

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TRIBAL LAND EX- CHANGE ACT

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 387) to provide for certain land to be taken into trust for the benefit of Morongo Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 387

*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 "Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act".

## SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) BANNING.—The term "Banning" means the City of Banning, which is located in Riverside County, California adjacent to the Morongo Indian Reservation.

(2) FIELDS.—The term "Fields" means Lloyd L. Fields, the owner of record of Parcel A.

(3) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Morongo Indian Reservation, County of Riverside, State of California Land Exchange Map", and dated May 22, 2014, which is on file in the Bureau of Land Management State Office in Sacramento, California.

(4) PARCEL A.—The term "Parcel A" means the approximately 41.15 acres designated on the map as "Fields lands".

(5) PARCEL B.—The term "Parcel B" means the approximately 41.15 acres designated on the map as "Morongo lands".

(6) PARCEL C.—The term "Parcel C" means the approximately 1.21 acres designated on the map as "Banning land".

(7) PARCEL D.—The term "Parcel D" means the approximately 1.76 acres designated on the map as "Easement to Banning".

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

(9) TRIBE.—The term "Tribe" means the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, a federally recognized Indian tribe.

## SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF LANDS; TRUST LANDS, EASEMENT.

(a) TRANSFER OF PARCEL A AND PARCEL B AND EASEMENT OVER PARCEL D.—Subject to any valid existing rights of any third parties and to legal review and approval of the form and content of any and all instruments of conveyance and policies of title insurance, upon receipt by the Secretary of confirmation that Fields has duly executed and deposited with a mutually acceptable and jointly instructed escrow holder in California a deed conveying clear and unencumbered title to Parcel A to the United States in trust for the exclusive use and benefit of the Tribe, and upon receipt by Fields of confirmation that the Secretary has duly executed and deposited into escrow with the same mutually acceptable and jointly instructed escrow holder a patent conveying clear and unencumbered title in fee simple to Parcel B to Fields and has duly executed and deposited into escrow with the same mutually acceptable and jointly instructed escrow holder an easement to the City for a public right-of-way over Parcel D, the Secretary shall instruct the escrow holder to simultaneously cause—

(1) the patent to Parcel B to be recorded and issued to Fields;

(2) the easement over Parcel D to be recorded and issued to the City; and

(3) the deed to Parcel A to be delivered to the Secretary, who shall immediately cause

said deed to be recorded and held in trust for the Tribe.

(b) TRANSFER OF PARCEL C.—After the simultaneous transfer of parcels A, B, and D under subsection (a), upon receipt by the Secretary of confirmation that the City has vacated its interest in Parcel C pursuant to all applicable State and local laws, the Secretary shall immediately cause Parcel C to be held in trust for the Tribe subject to—

(1) any valid existing rights of any third parties; and

(2) legal review and approval of the form and content of any and all instruments of conveyance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. COOK) and the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COOK).

## GENERAL LEAVE

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

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

The Morongo Band of Mission Indians, a tribe located about 20 miles west of Palm Springs, California, along with the city of Banning and a private property owner who resides in California together have asked Congress to enact H.R. 387, providing for the exchange of certain lands within or adjacent to the Morongo Reservation.

The bill also directs the Secretary of the Interior to grant an easement to the city of Banning for the use of certain lands currently held in trust on behalf of the tribe. The easement will provide the city with the ability to install electric, sewer, water, and related utility lines to accommodate commercial activity in the area.

This bill will accomplish three goals. First, it will promote the consolidation of the tribe's reservation lands. Second, it will resolve a land use dispute between a private landowner, the city, and the tribe. Third and finally, it will facilitate commercial development on lands adjacent to the tribe's reservation, which will be beneficial for the city of Banning and the tribe as well as for the private landowner.

This bill truly represents a win-win agreement without any of the parties having to compromise their desired goals.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I am proud to rise in support of my bill, H.R. 387, the Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act.

This non-controversial, bipartisan bill passed unanimously out of the House Natural Resources Committee and is supported by the Department of

the Interior. The bill would aid economic development in the city of Banning, California, through a land swap that is supported by all of the parties involved.

Currently, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and a private landowner, Mr. Lloyd Fields, would like to exchange two parcels of land which are nearly identical in size and value, but they are restrained from doing so because one of the parcels is currently held in trust by the United States on behalf of the tribe.

My bill facilitates an equitable land swap between the Morongo tribe and the landowner to provide more consolidated reservation land for the tribe and commercial development opportunities for the landowner, the city of Banning, and Riverside County.

