I reserve the balance of my time.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 22, 2017.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BISHOP: I write concerning H.R. 228, the “Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017,” which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 228 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, I agree not to request a sequential referral on this bill so that it may

proceed expeditiously to the House floor. The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing formal consideration of H.R. 228, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would request that you include a copy of this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, February 22, 2017.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: H.R. 228, Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017, was introduced on January 3, 2017.

I understand that the bill contains provisions that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, and I thank you or allowing the Committee on Ways and Means to be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may be scheduled by the Majority Leader. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support having the Committee on Ways and Means represented on the conference committee. Finally, to memorialize our understanding, I would be pleased to include your letter and this response in the Congressional Record when the bill is considered by the House.

Thank you for your response and cooperation. I look forward to further opportunities to work with you this Congress.

Sincerely,

ROB BISHOP,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE
WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 27, 2017.

Hon. ROB BISHOP,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write to confirm our mutual understanding with respect to H.R. 228, the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2015. Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Education and the Workforce with regard to H.R. 228 on those matters within my committee’s jurisdiction and making improvements to the legislation to address concerns.

The Committee on Education and the Workforce will not delay further consideration of this bill. However, I do so only with the understanding this procedural route will not be construed to prejudice my committee’s jurisdictional interest and prerogatives on this bill or any other similar legislation and will not be considered as precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to my committee in the future.

I respectfully request your support for the appointment of outside conferees from the

Committee on Education and the Workforce should this bill or a similar bill be considered in a conference with the Senate. I also request you include our exchange of letters on this matter in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House Floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA FOXX,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, February 27, 2017.

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,
Chairwoman, Committee on Education and the Workforce, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CHAIRMAN: H.R. 228, Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017, was introduced on January 3, 2017.

I understand our staffs have been able to negotiate out text that is agreeable to you. Therefore, I ask that you allow the Committee on Education and the Workforce to be discharged from further consideration of the bill, so that this revised text for H.R. 228 may be scheduled by the majority leader. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support having the Committee on Education and the Workforce represented on the conference committee. Finally, to memorialize our understanding, I would be pleased to include your letter and this response in the Congressional Record when the bill is considered by the House.

Thank you for your response and cooperation. I look forward to further opportunities to work with you this Congress.

Sincerely,

ROB BISHOP,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Public Law 102-477 establishes what is commonly known as the 477 Program to foster employment and economic development in Indian Country. This highly successful program authorizes tribal governments to consolidate up to 13 different Federal grant programs into a single plan with a single budget in a single reporting system.

Current participants in the program have significantly improved the effectiveness of the delivery of services included in their 477 plan, while lowering administrative costs. These cost savings have been translated into more accessible and available services for their communities.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma's 477 Program has been in place since 1996. Since 2010, the Nation has served well over 6,000 participants through the program. Of those who had employment as their goal, 47 percent achieved unsubsidized employment.

H.R. 288 will build on this success by permanently authorizing the program, increasing the scope and availability of participating Federal grant programs, and setting a streamlined process for tribes to follow.

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I want to congratulate Chairman YOUNG for his tireless work on this leg-

islation and for bringing together all of the stakeholders to address their concerns and find a workable solution.

I supported this legislation last year, as it passed the House last Congress unanimously. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the legendary gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I thank my chairman, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and the ranking member for her work on this legislation. Much has been explained about it. This is a good piece of legislation.

I am not going to take a great deal of time, but it shows that we can work together. The stakeholders got involved 4 years ago. We wanted to make this permanent. We worked it all out last year and we passed it, and it got bogged down on the other side.

It is a chance where we can show and take programs and put them together with tribes and have a better efficiency for the dollar we spend. If we do more of that in this Congress, we will have a lot better Congress and a better nation.

This is a small minority group that has done well under these programs, and it is not a new law. In 1992, I was here when we passed it. We would like to see to fruition the work put together by Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. BRADY, and Chairwoman FOXX. They all worked together with their staffs to put this, I think, excellent piece of legislation together to put to the voters on this floor, and I urge the passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, my bill—the Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Consolidation Act—enables tribes and tribal organizations to offer highly effective workforce development initiatives that uplift Native communities around the country. We passed this bipartisan legislation in the House by a voice vote at the end of last Congress, and the Senate simply ran out of time to secure final passage.

