

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, under self-governance, Indian tribes assume the duties of the Federal Government for certain programs within the Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services. Self-governance empowers tribes to exercise their inherent sovereignty and make key decisions that will impact their nations. The widespread success of self-governance since its inception demonstrates that when tribes make the decisions that directly impact their tribal citizens, the outcomes are far greater.

Introduced by our colleague from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN), H.R. 4347 would amend the self-determination contracting program to allow title 1 tribes to become familiar with the self-governance compacting program. This legislation would also amend the Department of the Interior self-governance program to make it consistent with the self-governance program at the Department of Health and Human Services. It allows Indian tribes to step into the shoes of the Federal Government to administer programs at the Department of the Interior using rules and procedures similar to those used at the Indian Health Service.

I would like to commend Mr. BOREN from Oklahoma for his leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the bill under consideration today is an amended version of the bill as reported, and I thank the chairman of the committee and the sponsor of the legislation for their willingness to engage the Republicans on a bipartisan basis in what is a rather complex body of law.

The Republicans hope this bill accomplishes its primary goal, which is to increase the outsourcing to tribes of programs and functions of the Department of the Interior that are provided to Indians because of their status as Indians.

At the core of H.R. 4347 is the principle that Washington, DC, is not capable of managing tribal programs as effectively as the governments of Indian people—the Indian tribes. This bill could be a template for proposals to outsource Federal programs, where appropriate, to States, tribes, and the private sector.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, I'm disappointed that the Obama administration has not provided a formal statement on the position of H.R. 4347, as amended.

□ 1430

Bipartisan staff sought to address concerns expressed by the Department of the Interior in its testimony on the bill as introduced. For this reason, I

think the House is owed something in writing from the Department clarifying its views on the amended bill. Regardless, I do not see this silence from the administration as a reason to hold up the progress on the bill.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4347, which authorizes the Secretary of the Department of the Interior to select up to 50 new Indian tribes per year to participate in self-governance programs. I am proud to co-sponsor the Department of the Interior Tribal Self-Governance Act, and I thank my colleague, Congressman BOREN for introducing this legislation.

As a member of the Native American Caucus, I have worked with my colleagues in Congress to address the needs of Native Americans. This legislation will allow eligible tribes to assume the duties of the Federal Government for certain programs within the Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Speaker, the Government Accounting Office has shown that tribes that participate in self-governance have seen greater gains in employment than tribes that do not. The passage of this legislation will allow more tribes to participate in self-governance programs and increase the financial prospects for its members.

California is home to over 100 federally recognized tribes. These tribes deserve the opportunity to participate in self-governance programs should they desire to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4347 and allow Native American tribes the opportunity to enter into self-governance agreements. Native Americans should be afforded the opportunity to administer their programs and increase employment among its members.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4347, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALLOWING YSLETA DEL SUR PUEBLO TRIBE TO DETERMINE BLOOD REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5811) to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coshatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5811

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BLOOD QUANTUM REQUIREMENT DETERMINED BY TRIBE.

Section 108(a)(2) of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coshatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act (25 U.S.C. 1300g-7(a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) any person of Tigua Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Indian blood enrolled by the tribe.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

One of the greatest exercises of tribe sovereignty is the ability of a tribe to determine its tribal membership. This measure would allow a Texas tribe to determine the blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe.

My colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), introduced H.R. 5811 to restore the tribe's right to determine its own membership requirements by deleting a blood quantum requirement specified in a 1987 law. Passage of this legislation would extend to the tribe the same sovereign right possessed by all other Indian tribes: The ability to determine who is and who is not a member of that tribe.

This measure is long overdue. I commend my colleague for introducing it. Similar legislation passed the House last Congress by unanimous consent. I urge Members to support this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, the gentlelady from the Virgin Islands has adequately described this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES).

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlelady for yielding me this time, and the ranking member and the chairman for supporting this bill. It is a very important bill for us, for the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe and Alabama and Coshatta Indian Tribes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 5811, a bill I introduced to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coshatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act of 1987 to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tigua tribe the authority to determine the blood quantum requirement for membership in their tribe. Since

coming to Congress, I have been proud to represent the Tiguas and I have continually fought to lift this requirement.

My Congressional district in El Paso is home to the Tigua Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, the oldest community in Texas. They are one of the three Native American tribes and the only Pueblo tribe in the state. The Tiguas have maintained a significant presence in the El Paso region with tribal enrollment currently over 1,600 citizens. The Tiguas have also been very active participants in the regional business community for almost 40 years. The tribe strives to establish a business-friendly environment while maintaining their culture and traditions. The tribe owns and operates a diverse set of enterprises and corporations that provide employment for both tribal members and the El Paso community.

