

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I thank once again Mr. VASQUEZ for our ability to work on these issues. We should use this ability for a lot more success going forward on forestry, fire, and keeping these schools funded as we go.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank Mr. NEGUSE of Colorado for working with me on the House version of this bill to get where we got today. I thank Speaker JOHNSON and our leader, Mr. SCALISE, as well, for helping get this shepherded for us today and get past some of our other issues that have taken a while to get through. Let's just not have this happen again in this fashion, as it has taken a while to get here. I am very grateful that we have come together and that everybody has seen the importance of this legislation.

Lastly, I really want to thank the folks in our districts for their patience and good cheer. In New Mexico and my part of northern California, as well, I am thankful for the patience people have shown with us trying to get through this process and for the good cheer, again, they have brought.

Our colleagues from Trinity County and Shasta County, some of them are in the audience here today. I am going to especially point out a couple of Modoc County supervisors who are always in my ear in a good way on this: Supervisor Coe and Supervisor Geri Byrne. I thank them for their consistency and persistence in helping get this over the line.

I am very happy we have gotten here today. With broad bipartisan support, let's do more of this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 356, the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025.

This bill would reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Self-Determination Program (SRS) through Fiscal Year 2026 and provide lapsed payments for 2024 and 2025.

Administered by the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Bureau of Land Management, SRS funding goes to counties to help maintain schools, infrastructure, and other essential community services for many rural counties that contain federal lands exempt from federal property taxes. The SRS program is certainly a critical program for my home state of Idaho. Nearly two-thirds of Idaho is public land, which means a vast majority of rural counties throughout the state depend on this funding. In fact, Idaho ranks third nationally in SRS funding, behind only Oregon and California.

I want to thank my colleagues, especially Representative LAMALFA from California and Representative FULCHER from Idaho, for working diligently to get this bill across the finish line. I am also grateful to Speaker JOHNSON, House Leadership, and my colleagues for supporting this bill.

As a long-time supporter of the SRS program, and a cosponsor of the House bill, I

look forward to seeing this lifeline benefit local communities throughout Idaho.

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act provides critical funding for rural communities.

This measure is of particular importance for my home state of Idaho, as 62 percent of our land is owned by the federal government.

Every year, Idaho loses revenue in timber sales due to wildfires fueled by federal land mismanagement. In fact, in 2024 alone, a staggering one million acres of the Gem State went up in flames.

Rural counties in Idaho are impacted even more so by extensive federal ownership, as they are unable to tax large portions of land in their jurisdiction.

With this funding reauthorization, rural communities across Idaho will be able to keep classrooms open, roads maintained, and emergency services operating. However, a long-term solution is necessary, and I will continue to advocate for one in Congress that ensures Idahoans dictate Idaho affairs—not the federal government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 356.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SHINGLE SPRINGS BAND OF MIWOK INDIANS LAND TRANSFER ACT OF 2025

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2302) to take certain Federal land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2302

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 "Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. REVOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER; LANDS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.

(a) REVOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) Public Land Order 3309 (Sacramento 071209), dated January 17, 1964 (29 Fed. Reg. 609), is revoked; and

(2) jurisdiction over the land described in the public land order referred to in paragraph (1) is transferred to the Secretary.

(b) TRUST TRANSFER.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall place the following land into trust for the benefit of the Tribe:

(1) The approximately 80 acres of land generally depicted as "BLM Land-Proposed Transfer into Trust" on the Map.

(2) The approximately 185 acres of land generally depicted as "Indian Creek Ranch-Proposed Transfer into Trust Land Status" on the Map.

(c) REVIEW; SURVEY.—

(1) REVIEW.—Before the deadline described in subsection (b), the Secretary shall conduct a review of the land described in that subsection to determine if a survey of the land is required.

