

DESERT SAGE YOUTH WELLNESS CENTER ACCESS
IMPROVEMENT ACT

NOVEMBER 16, 2022.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRIJALVA, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 667]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 667) to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 667 is to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION¹

Before 2016, Indigenous youth between the ages of 12 and 17 suffering from Substance Use Disorders (SUD) in the State of California were forced to travel to out-of-state facilities to receive care. While added travel may complicate any SUD patient's recovery by increasing expenses and separating them from at-home support systems, tribal citizens are already subject to high illicit substance overdose rates and frequently face long roads to recovery due to infrastructure issues. Recognizing that out-of-state travel burdened

¹*See also* S. Rep. No. 117-5 (2021), <https://www.congress.gov/117/crpt/srpt5/CRPT-117srpt5.pdf>.

an already at-risk population, the Indian Health Service (IHS) built the Desert Sage Wellness Center in Hemet, California, to benefit the state's many Native communities.

The Center is notable for providing culturally sensitive treatment to Native youth battling SUD and can hold up to 32 patients at a time. However, during the Center's construction, IHS was unable to reach an agreement with the adjacent property holders on the pavement and maintenance of an access road to the facility. As a result, the Center was established as accessible only by a dirt road that is often washed out from heavy rainfall or in a general state of disrepair. As the sole IHS Youth Regional Treatment Facility in the state, the Center is a tremendous resource to California's Native communities. Its physical inaccessibility poses yet another obstacle to Native youth seeking treatment for SUD.

H.R. 667 solves this issue by granting IHS the authority to acquire the necessary nearby land to build an operational access road to the Center.

On July 29, 2022, the bill's identical companion legislation, S. 144, became law.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 667 was introduced on February 1, 2021, by Representative Raul Ruiz (D-CA). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Within the Natural Resources Committee, the bill was referred to the Committee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States and the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. On November 17, 2021, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittees were discharged by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered, and the bill was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

S. 144, an identical companion bill, was introduced on February 1, 2021, as well, by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA). The bill was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, which ordered it reported favorably without amendment by voice vote on March 10, 2021. On May 26, 2021, the full Senate passed the bill without amendment by voice vote. On May 28, 2021, the bill was received in the House and held at the desk. On July 19, 2022, the House agreed to a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill without amendment, by a roll call vote of 379 yeas and 41 nays. The enrolled bill was presented to the President on July 27, 2022, and signed into law on July 29, 2022.²

HEARINGS

Regarding clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the Committee does not expect the measure to be considered pursuant to a special order of business reported by the Committee on Rules, as it has already been enacted as part of another bill.

²Pub. L. No. 117-161, <https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ161/PLAW-117publ161.pdf>, 136 Stat. 1347 (2022), <https://uscode.house.gov/statviewer.htm?volume=136&page=1347>.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as well as clause 3(d) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, January 27, 2022.

Hon. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 667 the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center Access Improvement Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Robert Stewart.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 667, Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center Access Improvement Act			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on November 17, 2021			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2026	2022-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	1	1	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 667 would authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to purchase, pave, and maintain a road to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center (DSYWC) in Hemet, California. The DSYWC is one of 12 residential treatment centers for adolescents with substance abuse disorders that is funded by

the Indian Health Service (IHS). The access road to the facility is a half-mile long, privately owned road that is currently unpaved. Based on information from IHS, CBO estimates that purchasing and paving the road would cost about \$1 million over the 2022–2026 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. In addition, the bill would authorize the Secretary to either maintain the road on an ongoing basis or come to an agreement with the local county to maintain the road. Based on information about the cost of road maintenance, a newly paved road of this length would require less than \$500,000 for maintenance costs over the 2022–2026 period.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Robert Stewart. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goals and objectives of this bill are to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

According to CBO, this bill contains no unfunded mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes to existing law.

FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, WASHINGTON
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3541

November 19, 2021

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

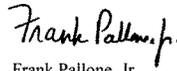
Dear Chairman Grijalva:

I write concerning H.R. 667, the "Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center Access Improvement Act," which was additionally referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H.R. 667, the Committee agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction. I also request that you support my request to name members of the Committee to any conference committee to consider such provisions.

Finally, I would appreciate the inclusion of this letter into the committee report on H.R. 667.

Sincerely,



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Chairman

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva
October 20, 2021
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- cc. The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce
- The Honorable Bruce Westerman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources
- The Honorable Jason Smith, Parliamentarian

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA OF ARIZONA
CHAIRMAN

DAVID WATKINS
STAFF DIRECTOR

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

BRUCE WESTERMAN OF ARKANSAS
RANKING REPUBLICAN

VIVIAN MCGLEIN
REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

November 18, 2021

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chair
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Pallone:

I write to you concerning H.R. 667, the "Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center Access Improvement Act."

I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation. I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I acknowledge that your Committee will not formally consider H.R. 667 and agree that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your Committee's Rule X jurisdiction.

I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the *Congressional Record* during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with you as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva
Chair
House Natural Resources Committee

Cc: The Honorable Bruce Westerman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources
The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce
The Honorable Jason Smith, Parliamentarian

SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS
None.

