

The PROGRESS for Indian Tribes Act would largely reconcile these differences, streamline the self-governance process, improve efficiencies, and strengthen reservation economies.

Passage of the PROGRESS Act is a top legislative priority for self-governance Tribes and is supported by the National Congress of American Indians, United South and Eastern Tribes, the Alaska Federation of Natives, the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, and many more Indian Tribes. The administration and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are also on record in support of this legislation.

This legislation is a product of over a decade of bipartisan negotiations, which is why S. 209 passed the Republican-controlled Senate on a voice vote. If bipartisan consensus was so easily found in the Senate in this Congress, then it should be clear that this is a commonsense bill that both sides of the aisle can support as well.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to be the sponsor of the House version of the legislation, H.R. 2031, along with my dear colleagues, Representatives TOM COLE of Oklahoma and DON YOUNG of Alaska and others. I hope that you will join me in passing S. 209 and sending it to the President's desk.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this is a very important bill. Unfortunately, the way that it is currently written raises some significant concerns.

As the Representative of Tribal communities in Wyoming, I share very much the notion and the concept of helping to increase self-determination, but I believe that this bill, as it is currently written, unfortunately, leaves unresolved some major issues with respect to, in particular, Bureau of Reclamation water projects that could affect both Tribal as well as non-Tribal interests.

In our Western States where water is a scarce and precious commodity, water management interests must be carefully balanced, and I am concerned that S. 209 does not strike that balance.

Over the last several Congresses, House Republicans have offered solutions to the reclamation projects issues without the need for courts to step in to sort this out. Unfortunately, this effort was most recently defeated on a party-line vote with little discussion from the Democrat majority.

Unfortunately, we still are, today, faced with a situation where we have got a worthy goal that this legislation is attempting to achieve, but it doesn't quite get there.

Given these unresolved concerns, I must urge rejection of the measure as written and ask for a "no" vote.

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

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As I stated before, this legislation is a result of over a decade of bipartisan, bicameral negotiations.

Since self-governance was first enacted in 1994, there have been no assumptions by Tribes of Bureau of Reclamation projects—none. Under the 1994 law, the conditions, requirements, and limitations mitigating against any such Tribal assumption of a Bureau of Reclamation project have resulted in no such assumptions.

S. 209 does not change the 1994 authority in this regard. This is why the gentlewoman's concerns are completely unfounded and why we defeated an amendment on this in committee in the first place.

More so, S. 209 already contains a lengthy disclaimer specifically stating that it does not affect, in any way, the ability of Tribes to take over programs or projects of Interior agencies other than the BIA.

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Unless I'm not privy to yet another department reorganization, the Bureau of Reclamation is not part of the BIA.

This bipartisan bill is critical to the furtherance of self-governance and improvements in Tribal communities. I strongly urge my colleagues to do the right thing and support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, versions of this bipartisan bill have lain before this House and the Senate for nearly 2 decades, passing each body several times. It is time to finally push this legislation across the finish line so that Tribes can finally move to effectively-managed programs for their people.

I urge my colleagues to show their support for Tribal self-governance and Tribal sovereignty by passing S. 209, the PROGRESS for Indian Tribes Act.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 209.

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.

BLACKWATER TRADING POST LAND TRANSFER ACT

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3160) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3160

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 "Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) BLACKWATER TRADING POST LAND.—The term "Blackwater Trading Post Land" means the approximately 55.3 acres of land as depicted on the map that—

(A) is located in Pinal County, Arizona, and bordered by Community land to the east, west, and north and State Highway 87 to the south; and

(B) is owned by the Community.

(2) COMMUNITY.—The term "Community" means the Gila River Indian Community of the Reservation.

(3) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Results of Survey, Ellis Property, A Portion of the West ½ of Section 12, Township 5 South, Range 7 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian, Pinal County, Arizona" and dated October 15, 2012.

(4) RESERVATION.—The term "Reservation" means the land located within the exterior boundaries of the reservation created under sections 3 and 4 of the Act of February 28, 1859 (11 Stat. 401, chapter LXVI), and Executive orders of August 31, 1876, June 14, 1879, May 5, 1882, November 15, 1883, July 31, 1911, June 2, 1913, August 27, 1914, and July 19, 1915, and any other lands placed in trust for the benefit of the Community.