(2) SURVEY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that a survey is required under paragraph (1) after conducting the review required under that paragraph, the Secretary—

(i) shall perform a survey of the land taken into trust under subsection (b); and

(ii) may make minor corrections to the survey and legal land description of the land described in that subsection as the Secretary determines to be necessary to correct clerical, typographical, and surveying errors.

(B) AVAILABILITY.—A survey conducted under subparagraph (A) shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(d) LANDS PART OF RESERVATION; ADMINISTRATION.—The land taken into trust under subsection (b)—

(1) is hereby declared to be part of the Reservation; and

(2) shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with the laws and regulations generally applicable to property held in trust by the United States for an Indian Tribe.

(e) GAMING PROHIBITED.—Land taken into trust under subsection (b) shall not be used for any class II gaming or class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) (as those terms are defined in section 4 of that Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) MAP.—The term "Map" means the map prepared by the Bureau of Land Management titled "Proposed Bureau of Land Management Land Transfer to Shingle Springs Rancheria" and dated May 2, 2025.

(2) RESERVATION.—The term "Reservation" means the reservation of the Tribe.

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

(4) TRIBE.—The term "Tribe" means the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract), California.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2302, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2302, the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025, introduced by Congressman MCCLINTOCK, would place approximately 80 acres of BLM land and 185 acres of fee land into trust for the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians.

Descendants of the Miwok Indians once lived throughout north central

California, inhabiting land from the Sacramento area to the Sierra Nevada mountains.

The Shingle Springs Band, however, was displaced by the Gold Rush of the 1850s, prompting the Federal Government to refer to the Tribe as the "Sacramento-Verona Band of Homeless Indians." In 1920, the government provided the Tribe a 160-acre parcel of land known as the Verona Tract, which serves as the Tribe's rancheria.

As the years have passed, and without the realignment of Highway 50 in California, the rancheria has become largely landlocked. This has prohibited the Tribe's growth and restricted its housing opportunities.

In 2014, roughly 41 acres of BLM land were placed into trust for the Tribe to assist with Tribal housing needs. Developing the land for housing has proved difficult, however, due to the land's rough terrain.

Recently, the Tribe purchased land near the rancheria known as the Indian Creek Subdivision, which was previously approved for a now-defunct subdivision. The Tribe seeks to place this land into trust and is pursuing this goal legislatively, as their previous attempts to obtain fee-to-trust approval through the Federal administrative process have been mired in bureaucracy.

The other parcels involved in this legislation comprise approximately 80 acres of BLM land that will be transferred into trust for the Tribe. These parcels have suffered from various management issues, which have led the Tribe and other surrounding landowners to raise concerns about increased wildfire risk. Despite lacking ownership, the Tribe has performed needed management functions on this land, a fact that reflects positively on the Tribe's stewardship capabilities and deep-felt concern for the land's overall health.

Currently, the Tribe has no immediate commercial or development plans for these parcels. Pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, gaming on these lands is prohibited.

I applaud Mr. MCCLINTOCK for working with the Tribe to develop H.R. 2302, which would place land into trust for the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians.

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

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

As you heard from Chairman WESTERMAN, H.R. 2302 will help provide the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians the ability to address their housing and infrastructure needs for their citizens.

Like Americans across the country who are struggling to afford housing in the Trump administration's economy, the Tribe is currently facing a housing shortage, with over 180 families listed on the Tribe's housing wait list. Without additional land, the Tribe is unable to build the housing needed to provide these families with homes.

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act will address this challenge by transferring 80 acres currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management and 185 acres of tribally owned fee land into trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

This bill is an important step toward ensuring that the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians has the lands they need, their lands, to meet the current needs of their citizens and to plan for sustainable community growth.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK), the lead sponsor of this bill.

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Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present this bill at the request of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians to transfer 80 acres of BLM land and 185 acres of fee simple land that is already owned by the Tribe into trust as part of their reservation for the purposes of housing.