This bill serves as a model for how land use issues can be addressed by communities coming together while upholding the sacred government-to-government relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

I would like to thank Chairman Robert Martin of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and the city of Banning for bringing this issue to my attention.

I would like to thank my colleague, Representative PAUL COOK from California, for being an original cosponsor, and Senator BOXER from California for introducing the bill in the Senate.

I would also like to thank Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA for expediting this bill through committee so that we could bring it to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, this is the type of bill that we can all support for the simple reason that it benefits all parties involved and spurs economic development and job creation.

We passed this bill unanimously on the floor last year. Let's move it once again. I urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 387.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, in closing, this just basically shows that you can actually get some things done at the local, State, and Federal levels.

This battle has been going on for a long while. I used to represent the area when I was in the State House. And when you can finally get all of the parties together and work in a bipartisan fashion, good things can happen.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

This is a clear example, as Representative PAUL COOK said, of two neighboring districts from different parties coming together for the benefit of economic development, for the betterment of our tribes, and for the betterment of our counties.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank my colleague, Representative PAUL COOK, for his support of this legislation, as well as to thank Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA for their work to bring this non-controversial bill to the floor before the end of the summer.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES), my friend and colleague, who also sits on the Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs Subcommittee.

□ 1700

Ms. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 387, which directs the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land into trust for the benefit of Morongo Band of Mission Indians.

This legislation is a commonsense approach that will benefit the tribe, the city of Banning, and the larger local economy. Taking land into trust on behalf of tribes is one of the visible and impactful actions our government can undertake to uphold our trust obligations to the 567 sovereign tribal nations around the country.

Indian lands are critical for the exercise of tribal self-governance and self-determination and often represent great spiritual and cultural significance to tribal nations.

This bill represents an opportunity for the Morongo Band of Mission Indians to consolidate their land base and provide for their people while also resolving longstanding disputes that will clear the way for increased private economic development opportunities for the region. This legislation is a win-win for the tribe, the city, and private enterprise.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from California, NORMA TORRES, for her remarks in support of the bill. I would like to thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to again thank Representative PAUL COOK for his support of this legislation.

I would like to thank Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA for their work to bring this non-controversial bill to the floor before the end of the summer. I look forward to working together in the future on additional legislation to provide our tribal nations with the tools to create their own economic opportunity through self-determination and self-governance.

I urge my colleagues to come together, once again, and pass this commonsense bill that will create jobs and spur economic development for the Morongo Tribe and the city of Banning. Vote “yes” on H.R. 387.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 387.

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.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

## VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACT OF 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2499) to amend the Small Business Act to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs, to help create jobs, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 1, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 434]

YEAS—410

Abraham	Clay	Fleming
Adams	Coffman	Flores
Aguiar	Cohen	Forbes
Allen	Cole	Fortenberry
Amodei	Collins (GA)	Foster
Ashford	Collins (NY)	Fox
Babin	Comstock	Frankel (FL)
Baletta	Conaway	Franks (AZ)
Barr	Connolly	Frelinghuysen
Barton	Conyers	Fudge
Bass	Cook	Gabbard
Beatty	Cooper	Gallego
Becerra	Costa	Garamendi
Benish	Costello (PA)	Garrett
Bera	Courtney	Gibbs
Beyer	Cramer	Gibson
Bilirakis	Crawford	Gohmert
Bishop (GA)	Crenshaw	Goodlatte
Bishop (MI)	Crowley	Gosar
Bishop (UT)	Cuellar	Gowdy
Black	Culberson	Graham
Blackburn	Cummings	Granger
Blum	Curbelo (FL)	Graves (GA)
Blumenauer	Davis (CA)	Graves (LA)
Bonamici	Davis, Danny	Graves (MO)
Bost	Davis, Rodney	Grayson
Boustany	DeFazio	Green, Al
Boyle, Brendan	DeGette	Green, Gene
F.	Delaney	Griffith
Brady (PA)	DeLauro	Grothman
Brady (TX)	DelBene	Guinta
Brat	Denham	Guthrie
Bridenstine	Dent	Hahn
Brooks (AL)	DeSantis	Hanna
Brooks (IN)	DeSaulnier	Hardy
Brownley (CA)	DesJarlais	Harper
Buck	Deutch	Harris
Bucshon	Diaz-Balart	Hartzler
Burgess	Dingell	Hastings
Bustos	Doggett	Heck (NV)
Byrne	Dold	Heck (WA)
Calvert	Donovan	Hensarling
Capps	Doyle, Michael	Herrera Beutler
Capuano	F.	Hice, Jody B.
Cárdenas	Duckworth	Higgins
Carney	Duffy	Hill
Carson (IN)	Duncan (SC)	Himes
Carter (GA)	Duncan (TN)	Holding
Carter (TX)	Edwards	Honda
Cartwright	Ellison	Hoyer
Castor (FL)	Ellmers (NC)	Hudson
Castro (TX)	Emmer (MN)	Huelskamp
Chabot	Esty	Huffman
Chaffetz	Farenthold	Huizenga (MI)
Chu, Judy	Farr	Hultgren
Cicilline	Fattah	Hunter
Clark (MA)	Fincher	Hurd (TX)
Clarke (NY)	Fitzpatrick	Hurt (VA)
Clawson (FL)	Fleischmann	Israel

