

Asian American Native American Pacific Islander serving institutions of higher education on par with other minority serving institutions and make them eligible for important historic preservation education and training.

I would like to recognize my colleague, Mr. GRIJALVA, for his leadership in introducing H.R. 1541, and also working closely with me on my amendment to also include Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions.

Hispanic Americans and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed to our nation's rich history and unique cultural heritage. AAPI contributions to this nation's history are evident from New Orleans being a stop on the Spanish Galleon trade route, to the salmon canneries in Alaska, to early Chamorro villages in the Mariana Islands, to pineapple fields in Hawaii, or to the tremendous efforts AAPIs made in constructing the railroads that crisscross our country. Making Hispanic serving institutions and Asian American Native American and Pacific Islander serving institutions eligible for preservation training and degree programs will further enrich and ensure our diverse history is shared for generations to come.

This bill has bipartisan support, and I commend my colleagues for their support. I encourage support of H.R. 1541.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1541, 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.

TAKING LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2212) to take certain Federal lands located in Lassen County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Susanville Indian Rancheria, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2212

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

SECTION 1. LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The land described in subsection (b) is hereby taken into trust for the benefit of the Susanville Indian Rancheria, subject to valid existing rights.

(b) *LAND DESCRIPTION.*—The land taken into trust pursuant to subsection (a) is the approximately 301 acres of Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management identified as “Conveyance Boundary” on the map titled “Susanville Indian Rancheria Land Conveyance” and dated December 31, 2014.

(c) *GAMING.*—Class II and class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) shall not be allowed at any time on the land taken into trust pursuant to subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

I rise in support of H.R. 2212, which would direct the Secretary of the Interior to place into trust 300 acres of Bureau of Land Management land for the Susanville Indian Rancheria. These isolated and surplus BLM lands are adjacent to existing tribal lands in Lassen County, California.

Since 2005, the tribe has worked with the local California BLM office to one day complete the transfer of these lands, which are culturally and historically significant to the tribe.

Comprised of the descendants of four tribes within the region—the Mountain Maidu, Northern Paiute, the Pit River, and the Washoe—the Susanville Indian Rancheria has a long history of relocation and adversity. The Rancheria's ancestors were party to 18 unratified treaties with the Federal Government, and their lands were taken after passage of the Land Claims Act of 1851.

Displaced during the California gold rush of the 1850s, the tribe was homeless until 1923, when the Federal Government purchased and placed into trust 30 acres. Since that time, another 120 acres were added by Congress in 1978 and approximately 950 acres have been added by BIA action.

The Rancheria has long ties to this land, which holds a number of cultural, historical, and archeological sites, including grinding stones, petroglyphs, and other important artifacts. Rancheria members also gather traditional herbs, medicines, and vegetables on the land and continue to hunt game in the area as their ancestors did.

The land has been classified as surplus by the BLM, which has written in support of transferring the parcel to the Rancheria, and it is adjacent, again, to the Rancheria's existing lands.

The Rancheria intends to continue using the land for traditional purposes as well as eventually constructing a cultural center, a museum, and recreational facilities, including sports fields.

At the request of the tribe, the bill includes a prohibition on gaming. The Rancheria has long proven to be a conscientious and thoughtful neighbor to the City of Susanville, and I have no doubt that it will prove to be a good steward of this land.

Mr. Speaker, this bill was passed by the Natural Resources Committee with unanimous support. The Senate counterpart, sponsored by Senator BOXER, who we found agreement on this legislation on, also received unanimous support in the Senate Indian Affairs Committee.

I urge your support and thank you for your consideration of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

H.R. 2212, introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), our colleague, is indeed a good piece of legislation. Three hundred acres of BLM land in the Hidden Valley area of Lassen County, California, will be put into trust for the benefit of the Susanville Indian Rancheria.

The land in question is not only adjacent to Susanville's current trust land, it is also part of their aboriginal territories. There are numerous cultural and archeological sites on the land that the Susanville members seek to protect, including the remains of a historic Native American village.

In addition, the area is an important traditional hunting ground and is utilized for traditional ceremonies. The land has been identified by BLM as excess inventory and a cost burden to the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a win-win for all parties involved. The Susanville Rancheria members will finally have a portion of its historic land returned, and the Federal Government will save money on administrative costs on land that it does not want.

I want to congratulate the sponsor of the legislation. I urge its swift passage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the support of the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA), the committee's ranking member, and the unanimous effort to move this bill out of committee.

Mr. Speaker, I seek support for my legislation.

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. LAMALFA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2212, 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.

BILLY FRANK JR. TELL YOUR STORY ACT

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2270) to redesignate the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, located in the State of Washington, as the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, to establish the Medicine