

Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of legislation I introduced with my colleague from New Mexico, STEVE PEARCE. H.R. 6411, the FinCEN Improvement Act, is a straightforward bill which will modernize the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, otherwise known as FinCEN.

The mission of FinCEN is to safeguard the financial system from crimes or illicit use, combat money laundering, and promote national security through the collection, analysis, and dissemination of financial information and intelligence.

In order to accomplish its mission, FinCEN needs to partner with all available law enforcement agencies to gather and share data needed to safeguard the financial system from the abuses of financial crime, including terrorist financing. This legislation builds upon the existing relationships with partners in foreign, Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials by ensuring FinCEN has the authority to work with Tribal law enforcement across the country.

Additionally, FinCEN's current authorizing statute is limited to combating international terrorism, which leaves out domestic terrorist activities, which is just as important to protecting our neighborhoods and communities. This legislation fixes that oversight.

Lastly, this legislation ensures FinCEN is focusing on emerging methods of financing illicit activity, including cryptocurrencies. As the ranking Democrat on the Terrorism and Illicit Finance Subcommittee, along with Chairman PEARCE, we have held numerous hearings and meetings discussing these new technologies. While they often have tremendous benefit to consumers in connecting the world, the reality is bad actors can benefit from this new technology by shielding their identities or the identities of those they work with. We need to work to understand this potential threat and find new ways to combat it.

This bipartisan piece of legislation is an important step in modernizing FinCEN to ensure our law enforcement and intelligence communities work together to detect and stop criminals and terrorist networks. I want to thank my colleague, Mr. ROTHFUS, and certainly subcommittee Chairman STEVE PEARCE for working with me on this legislation. I would also like to thank the chairman and ranking member of the full committee for their support, and lastly, I thank Katy Strohmaier on the Democratic staff for working with my office to help us draft this legislation.

With that, I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation. I urge an "aye" vote on H.R. 6411, the FinCEN Improvement Act.

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my colleague, Mr. PERLMUTTER, for his diligent work on this very practical, bipartisan bill. I urge my colleagues to support its adoption.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6411.

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

LITTLE SHELL TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS RESTORATION ACT OF 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3764) to extend the Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3764

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 "Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MEMBER.—The term "member" means an individual who is enrolled in the Tribe pursuant to section 6.

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

(3) TRIBE.—The term "Tribe" means the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana.

SEC. 3. FEDERAL RECOGNITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Federal recognition is extended to the Tribe.

(b) EFFECT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, all Federal laws (including regulations) of general application to Indians and Indian tribes, including the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) (commonly known as the "Indian Reorganization Act"), shall apply to the Tribe and members.

SEC. 4. FEDERAL SERVICES AND BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Tribe and each member shall be eligible for all services and benefits provided by the United States to Indians and federally recognized Indian tribes, without regard to—

(1) the existence of a reservation for the Tribe; or

(2) the location of the residence of any member on or near an Indian reservation.

(b) SERVICE AREA.—For purposes of the delivery of services and benefits to members, the service area of the Tribe shall be considered to be the area comprised of Blaine, Cascade, Glacier, and Hill Counties in the State of Montana.

SEC. 5. REAFFIRMATION OF RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act diminishes any right or privilege of the Tribe or any member that existed before the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CLAIMS OF TRIBE.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, nothing in this Act alters or affects any legal or equitable claim of the Tribe to enforce any right or privilege reserved by, or granted to, the Tribe that was wrongfully denied to, or taken from, the Tribe before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6. MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving recognition, services, and benefits pursuant to this Act, the Tribe shall submit to the Secretary, by not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a membership roll consisting of the name of each individual enrolled as a member of the Tribe.

(b) DETERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—The qualifications for inclusion on the membership roll of the Tribe shall be determined in accordance with sections 1 through 3 of article 5 of the constitution of the Tribe dated September 10, 1977 (including amendments to the constitution).

(c) MAINTENANCE OF ROLL.—The Tribe shall maintain the membership roll under this section.

SEC. 7. ACQUISITION OF LAND.

(a) HOMELAND.—The Secretary shall acquire, for the benefit of the Tribe, trust title to 200 acres of land within the service area of the Tribe to be used for a tribal land base.

(b) ADDITIONAL LAND.—The Secretary may acquire additional land for the benefit of the Tribe pursuant to section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 5108) (commonly known as the "Indian Reorganization Act").

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, H.R. 3764, the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act. As the only Member from Montana in the House of Representatives, I am proud to sponsor a bill which would extend Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana.

With Federal recognition, the Little Shell Tribe and its members would become eligible for all services and benefits provided by the Federal Government to federally recognized Tribes.

The Tribe, as a condition of receiving Federal recognition, services, and benefits, must submit to the Secretary of the Interior a membership roll consisting of the name of each individual member of the Tribe and must maintain such membership roll.

The act directs the Secretary of the Interior to acquire, for the benefit of the Tribe, trust title to 200 acres of land within the Tribe's service area to be used for a Tribal land base.

