

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4026

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.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2017

Mr. VARGAS (for himself and Mr. COOK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

---

## A BILL

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 2017”.

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

8 (a) TRANSFER AND ADMINISTRATION.—

9 (1) TRANSFER OF LANDS INTO TRUST.—If, not  
10 later than \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date of the enact-

1       ment of this Act, the Tribe transfers title to the land  
2       described in subsection (b) to the United States, the  
3       Secretary shall take that land into trust for the ben-  
4       efit of the Tribe.

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

11      (b) LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LANDS TRANS-  
12      FERRED.—The land referred to in subsection (a)(1) is the  
13      approximately 700 acres of land located in San Diego  
14      County, California, and generally described as \_\_\_\_\_  
15      on the map titled \_\_\_\_\_ and dated  
16      \_\_\_\_\_.

17      (c) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act  
18      shall—

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

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

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

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

8                 (1) as a matter of claimed inherent authority;  
9                 or

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

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

16                 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
17           the Secretary of the Interior.

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

○