Issa	Meng	Sarbanes
Jackson Lee	Messer	Scalise
Jeffries	Mica	Shakowsky
Jenkins (KS)	Miller (FL)	Schiff
Jenkins (WV)	Miller (MI)	Schrader
Johnson (GA)	Moolenaar	Schweikert
Johnson (OH)	Mooney (WV)	Scott (VA)
Johnson, E. B.	Moore	Scott, Austin
Johnson, Sam	Moulton	Scott, David
Jolly	Mullin	Sensenbrenner
Jones	Mulvaney	Serrano
Jordan	Murphy (FL)	Sessions
Joyce	Murphy (PA)	Sewell (AL)
Kaptur	Nadler	Sherman
Katko	Napolitano	Shimkus
Keating	Neal	Shuster
Kelly (IL)	Neugebauer	Sinema
Kelly (MS)	Newhouse	Sires
Kelly (PA)	Noem	Smith (MO)
Kennedy	Nolan	Smith (NE)
Kildee	Norcross	Smith (NJ)
Kilmer	Nugent	Smith (WA)
King (IA)	Nunes	Speier
King (NY)	O'Rourke	Stefanik
Kinzing (IL)	Olson	Stewart
Kirkpatrick	Palazzo	Stivers
Kline	Pallone	Swalwell (CA)
Knight	Palmer	Takai
Kuster	Pascarell	Takano
Labrador	Paulsen	Thompson (CA)
LaMalfa	Payne	Thompson (MS)
Lamborn	Pearce	Thompson (PA)
Lance	Pelosi	Thornberry
Langevin	Perlmutter	Tiberi
Larsen (WA)	Perry	Tipton
Larson (CT)	Peters	Titus
Latta	Peterson	Tonko
Lawrence	Pingree	Torres
Lee	Pittenger	Trott
Levin	Pitts	Tsongas
Lewis	Pocan	Turner
Lieu, Ted	Poe (TX)	Upton
Lipinski	Poliquin	Valadao
LoBiondo	Polis	Van Hollen
Loeb	Pompeo	Vargas
Lofgren	Posey	Veasey
Long	Price (NC)	Vela
Loudermilk	Price, Tom	Velázquez
Love	Quigley	Visclosky
Lowenthal	Rangel	Wagner
Lowe	Ratcliffe	Walberg
Lucas	Reed	Walden
Luetkemeyer	Reichert	Walker
Lujan Grisham	Renacci	Walorski
(NM)	Ribble	Walters, Mimi
Luján, Ben Ray	Rice (NY)	Walz
(NM)	Rice (SC)	Wasserman
Lummis	Rigell	Schultz
Lynch	Roby	Waters, Maxine
MacArthur	Roe (TN)	Watson Coleman
Maloney, Sean	Rogers (AL)	Weber (TX)
Carolyn	Rogers (KY)	Webster (FL)
Maloney, Sean	Rokita	Welch
Marino	Rooney (FL)	Wenstrup
Massie	Ros-Lehtinen	Westerman
Matsui	Roskam	Whitfield
McCarthy	Ross	Williams
McCauley	Rothfus	Wilson (FL)
McClintock	Rouzer	Wilson (SC)
McCollum	Roybal-Allard	Wittman
McDermott	Royce	Womack
McGovern	Ruiz	Woodall
McHenry	Ruppersberger	Yarmuth
McKinley	Russell	Yoder
McMorris	Ryan (OH)	Yoho
Rodgers	Ryan (WI)	Young (AK)
McNerney	Salmon	Young (IA)
McSally	Sánchez, Linda	Zeldin
Meadows	T.	Zinke
Meehan	Sanchez, Loretta	
Meeks	Sanford	

NAYS—1

Amash

NOT VOTING—22

Grijalva	Simpson
Gutiérrez	Slaughter
Hinojosa	Smith (TX)
Kind	Stutzman
Marchant	Westmoreland
Richmond	Young (IN)
Rohrabacher	
Rush	