H.R. 228 makes the Tribal “477 Program” permanent and improves its administration. The 477 Program allows tribes to combine employment, childcare, and job training funding from a variety of federal sources and conduct consolidated, comprehensive reporting. Participants have leveraged these advantages to develop and run innovative programs that have had a meaningful impact on thousands of Alaska Native and American Indian families. In addition, the efficiencies of the 477 Program save both tribes and the federal government money, time, and resources.

Congress established the 477 Program in 1992 as a demonstration program. The Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes in Southeast Alaska was actually the first in the nation to begin operating a 477 program and to this day continues to benefit from offering services through 477.

The 477 Program has a proven track record of success and allows for bold approaches to address significant education and training needs that exist in Indian country. This pro-

gram is what tribal self-determination is all about. Tribes understand their members best and know how to use these tools for creating and expanding employment opportunities in their communities.

My bill improves accounting procedures and reporting mechanisms to uphold the original intent of the program, ensure that agencies treat tribes fairly, and set a foundation for participants' continued success.

I would like to thank the members of the 477 Tribal Work Group who, over the last 4 years, have been stalwart advocates for this legislation and did not give up at the end of last Congress.

I would also like to thank Chairman BISHOP, Ranking Member GRIJALVA, and their staffs for making this bill possible and working to move it to the floor quickly this year. Finally, I offer my thanks to Chairman BRADY, Chairwoman FOXX, Chairman GOODLATTE, and their staffs for their assistance with the legislation.

I urge adoption of H.R. 228 today and encourage the Senate to take up this bill as soon as possible.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This is an important program that deserves to be reauthorized. As we know, this bill passed out of the House last Congress without objection. I look forward to continuing to work with Mr. YOUNG at finding other pieces of legislation that we can work on on a bipartisan level.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my concerns with H.R. 228. While the legislation seeks to provide additional flexibility and support to Indian tribes—a worthy goal—I remain concerned that it could have the effect of weakening the services provided to families and children in Indian tribes.

Currently, Indian tribes have the option to consolidate certain federal funding streams related to work and job training into one grant. H.R. 228 includes a number of changes to this consolidation option and expands the number of programs that can be consolidated.

The legislation could be interpreted in an overly broad fashion resulting in the inclusion of programs that may not be appropriate to include—programs or services only “related to” job training, skill development, and economic development, or other related goals.

Last Congress, the legislation was given a sequential referral to the Education and the Workforce Committee, on which I serve as Ranking Member. However, the legislation was not considered in the Committee and we have yet to assess its impact on education and training programs within our jurisdiction.

Specifically, our Committee has an interest in ensuring that program funds are used for their intended purpose. Whether the TANF program or Head Start, adequate reporting and oversight protect beneficiaries and ensure the quality of services. For example, Head Start performance standards are vital to the success of the program.

While I do not intend to oppose the legislation, I encourage continued robust oversight of the programs impacted by this bill to ensure that quality and effective education and job training programs remain available to our nation's tribes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 228, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOUNT HOOD COOPER SPUR LAND EXCHANGE CLARIFICATION ACT

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 699) to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to modify provisions relating to certain land exchanges in the Mt. Hood Wilderness in the State of Oregon.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 699

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mount Hood Cooper Spur Land Exchange Clarification Act".

SEC. 2. COOPER SPUR LAND EXCHANGE CLARIFICATION AMENDMENTS.

Section 1206(a) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1018) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "120 acres" and inserting "107 acres"; and

(B) in subparagraph (E)(ii), by inserting "improvements," after "buildings,"; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking "As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and Mt. Hood Meadows shall select" and inserting "Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of the Mount Hood Cooper Spur Land Exchange Clarification Act, the Secretary and Mt. Hood Meadows shall jointly select";

(ii) in clause (ii), in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking "An appraisal under clause (i) shall" and inserting "Except as provided under clause (iii), an appraisal under clause (i) shall assign a separate value to each tax lot to allow for the equalization of values and"; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(iii) FINAL APPRAISED VALUE.—

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), after the final appraised value of the Federal land and the non-Federal land are determined and approved by the Secretary, the Secretary shall not be required to reappraise or update the final appraised value for a period of up to 3 years, beginning on the date of the approval by the Secretary of the final appraised value.