However, the Tiguas are one of a very few federally-recognized tribes still required by Federal law to use a specified degree of blood quantum to determine membership. If the current $\frac{1}{8}$ degree requirement remains in effect, Tigua tribal membership will decline significantly within three generations.

For decades, other tribal governments have used a variety of methods to determine membership. The decision to use a blood quantum requirement has been at the discretion of the tribe as a part of their tribal sovereignty. Tribes have also been able to determine if lineal and collateral descendants of members listed in their base rolls are eligible to be enrolled.

My bill will allow the Tiguas the same opportunity as other recognized tribes to use these methods, and specifically blood quantum levels, to determine membership. With H.R. 5811, individuals removed from the rolls in previous years and others will be able to petition for enrollment. Historically, many of these members would normally have been included as members of the tribe.

This bill is the life blood of the tribe. By modifying the tribal enrollment requirements, the Tiguas will be able to preserve the unique character and traditions of their tribe based on shared history, customs, and language in addition to tribal blood. This bill will ensure their survival as the oldest community in Texas and the only Pueblo still in existence in the State. This bill has passed twice before in the House of Representatives, and I urge my colleagues to support passage of this bill.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5811, which allows the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine the blood quantum requirement for membership in their tribe. I thank my colleague, Congressman REYES for introducing this legislation.

This legislation will specifically allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Indian tribe to determine their membership. Native American tribes should be afforded the opportunity to determine the qualifications for membership in their tribes.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Native American Caucus, I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress to address the unique needs of Native Americans.

California is home to over one hundred federally recognized tribes. Earlier this month, I was able to meet with the Pauma Band of Mission Indians. The reservation is located in Pauma Valley, California. The Pauma Band of Mission Indians and others across the nation

should be permitted to determine their requirements to be a member, rather than having to rely on some outside body to make this determination.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5811.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5811.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CASA GRANDE RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY MODIFICATION ACT OF 2010

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5110) to modify the boundary of the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5110

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Boundary Modification Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Proposed Casa Grande Ruins Boundary Modification", numbered 303/100,934, and dated January 2010.

(2) MONUMENT.—The term "Monument" means the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument in the State of Arizona.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) STATE.—The term "State" means the State of Arizona.

SEC. 3. ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION OF LANDS.

(a) ACQUISITION OF LANDS.—The Secretary is authorized to acquire by donation, exchange, or purchase with donated or appropriate funds from willing owners only, the private or State lands or interests in lands generally depicted on the map, to be administered as part of the Monument.

(b) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION TO NPS.—The following Federal lands as generally depicted on the map are hereby withdrawn from all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws; location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and operation of the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws and mineral materials laws, and administrative jurisdiction of such Federal lands is hereby transferred to the National Park Service to be administered as part of the Monument:

(1) The approximately 3.8 acres of Federal land administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) The approximately 7.41 acres of Federal land of administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(c) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION TO BIA.—Administrative jurisdiction of the approximately 3.5 acres of Federal land administered by the National Park Service as generally depicted on the map as "Lands to be Transferred to BIA" are hereby transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the purposes of the San Carlos Irrigation Project.

(d) ADMINISTRATION.—Upon acquisition or transfer of the lands identified in subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary shall administer those lands as part of the Monument in accordance with the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including—

(1) the National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

(2) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

(e) BOUNDARY AND MAP UPDATE.—

(1) TRANSFERS.—Upon completion of the transfers pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary shall modify the boundary of the Monument accordingly, and shall update the map to reflect such transfers.

(2) ACQUISITIONS.—Upon completion of any of the acquisitions pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall modify the boundary of the Monument accordingly, and shall update the map to reflect such acquisitions.

(f) MAP ON FILE.—The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF STATE TRUST LANDS.

The Secretary may enter in to an agreement with the State to provide for cooperative management of the approximately 200 acres of State trust lands generally depicted on the map.

SEC. 5. BOUNDARY STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study to identify any additional lands that the Secretary considers appropriate to be a part of any future adjustments to the boundary of the Monument.

(b) CRITERIA.—The study shall examine the natural, cultural, recreational, and scenic values and characteristics of the lands identified under subsection (a).

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date funds are made available for the study under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5110 would add 415 acres to Casa Grande Ruins National Monument located south of Phoenix, Arizona.

Currently, the 472-acre monument represents only part of the historic Native American community that once existed in that area. A 2003 National