I appreciate the work of Chairman Gray and the Little Shell people for

continuing this fight for recognition. I urge adoption of the measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, Federal recognition of Native American Tribes is critical to protecting their Tribal sovereignty and restoring the Tribe's ability to control its land, its water, and its resources, as well as the ability to govern and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its members.

Introduced by Representative GIANFORTE, H.R. 3764 will extend Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana. The Little Shell Tribe has resided in Montana for well over a century and has long been recognized as a Tribe by the State.

The Tribe is a political successor to the signatories of the Pembina Treaty of 1863, under which a large area of land in the State of North Dakota was ceded to the United States. While the Federal Government has federally recognized the two other Tribes that are successors to the signatories of the treaty, the Little Shell have inexplicably been left in limbo.

The Tribe has repeatedly petitioned the Federal Government for Federal recognition—first in the 1930s and '40s under the Indian Reorganization Act, and later, starting in 1978, through the Department of Interior's so-called Part 83 process. However, despite their long and well-documented history, each time they were deprived of their rightful Federal recognition.

H.R. 3764 finally extends recognition to the Little Shell Tribe, making all Federal laws and regulations of general applicability to Indians and Indian Tribes applicable as well to Little Shell and its members.

Federal recognition of the Tribe enjoys broad support in Montana, including support from the Governor's office, the Montana State legislature, the surrounding counties and cities, and from all the other federally recognized Montana tribes. Recognition for the Little Shell is long overdue, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3764, 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.

WALNUT GROVE LAND EXCHANGE ACT

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 5923) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain public lands in Ouachita National Forest, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5923

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 "Walnut Grove Land Exchange Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **CHURCH.**—The term "Church" means the Walnut Grove Church in Garland County, Arkansas.

(2) **OFFERED TRACT.**—The term "Offered Tract" means all right, title, and interest of the Church in and to approximately 6.3 acres of non-Federal land identified as "Offered Tract 5742" on the Detail Map of the Walnut Grove Exchange, Ouachita National Forest map (printed date May 11, 2017).

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

(4) **SELECTED TRACT.**—The term "Selected Tract" means all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to approximately 4 acres identified as "Selected Tract 5743" on the Detail Map of the Walnut Grove Exchange, Ouachita National Forest map (printed date May 11, 2017), subject to the reservation of a road easement by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. EXCHANGE OF LAND; EQUALIZATION OF VALUE.

(a) **EXCHANGE AUTHORIZED.**—Subject to the provisions of this Act, not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, if the Church offers to convey the Offered Tract to the United States, the Secretary shall—

(1) convey to the Church all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Selected Tract; and

(2) accept from the Church a conveyance of all right, title, and interest of the Church in and to the Offered Tract.

(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The exchange under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) subject to valid existing rights;

(2) conditioned on an equalization payment made by the Church in accordance with subsection (c); and

(3) conditioned on the payment of the costs described in subsection (g).

(c) **EQUAL VALUE AND CASH EQUALIZATION.**—(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the exchange under subsection (a) shall be for equal value or the values shall be equalized by a cash payment.

(2) **EXCEPTION.**—If the value of the Offered Tract exceeds the Selected Tract, an equalization payment shall not be required.

(d) **APPRAISALS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The value of the land to be exchanged under this Act shall be determined by appraisals conducted by one or more independent and qualified appraisers.

(2) **APPRAISAL STANDARDS.**—The Secretary shall complete an appraisal of the land to be exchanged under this Act in accordance with—

(A) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions; and

(B) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(e) **FORMAT.**—Title and valuation to the land to be exchanged under this Act shall be in a format acceptable to the Secretary and the Church.

(f) **MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall finalize a map and legal descriptions of all land to be conveyed under this Act.

(2) **CORRECTIONS.**—The Secretary may correct any minor errors in the map or in the legal descriptions.

(3) **MAP ON FILE.**—The map and legal descriptions shall be on file and available for public inspection in appropriate offices of the United States Forest Service.

(g) **COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.**—As a condition of conveyance, any costs related to the conveyance under this section shall be paid by the Church.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, for over 20 years, the Walnut Grove Community Church in Jessieville, Arkansas, has sought to gain title to the 4 acres of land on which their church and historic cemetery are located. They have offered 6 acres of land within the Ouachita National Forest to the U.S. Forest Service in exchange. The cemetery and congregation both predate the Forest Service.

Since 1938, the church has operated under special-use permits and has had to renew its permit annually since 2002. This situation has left the congregation uncertain about their future on the land they have worshipped on for decades.

Furthermore, like any structure built 80 years ago, the church requires maintenance. Unfortunately, its operation under a permit limits the congregation's ability to maintain and improve their church building.

Congressman WESTERMAN has introduced a commonsense land exchange that will greatly benefit the community of Jessieville at no cost to the American taxpayer. He should be commended for his work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes a long overdue land exchange between the Forest Service and the Walnut Grove Church in Garland County, Arkansas. The church was built on Forest Service land, and the exchange will simplify ownership claims and facilitate access and improvements to the property.

The land exchange authorized by this bill includes commonsense safeguards that ensure fair compensation for the value of public lands, and I am happy to support its adoption and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."