

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 616

To amend the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of additional Federal land to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2023

Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of additional Federal land to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, 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 “Leech Lake Reserva-
5 tion Restoration Technical Corrections Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL LAND.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 2(a)(5) of the Leech Lake
8 Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act (Public Law

1 116–255; 134 Stat. 1140) is amended by striking sub-
 2 paragraph (B) and inserting the following:

3 “(B) does not intend immediately to mod-
 4 ify the use of the Federal land.”.

5 (b) INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL LAND.—
 6 Section 2 of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation
 7 Restoration Act (Public Law 116–255; 134 Stat. 1139)
 8 is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

11 (i) by striking “means the approxi-
 12 mately” and inserting “means—

13 “(i) the approximately”;

14 (ii) in clause (i) (as so designated), by
 15 striking the period at the end and inserting
 16 “; and”; and

17 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
 18 lowing:

19 “(ii) any other land managed by the
 20 Secretary, through the Chief of the Forest
 21 Service, located in the Chippewa National
 22 Forest in Cass County, Minnesota, which
 23 records maintained by the Bureau of In-
 24 dian Affairs show was sold without the

1 consent of a majority of the rightful land-
 2 owners.”; and

3 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (i) by redesignating clauses (i) and
 5 (ii) as clauses (ii) and (iii), respectively;
 6 and

7 (ii) by inserting before clause (ii) (as
 8 so redesignated) the following:

9 “(i) any land transferred pursuant to
 10 an agreement entered into between the
 11 Secretary and the Tribe under subsection
 12 (c)(2);”;

13 (2) in subsection (c)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “para-
 15 graph (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and
 16 (3)”;

17 (B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
 18 paragraph (3); and

19 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
 20 following:

21 “(2) AGREEMENT.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On agreement be-
 23 tween the Secretary and the Tribe, the Sec-
 24 retary shall substitute, for purposes of the
 25 transfer under paragraph (1), alternative Na-

1 tional Forest System land located in Cass
 2 County, Minnesota, on an acre-for-acre basis,
 3 for those parcels of Federal land to be trans-
 4 ferred under that paragraph that are found to
 5 be unsuitable for the future uses of the Tribe.

6 “(B) FREQUENCY OF TRANSFERS.—Pursu-
 7 ant to an agreement entered into under sub-
 8 paragraph (A), the Secretary may transfer land
 9 to the Tribe on a rolling basis as that land is
 10 identified and surveys are completed.

11 “(C) FINAL AGENCY ACTION.—An agree-
 12 ment described in subparagraph (A), and any
 13 transfer of land made pursuant to an agree-
 14 ment entered into under that subparagraph,
 15 shall be considered a final agency action under
 16 subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of
 17 title 5, United States Code.”; and

18 (3) in subsection (d)—

19 (A) in paragraph (1)—

20 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
 21 “described in subsection (b)(1)(A)(i)” after
 22 “Federal land”; and

23 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 24 “submit a map and legal description of the
 25 Federal land” and inserting “submit maps

1 and legal descriptions of the Federal land
2 transferred pursuant to paragraphs (1)
3 and (2) of subsection (c), as applicable,”;
4 (B) in paragraph (2)—
5 (i) by striking “map and legal descrip-
6 tion” and inserting “maps and legal de-
7 scriptions”; and
8 (ii) by striking “map or legal descrip-
9 tion” and inserting “maps or legal descrip-
10 tions”; and
11 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “map
12 and legal description” and inserting “maps and
13 legal descriptions”.

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