Mr. Speaker, I have always insisted that any transfer of lands from fee simple ownership to Federal trust must have the approval of the local land use management agency that is responsible for this land, since it takes that land off of the tax rolls and out of the agency's jurisdiction. I am pleased to report that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors has unanimously endorsed this bill effecting the transfer.

This particular tract was approved for residential housing in the past, but the projects never materialized. This land transfer will bring a new neighborhood into the community, providing desperately needed housing to Tribal members. The Tribe already owns this land. It merely seeks the freedom afforded by Federal trust status to bring it to fruition.

The transfer of the 80 acres of Federal BLM land should also be a no-brainer. The BLM long ago abandoned this tract to neglect, and it is now densely overgrown and a serious fire hazard for the surrounding communities.

Putting this land under the active management of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians assures that good stewardship can be restored to this acreage in perpetuity.

The local government did request some restrictions on the use of the land, which the Tribal government has agreed to. The property cannot be used for gaming, nor for commerce beyond what is necessary to support the needs of the new neighborhood.

Frankly, I hope that future boards will agree to expand the permissible use of this land. In the meantime, both the Tribal government and the local government have agreed to these restrictions, and they are incorporated into this act.

Mr. Speaker, I will take just a moment to tell you about the Shingle

Springs Band of Miwok Indians because it is a remarkable tale of resilience, determination, and triumph.

The members of this Tribe are the descendants of the Miwok and Southern Maidu people who populated the Sierra Nevada mountains and the Central Valley of California for many thousands of years. Spanish colonization devastated the Native population in the 18th century, and the 19th century gold rush all but obliterated it. By 1913, the entire Native population of California had plummeted from an estimated 310,000 down to just 17,000.

In the aftermath, the few surviving members of the Miwok Tribe were allocated 160 acres as a rancheria, but the construction of Highway 50 cut the residents off from easy access and the members dispersed into the surrounding communities.

The Indian Reorganization Act breathed new life into the isolated, disbanded descendants, and the members returned and reorganized as the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, the only federally recognized Tribe in El Dorado County. They have achieved remarkable success in the years that have followed.

This small Tribe, numbering an estimated 500 enrolled members, raised the private money to build an off ramp from Highway 50 to restore access to their rancheria. They used the opportunities afforded under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to construct the Red Hawk Casino. From that success, they have expanded into a hospitality and recreation center for the region, providing employment, commerce, healthcare, and all of the spinoff commercial activity that that means to the surrounding community.

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians survived near annihilation during the Spanish colonization and gold rush eras only to become a prosperous and integral part of El Dorado County. I am honored to carry this legislation that will continue their progress and contributions to their posterity and to our community into the years ahead.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman for his work on this important issue and representing his district so well.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will allow the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians to place land into trust in a way that will benefit both the Tribe and the surrounding area.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend

the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2302, 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.

REMOVING RESTRICTIONS FROM A PARCEL OF LAND IN PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1276) to remove restrictions from a parcel of land in Paducah, Kentucky, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1276

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

SECTION 1. REMOVAL OF RESTRICTION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall execute such instruments as may be necessary to remove all deed restrictions from the parcel of land described in subsection (d), subject to the conditions in subsection (c).

(b) *DEED RESTRICTIONS.*—The deed restrictions referred to in subsection (a) are those restrictions, including easements, exceptions, reservations, terms, conditions, and covenants described in the quitclaim deed from the United States to the City of Paducah, Kentucky, executed on April 27, 2012, and recorded by the Clerk of the County Court of McCracken County, Kentucky, on pages 247 through 260 of Deed Book 1229.

(c) *CONDITIONS OF EXTINGUISHMENT.*—In removing the deed restrictions under subsection (a), the Secretary shall include a reservation requiring that—

(1) the City of Paducah, Kentucky, not transfer or sell the parcel of land to any other entity, except the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah;

(2) if the City of Paducah, Kentucky, transfers or sells such parcel to the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah, that the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah offers to convey the parcel of land to the Secretary, without consideration, prior to conveying the property to any other entity; and

(3) any new use or development of the parcel of land continue to be compatible with public use or recreation purposes.