"(II) EXCEPTION.—Subclause (I) shall not apply if the condition of either the Federal land or the non-Federal land referred to in subclause (I) is significantly and substantially altered by fire, windstorm, or other events.

"(iv) PUBLIC REVIEW.—Before completing the land exchange under this Act, the Secretary shall make available for public review the complete appraisals of the land to be exchanged."; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (G) and inserting the following:

"(G) REQUIRED CONVEYANCE CONDITIONS.—Prior to the exchange of the Federal and non-Federal land—

"(i) the Secretary and Mt. Hood Meadows may mutually agree for the Secretary to reserve a conservation easement to protect the identified wetland in accordance with applicable law, subject to the requirements that—

"(I) the conservation easement shall be consistent with the terms of the September 30, 2015, mediation between the Secretary and Mt. Hood Meadows; and

"(II) in order to take effect, the conservation easement shall be finalized not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Mount Hood Cooper Spur Land Exchange Clarification Act; and

"(ii) the Secretary shall reserve a 24-foot-wide nonexclusive trail easement at the existing trail locations on the Federal land that retains for the United States existing rights to construct, reconstruct, maintain, and permit nonmotorized use by the public of existing trails subject to the right of the owner of the Federal land—

"(I) to cross the trails with roads, utilities, and infrastructure facilities; and

"(II) to improve or relocate the trails to accommodate development of the Federal land.

"(H) EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in addition to or in lieu of monetary compensation, a lesser area of Federal land or non-Federal land may be conveyed if necessary to equalize appraised values of the exchange properties, without limitation, consistent with the requirements of this Act and subject to the approval of the Secretary and Mt. Hood Meadows.

"(ii) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN COMPENSATION OR CONVEYANCES AS DONATION.—If, after payment of compensation or adjustment of land area subject to exchange under this Act, the amount by which the appraised value of the land and other property conveyed by Mt. Hood Meadows under subparagraph (A) exceeds the appraised value of the land conveyed by the Secretary under subparagraph (A) shall be considered a donation by Mt. Hood Meadows to the United States.".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 699, the Mount Hood Cooper Spur Land Exchange Clarification Act, was introduced by Congressman GREG WALDEN and cosponsored by Congressman EARL BLUMENAUER to address an ongoing land exchange issue in the State of Oregon.

In 2009, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act authorized a land exchange in Government Camp, Oregon.

This land exchange was supposed to be completed within 16 months of the enactment of the legislation; however, this still has not occurred more than 7 years later. The long delay, primarily due to disagreements surrounding easement terms, has frustrated local communities such as Mt. Hood Meadows and other local groups.

This legislation, along with the Senate companion, comes as a result of a mediation session held by the Forest Service in September 2015 to resolve longstanding issues between the agency and the local community. Subsequently, the parties released a joint statement that they arrived at mutually satisfactory terms during the mediation session.

H.R. 699 updates the details and process for the land exchange to clarify issues relating to land appraisals and the parameters of a wetland conservation easement on the Federal portion of the conveyance. This legislation also includes several technical provisions, including changes to conveyance conditions regarding wetland boundaries on the Federal land, reservation of a non-exclusive trail easement, and equalization of values of the exchange properties.

This bill was amended in committee last Congress to address concerns raised by the Forest Service, including clarifying language for the easement allowed in the bill and the length of time allowed for the Forest Service to implement this legislation.

It is illustrative of the state of Federal Land Management that the Forest Service has not already carried out the provisions of this bill. This bill previously passed the House in September 2016, and it is my hope that the Senate will see fit to act on the legislation during this Congress.

I appreciate Congressman WALDEN's continuous efforts to see this issue addressed once and for all, and I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill. I urge adoption of the measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to be on the floor here this afternoon with my friend and colleague, Congressman WALDEN, who is going to talk at great length—maybe not, but he could.

This represents, hopefully, the culmination of over 12 years' work. Congressman WALDEN and I spent a good deal of time with stakeholders back in Oregon focusing on what needed to be done to protect the treasure that is Mt. Hood and the surrounding wilderness area.

It culminated with a hike that we took around Mt. Hood—a 3-day camping trip with Congressman WALDEN, his