

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 992

To provide grants to local governments to assist such local governments in participating in certain decisions related to certain Indian groups and Indian tribes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2001

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut (for herself and Mr. SIMMONS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To provide grants to local governments to assist such local governments in participating in certain decisions related to certain Indian groups and Indian tribes.

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. GRANT PROGRAM.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent funds are made
5 available by appropriations and acceptable requests are
6 submitted, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide
7 grants to local governments to assist those local govern-
8 ments in participating in the decisionmaking process re-
9 lated to actions described in subsection (b), if the Sec-

1 retary determines that such actions are likely to signifi-
2 cantly affect the people represented by the local govern-
3 ments and to reimburse local governments for the costs
4 of such participation that were incurred after the date of
5 the enactment of this Act.

6 (b) ACTIONS FOR WHICH GRANTS MAY BE AVAIL-
7 ABLE.—The Secretary may make grants under this sec-
8 tion for participation assistance related to the following
9 actions:

10 (1) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—An Indian group is
11 seeking Federal acknowledgement or recognition (or
12 reacknowledgement or rerecognition) and the Sec-
13 retary determines that the Indian group seeking
14 such acknowledgement or recognition (or reacknowl-
15 edgement or rerecognition) has asserted or is likely
16 to assert trust status with respect to land within
17 boundaries of the area over which the local govern-
18 ment has jurisdiction.

19 (2) TRUST LAND.—An acknowledged Indian
20 tribe is requesting that land within the boundaries
21 of the area over which the local government has ju-
22 risdiction be put into trust status for that tribe.

23 (3) LAND CLAIMS.—An Indian group or an ac-
24 knowledged Indian tribe is claiming interest in land
25 based upon a treaty or a law specifically applicable

1 to transfers of land or natural resources from, by,
2 or on behalf of any Indian, Indian nation, or group,
3 tribe, or band of Indians (including the Acts com-
4 monly known as the Trade and Intercourse Acts (1
5 Stat. 137; 2 Stat. 139; and 4 Stat. 729)).

6 (4) OTHER ACTIONS.—Any other action or pro-
7 posed action relating to an Indian group or acknowl-
8 edged Indian tribe if the Secretary determines that
9 the action or proposed action is likely to significantly
10 affect the people represented by that local govern-
11 ment.

12 (c) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Grants awarded under
13 this section to a local government for any one action may
14 not exceed \$500,000 in any fiscal year.

15 (d) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this
16 section—

17 (1) the term “acknowledged Indian tribe”
18 means any Indian tribe, band, nation, pueblo, or
19 other organized group or community which is recog-
20 nized as eligible for the special programs and serv-
21 ices provided by the United States to Indians be-
22 cause of their status as Indians; and

23 (2) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
24 of the Interior.

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$8,000,000 for each fiscal year that begins after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act.

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