(d) *LAND DESCRIPTION.*—The parcel of land referred to in subsection (a) is the parcel—

(1) comprised of approximately 3.62 acres located at 2956 Park Avenue, on the Paducah Memorial Army Reserve Center, Paducah, McCracken County, Kentucky, including the improvements thereon; and

(2) conveyed by the Secretary to the City of Paducah, Kentucky.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1276, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation offered by my good friend and the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Representative COMER. This legislation would remove Federal deed restrictions from a building and the surrounding parcel of land in Paducah, Kentucky.

For more than six decades, the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah has provided a safe place for young people in McCracken County, Kentucky, to learn, grow, and thrive. The club is a model of community service, offering affordable mentorship, recreation, and educational opportunities to hundreds of children each year.

Today, the club is ready to make long-overdue improvements, including renovating and expanding its building, adding new classrooms, and refurbishing its gymnasium so that it can serve even more children and bolster its educational and recreational programming.

To do so, the Boys & Girls Club is hoping to acquire the current building and surrounding land from the city of Paducah. However, these plans are stalled by an outdated Federal deed restriction put in place by the National Park Service on the land where the Boys & Girls Club currently operates.

H.R. 1276 removes that restriction, which would, in turn, allow the city of Paducah to transfer the parcel directly to the club.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative COMER for working with the Natural Resources Committee to amend this bill during our committee's markup to ensure that this area remains dedicated to public and recreational purposes in perpetuity. This is a commonsense bill that cuts red tape, empowers local leaders, and strengthens a vital community institution. Chairman COMER has played a vital role in leading and representing his community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1276, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, in 2012, the National Park Service conveyed this 3.62-acre parcel of land in Kentucky to the city of Paducah through the Federal Lands to Parks Program.

This program allows States, counties, and local governments to acquire surplus land for public recreational purposes, an incredibly impactful alternative to the Trump administration's public lands selloff scheme.

Although the land was conveyed to the city, the National Park Service still retains a deed restriction. Today, the parcel is utilized, as you heard, by the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club,

which provides programming for youth in the community. The club is a central part of the community but faces challenges in accepting new members and a growing wait list due to the need for renovations and expansion of facilities.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1276 would remove the National Park Service's deed restriction, allowing the city of Paducah to transfer the parcel to the club so that they can move forward with the renovations and improvements needed to increase capacity, expand programming, and better serve youth in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority for working with us in the markup to add language that ensures that this property continues to serve a public purpose by the Boys & Girls Club. This is an important assurance and guarantee.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER), the lead sponsor of the bill.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, H.R. 1276, to remove restrictions from a parcel of land in Paducah, Kentucky.

It is an honor to serve the people of Paducah and McCracken County in Congress. One of their community's most impactful institutions, the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club has been a cornerstone of support and opportunity for local youth for over 60 years.

The club is located on land currently owned by the city of Paducah, which has held the property since 2012. For over 60 years, the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club has been a force for good in Paducah and has had a positive impact on thousands of children who have come through its doors.

Today, the club is facing unprecedented demand. More than 100 children are currently on the waiting list due to space constraints in the existing facility.

Unfortunately, lingering Federal interest in the property dating back to the city's involvement in the Federal Lands to Parks Program decades ago has impeded progress on an exciting renovation project for the local Boys & Girls Club.

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Despite strong local support from the city of Paducah and community members, this Federal restriction has hampered efforts to raise funds and begin the renovation process.

H.R. 1276 is a straightforward, commonsense bill that would lift this outdated restriction and allow the city to fully transfer the land to the Oscar Cross Boys and Girls Club. There is no time to waste in making this commonsense fix to enable this project to move forward.

I was proud to collaborate with the city of Paducah, the National Park