

inserting "Cedar". Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the "Cedar City Band of Paiute Indians" shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Cedar Band of Paiute Indians".

#### SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) CITY.—The term "City" means the City of Richfield, Utah.

(2) PROPERTY.—The term "Property" means the parcel of land held by the United States in trust for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah located in Section 2, Township 24 South, Range 3 West, Salt Lake Base and Meridian, Sevier County, Utah and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East line of the Highway which is West 0.50 chains, more or less, and South 8° 21' West, 491.6 feet from the Northeast Corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 24 South, Range 3 West, Salt Lake Base and Meridian, and running thence South 81° 39' East, perpendicular to the highway, 528.0 feet; thence South 26° 31' West, 354.6 feet; thence North 63° 29' West, 439.3 feet to said highway; thence North 8° 21' East, along Easterly line of said highway 200.0 feet to the point of beginning, containing 3.0 acres more or less.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) TRIBE.—The term "Tribe" means the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBONS. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3982, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3982 is sponsored by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON). The legislation authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to take a 3-acre parcel of land owned by the Paiute Indian Tribe out of trust so the tribe can sell it to the City of Richfield, Utah. The land would be sold only on a willing-seller basis for fair market value and would be used by the city to expand its municipal airport.

H.R. 3982 also authorizes the Secretary to transfer three parcels of trust land to two of the Tribe's constituent bands. The parcels, each of which is one acre or less, will remain in trust for the benefit of the individual bands.

Finally, H.R. 3982 changes the name of the Cedar City Band of Paiute Indians of Utah to the Cedar Band of Paiute Indians of Utah. The tribe and all local entities support this bill, and I urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, as congressional action is required for land and trusts to be sold, and the Paiute Indian Tribe has contacted us for assistance, we are very supportive of authorizing the Secretary to convey these lands for the tribe.

We support the tribe's sovereign decision to sell these lands and wish them the best in further economic development. We urge our colleagues to support H.R. 3982.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3982.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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### ALASKA NATIVE ALLOTMENT SUBDIVISION ACT

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1421) to authorize the subdivision and dedication of restricted land owned by Alaska Natives.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1421

*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 "Alaska Native Allotment Subdivision Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) RESTRICTED LAND.—The term "restricted land" means land in the State that is subject to Federal restrictions against alienation and taxation.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) STATE.—The term "State" means the State of Alaska.

#### SEC. 3. SUBDIVISION AND DEDICATION OF ALASKA NATIVE RESTRICTED LAND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—An Alaska Native owner of restricted land may, subject to the approval of the Secretary—

(1) subdivide the restricted land in accordance with the laws of the—

(A) State; or

(B) applicable local platting authority; and

(2) execute a certificate of ownership and dedication with respect to the restricted land subdivided under paragraph (1) with the same effect under State law as if the restricted land subdivided and dedicated were held by unrestricted fee simple title.

(b) RATIFICATION OF PRIOR SUBDIVISIONS AND DEDICATIONS.—Any subdivision or dedication of restricted land executed before the date of enactment of this Act that has been approved by the Secretary and by the rel-

evant State or local platting authority, as appropriate, shall be considered to be ratified and confirmed by Congress as of the date on which the Secretary approved the subdivision or dedication.

#### SEC. 4. EFFECT ON STATUS OF LAND NOT DEDICATED.

Except in a case in which a specific interest in restricted land is dedicated under section 3(a)(2), nothing in this Act terminates, diminishes, or otherwise affects the continued existence and applicability of Federal restrictions against alienation and taxation on restricted land or interests in restricted land (including restricted land subdivided under section 3(a)(1)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Senate 1421 is legislation sponsored by the gentlewoman from Alaska (Senator MURKOWSKI) that will yield tremendous benefits to Alaska native owners of lands they obtained under the Native Allotment Act of 1906.

The bill resolves a problem that is confounding the State of Alaska, Alaska municipalities and the owners of native allotments. In the past few years, government attorneys have questioned whether current law authorizes the subdivision of Alaska native allotments or the placement of certain easements across them. Some allotments have already been subdivided, and the validity of these subdivisions is now in question.

This bill fixes the problem. It allows Alaska natives to subdivide their allotments and dedicate rights-of-way on them, according to State law, without losing the protections in the restricted status of such lands.

The law does not force Alaska natives to do anything with their lands. Rather, it gives them more freedom to utilize their property in an economically beneficial manner.

This is an excellent, noncontroversial bill worked out cooperatively by all affected parties. I urge the adoption of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, the majority has explained the pending

measure. We on this side have no objection to its consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1421.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AND ERADICATION ACT OF 2004

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 144) to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance through States to eligible weed management entities to control or eradicate harmful, non-native weeds on public and private land, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 144

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

#### SECTION 1. NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AND ERADICATION.

The Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new subtitle—

##### “Subtitle E—Noxious Weed Control and Eradication

#### “SEC. 451. SHORT TITLE.

“This subtitle may be cited as the ‘Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act of 2004’.

#### “SEC. 452. DEFINITIONS.

“In this subtitle:

“(1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

“(2) WEED MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term ‘weed management entity’ means an entity that—

“(A) is recognized by the State in which it is established;

“(B) is established for the purpose of or has demonstrable expertise and significant experience in controlling or eradicating noxious weeds and increasing public knowledge and education concerning the need to control or eradicate noxious weeds;

“(C) may be multijurisdictional and multidisciplinary in nature;

“(D) may include representatives from Federal, State, local, or, where applicable, Indian Tribe governments, private organizations, individuals, and State-recognized conservation districts or State-recognized weed management districts; and

“(E) has existing authority to perform land management activities on Federal land if the proposed project or activity is on Federal lands.

