

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4786

To provide grants to tribes to assist those tribes in participating in the  
Federal acknowledgement process.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 8, 2004

Mr. PALLONE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To provide grants to tribes to assist those tribes in  
participating in the Federal acknowledgement process.

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. GRANTS TO ASSIST TRIBES IN THE FEDERAL**

4               **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PROCESS.**

5       (a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of the Interior may pro-  
6       vide a grant to an entity to assist the entity in preparing,  
7       submitting, or otherwise supporting a petition to the Bu-  
8       reau of Acknowledgement and Recognition in the Depart-  
9       ment of the Interior for recognition or rerecognition of  
10      such entity as an Indian tribe.

1 (b) AMOUNT.—The Secretary may not provide a  
2 grant to an entity under this section in an amount that  
3 exceeds \$500,000 in any fiscal year.

4 (c) OUTSIDE FINANCING.—

5 (1) PROHIBITION.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not  
7 provide a grant under this section to an entity  
8 unless the entity agrees that it will not accept  
9 funds to assist in the Federal acknowledgement  
10 process from any other source that may benefit  
11 financially from the recognition or rerecognition  
12 of the entity as an Indian tribe.

13 (B) PENALTIES.—If the Secretary deter-  
14 mines that an entity has violated the require-  
15 ment of subparagraph (A), the Secretary—

16 (i) may not provide any additional as-  
17 sistance under this section to the entity;  
18 and

19 (ii) shall seek reimbursement from the  
20 entity in an amount equal to amounts re-  
21 ceived under a grant provided under this  
22 section plus reasonable interest.

23 (2) PRIOR ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS.—The Sec-  
24 retary may not provide a grant under this section to  
25 an entity that has accepted funds from a source that

1 may benefit financially from the recognition or rerec-  
2 ognition of the entity as an Indian tribe until one  
3 year after the date on which the entity accepted the  
4 funds.

5 (3) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the  
6 penalty requirements contained in clauses (i) and (ii)  
7 of paragraph (1)(B) or the one-year waiting period  
8 requirement contained in paragraph (2), as the case  
9 may be, if the Secretary determines that the entity  
10 has returned the total amount of funds received  
11 from all sources that may benefit financially from  
12 the recognition or rerecognition of the entity as an  
13 Indian tribe.

14 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”  
16 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the  
17 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance  
18 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

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

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