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

SEC. 3. LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST FOR BENEFIT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall take the Blackwater Trading Post land into trust for the benefit of the Community, after the Community—

(1) conveys to the Secretary all right, title, and interest of the Community in and to the Blackwater Trading Post Land;

(2) submits to the Secretary a request to take the Blackwater Trading Post Land into trust for the benefit of the Community;

(3) conducts a survey (to the satisfaction of the Secretary) to determine the exact acreage and legal description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land, if the Secretary determines a survey is necessary; and

(4) pays all costs of any survey conducted under paragraph (3).

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—Not later than 180 days after the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into trust under subsection (a), the map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Secretary.

(c) LANDS TAKEN INTO TRUST PART OF RESERVATION.—After the date on which the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into trust under subsection (a), the land shall be treated as part of the Reservation.

(d) GAMING.—Class II and class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) shall not be allowed at any time on the land taken into trust under subsection (a).

(e) DESCRIPTION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall cause the full metes-and-bounds description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land to be published in the Federal Register. The description shall, on publication, constitute the official description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HAALAND. Madam 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 measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3160, introduced by our colleague, Representative TOM O'HALLERAN of Arizona, authorizes the United States to place 55.3 acres of historically and culturally significant land into trust on behalf of the Gila River Indian Community of Arizona.

This parcel of land is commonly referred to as the Blackwater Trading Post Land, because it once contained the Ellis family's Blackwater Trading Post, which sold goods to members of the Gila River Indian Community since the 1930s.

After purchasing the trading post in 2010, the community found around 1,000 cultural artifacts on the property, including 126 Akimel O'odham baskets. Following this discovery, the community decided to apply to take the parcel of land into trust.

However, legislation is required for this exchange, as the community's 2004 water rights settlement explicitly requires that any lands located outside of the community's existing reservation boundaries be taken into trust through Congressional action.

Passage of H.R. 3160 will ultimately allow the community to preserve a piece of their heritage by incorporating this contiguous parcel of land into its reservation land base.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Representative O'HALLERAN for his work on this legislation, and urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3160, the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act. This bill would place, as my colleague said, approximately 55 acres of land in Arizona into trust for the Gila River Indian Community.

These lands and the former Blackwater Trading Post have a historic connection to the Tribe, as the trading post served many Tribal members since at least the 1930s.

In 2010, the Tribe purchased the Blackwater Trading Post and surrounding lands after the former owners retired.

Under the 2004 Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act, the Tribe cannot acquire off-reservation lands into trust absent an act of Congress. Therefore, we need to pass this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3160.

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.

REPUBLIC OF TEXAS LEGATION MEMORIAL ACT

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3349) to authorize the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3349

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Daughters of the Republic of Texas may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate and honor those who, as representatives of the Republic of Texas, served in the District of Columbia as diplomats to the United States and made possible the annexation of Texas as the twenty-eighth State of the United States.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Commemorative Works Act").

(c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.—The Daughters of the Republic of Texas shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the memorial (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

(2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of

title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas shall transmit the balance to a separate account with the National Park Foundation for memorials, to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator (as appropriate) following the process provided in section 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for accounts established under section 8906(b)(2) or (3) of title 40, United States Code.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) and the gentleman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HAALAND. Madam 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 measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3349, the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial Act, introduced by Representative LLOYD DOGGETT.

This bill would authorize the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish a commemorative work to honor the representatives of the Republic of Texas who served here in the District of Columbia as diplomats to the United States.

Shortly after Texas declared its independence from Mexico in 1836, the Republic of Texas sent diplomats to several countries to represent the Republic's interests. Among other things, these diplomats advocated for protection from Mexico, financial assistance, and annexation by the United States.

London and Paris have each erected commemorative works to recognize the role their Texas legations played in their countries, and it seems only fitting to install one here in the capital of the country proud to claim Texas as its own.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Representative DOGGETT for his efforts to elevate this unique and often untold story of our Nation's history, and urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.