“(3) FEDERAL LANDS.—The term ‘Federal lands’ means those lands owned and managed by the United States Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management.

#### “SEC. 453. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program to provide financial and

technical assistance to control or eradicate noxious weeds.

“(b) GRANTS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations under section 457(a), the Secretary shall make grants under section 454 to weed management entities for the control or eradication of noxious weeds.

“(c) AGREEMENTS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations under section 457(b), the Secretary shall enter into agreements under section 455 with weed management entities to provide financial and technical assistance for the control or eradication of noxious weeds.

#### “SEC. 454. GRANTS TO WEED MANAGEMENT ENTITIES.

“(a) CONSULTATION AND CONSENT.—In carrying out a grant under this subtitle, the weed management entity and the Secretary shall—

“(1) if the activities funded under the grant will take place on Federal land, consult with the heads of the Federal agencies having jurisdiction over the land; or

“(2) obtain the written consent of the non-Federal landowner.

“(b) GRANT CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the amount of a grant to a weed management entity, the Secretary shall consider—

“(1) the severity or potential severity of the noxious weed problem;

“(2) the extent to which the Federal funds will be used to leverage non-Federal funds to address the noxious weed problem;

“(3) the extent to which the weed management entity has made progress in addressing the noxious weeds problem; and

“(4) other factors that the Secretary determines to be relevant.

“(c) USE OF GRANT FUNDS; COST SHARES.—

“(1) USE OF GRANTS.—A weed management entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) shall use the grant funds to carry out a project authorized by subsection (d) for the control or eradication of a noxious weed.

“(2) COST SHARES.—

“(A) FEDERAL COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out an authorized project under this section exclusively on non-Federal land shall not exceed 50 percent.

“(B) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL COST SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the cost of carrying out an authorized project under this section may be provided in cash or in kind.

“(d) AUTHORIZED PROJECTS.—Projects funded by grants under this section include the following:

“(1) Education, inventories and mapping, management, monitoring, methods development, and other capacity building activities, including the payment of the cost of personnel and equipment that promote control or eradication of noxious weeds.

“(2) Other activities to control or eradicate noxious weeds or promote control or eradication of noxious weeds.

“(e) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive assistance under this section, a weed management entity shall prepare and submit to the Secretary an application containing such information as the Secretary shall by regulation require.

“(f) SELECTION OF PROJECTS.—Projects funded under this section shall be selected by the Secretary on a competitive basis, taking into consideration the following:

“(1) The severity of the noxious weed problem or potential problem addressed by the project.

“(2) The likelihood that the project will prevent or resolve the problem, or increase knowledge about resolving similar problems.

“(3) The extent to which the Federal funds will leverage non-Federal funds to address the noxious weed problem addressed by the project.

“(4) The extent to which the program will improve the overall capacity of the United

States to address noxious weed control and management.

“(5) The extent to which the weed management entity has made progress in addressing noxious weed problems.

“(6) The extent to which the project will provide a comprehensive approach to the control or eradication of noxious weeds.

“(7) The extent to which the project will reduce the total population of noxious weeds.

“(8) The extent to which the project promotes cooperation and participation between States that have common interests in controlling and eradicating noxious weeds.

“(9) Other factors that the Secretary determines to be relevant.

“(g) REGIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL INVOLVEMENT.—In determining which projects receive funding under this section, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

“(1) rely on technical and merit reviews provided by regional, State, or local weed management experts; and

“(2) give priority to projects that maximize the involvement of State, local and, where applicable, Indian Tribe governments.

“(h) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary shall give special consideration to States with approved weed management entities established by Indian Tribes and may provide an additional allocation to a State to meet the particular needs and projects that the weed management entity plans to address.

#### “SEC. 455. AGREEMENTS.

“(a) CONSULTATION AND CONSENT.—In carrying out an agreement under this section, the Secretary shall—

“(1) if the activities funded under the agreement will take place on Federal land, consult with the heads of the Federal agencies having jurisdiction over the land; or

“(2) obtain the written consent of the non-Federal landowner.

“(b) APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.—The Secretary may enter into agreements under this section with weed management entities notwithstanding sections 6301 through 6309 of title 31, United States Code, and other laws relating to the procurement of goods and services for the Federal Government.

“(c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Activities carried out under an agreement under this section may include the following:

“(1) Education, inventories and mapping, management, monitoring, methods development, and other capacity building activities, including the payment of the cost of personnel and equipment that promote control or eradication of noxious weeds.

“(2) Other activities to control or eradicate noxious weeds.

“(d) SELECTION OF ACTIVITIES.—Activities funded under this section shall be selected by the Secretary taking into consideration the following:

“(1) The severity of the noxious weeds problem or potential problem addressed by the activities.

“(2) The likelihood that the activity will prevent or resolve the problem, or increase knowledge about resolving similar problems.

“(3) The extent to which the activity will provide a comprehensive approach to the control or eradication of noxious weeds.

“(4) The extent to which the program will improve the overall capacity of the United States to address noxious weed control and management.

“(5) The extent to which the project promotes cooperation and participation between States that have common interests in controlling and eradicating noxious weeds.

“(6) Other factors that the Secretary determines to be relevant.