

Calendar No. 431

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**H. R. 1975****[Report No. 117–126]**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

JUNE 23, 2022

Reported by Mr. SCHATZ, without amendment

AN ACT

To take certain land located in San Diego County, California,
into trust for the benefit of the Pala Band of Mission
Indians, 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 “Pala Band of Mission
5 Indians Land Transfer Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF LAND IN TRUST FOR THE PALA BAND**
7 **OF MISSION INDIANS.**

8 (a) TRANSFER AND ADMINISTRATION.—

1 (1) TRANSFER OF LANDS INTO TRUST.—If, not
2 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment
3 of this Act, the Tribe transfers title to the land re-
4 ferred to in subsection (b) to the United States, the
5 Secretary, not later than 180 days after such trans-
6 fer, shall take that land into trust for the benefit of
7 the Tribe.

8 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—The land transferred
9 under paragraph (1) shall be part of the Pala Indian
10 Reservation and administered in accordance with the
11 laws and regulations generally applicable to land
12 held in trust by the United States for an Indian
13 Tribe.

14 (b) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The land referred to in
15 subsection (a)(1) is the approximately 721.12 acres of
16 land located in San Diego County, California, generally
17 depicted as “Gregory Canyon Property Boundary” on the
18 map titled “Pala Gregory Canyon Property Boundary and
19 Parcels”.

20 (c) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
21 shall—

22 (1) enlarge, impair, or otherwise affect any
23 right or claim of the Tribe to any land or interest
24 in land that is in existence before the date of the en-
25 actment of this Act;

1 (2) affect any water right of the Tribe in exist-
2 ence before the date of the enactment of this Act;
3 or

4 (3) terminate or limit any access in any way to
5 any right-of-way or right-of-use issued, granted, or
6 permitted before the date of the enactment of this
7 Act.

8 (d) RESTRICTED USE OF TRANSFERRED LANDS.—
9 The Tribe may not conduct, on the land taken into trust
10 for the Tribe pursuant to this Act, gaming activities—

11 (1) as a matter of claimed inherent authority;
12 or

13 (2) under any Federal law, including the Indian
14 Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.)
15 and regulations promulgated by the Secretary or the
16 National Indian Gaming Commission under that
17 Act.

18 (e) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

19 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

21 (2) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the Pala
22 Band of Mission Indians.

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