

holiness. O divine presence, remind us constantly of Your nearness, that we would be encouraged to share in Your divine work in the world.

We ask for the strength You offer to us when we pray in Your name.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GRIFFITH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### HONORING THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

(Mr. GRIFFITH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 82nd anniversary of D-Day.

On June 6, 1944, American soldiers raced into the mouth of the Nazi war machine, storming the beaches of Normandy.

For the town of Bedford, Virginia, D-Day is always particularly poignant. Twenty boys from Bedford lost their lives on D-Day. Bedford suffered the highest D-Day death toll per capita of any American community.

We honor and remember our D-Day heroes with the National D-Day Memorial located in Bedford.

This year, the memorial celebrates its 25th anniversary. However, this will be the first D-Day since the passing of memorial advocate Lucille Hoback Boggess.

Ms. Hoback Boggess had two brothers killed on D-Day, and she helped lead efforts to create the memorial with founder Bob Slaughter.

We continue to follow in her footsteps, preserving the legacy of her brothers and the many heroes who served in Normandy and through their heroism cracked the wall of Hitler's fortress Europe.

### FEDERAL WORKER NDAs

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, as I was saying before, what do you do

when people in your administration constantly break the law? Do you clean house of all corruption and self-dealing or increase transparency and accountability?

Well, this administration decided to go the opposite direction and just announced a plan last week to require all Federal workers to sign NDAs.

The new message: If you see something, don't say something, even if that something is against the law.

These NDAs aren't just meant to cover sensitive, internal deliberations or classified information.

They apply to nearly everything going on inside the administration, even the illegal stuff.

This is about silencing whistleblowers.

This is about punishing people who speak out about waste, fraud, and abuse.

This is about putting loyalty to the President above service to our country and the Federal workforce.

If you want to fight waste, fraud, and abuse in government, if you actually want to put our country first, then join me in fighting these Federal worker loyalty NDAs.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KNOTT). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1430

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER) at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

### PERMISSION TO POSTPONE PROCEEDINGS ON THE VOTE ON ADOPTION OF H. CON. RES. 86 UNTIL JUNE 3, 2026

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on the vote by the yeas and nays on the question of adoption of H. Con. Res. 86 may be postponed until the legislative day of June 3, 2026.

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

There was no objection.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

### TRANSFER OF LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE PECHANGA BAND OF INDIANS

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5682) to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Pechanga Band of 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. 5682

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

#### SECTION 1. TRANSFER OF LAND INTO TRUST FOR THE PECHANGA BAND OF INDIANS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to valid existing rights and the conditions described in subsection (c), the covered land is hereby taken into trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

(b) *ADMINISTRATION.*—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) part of the reservation of the Tribe; and

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

(c) *CONDITIONS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall be—

(A) subject to all valid encumbrances, liens, rights-of-way, reciprocal road rights-of-way agreements, licenses, leases, permits, and easements existing on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) maintained as open space; and

(C) used only for—

(i) purposes consistent with the maintenance of the land as open space; and

(ii) the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources on the land.

(2) *CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.*—Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the construction or maintenance of utilities or structures that are—

(A) consistent with the maintenance of the land taken into trust under subsection (a) as open space; and

(B) constructed for the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources on the land.

(3) *PROHIBITION ON GAMING.*—The land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall not be used for any class II gaming or class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (as those terms are defined in section 4 of that Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(d) *RIGHTS AND AGREEMENTS.*—Nothing in this Act shall alter, or require the alteration of, any existing water rights or service agreements.

(e) *MAP ON FILE.*—The Map shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(f) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this Act:

(1) *COVERED LAND.*—The term "covered land" means all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the approximately 860 acres of land in Riverside County, California, administered by the Bureau of Land Management and generally depicted as "Proposed Pechanga Land Conveyance Parcel" on the Map.

(2) *MAP.*—The term "Map" means the map titled "BLM Lands into Trust for the Pechanga Band of Indians", and dated August 21, 2025.

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

(4) *TRIBE.*—The term "Tribe" means the Pechanga Band of Indians.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms.

STANSBURY) 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 to include extraneous material on H.R. 5682, the bill 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.

I rise to support H.R. 5682, introduced by Congressman ISSA, which would place approximately 860 acres of Bureau of Land Management land into trust for the Pechanga Band of Indians.

Located in Temecula, California, the Pechanga Band has a deep desire to protect its ancestral and cultural land. This includes the Pu'eska Mountain, which is central to the Pechanga's creation stories and spiritual life. The Pechanga Band was able to purchase Pu'eska Mountain in 2012 and placed it into trust in 2015.

The 860 acres of BLM-managed land conveyed in this legislation are interspersed within the Pechanga Band's existing holdings, including the Pu'eska Mountain. This unwieldy checkerboard pattern of land ownership has complicated the Pechanga Band's access to and stewardship of its sacred land.

With this transfer, however, the Tribe will consolidate its ownership and will reasonably maintain the land. The legislation requires that the land remain as open space and be used only for cultural and conservation purposes. The bill also includes an explicit prohibition on gaming, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

I want to thank my friend Mr. ISSA for working diligently with the Pechanga Band to develop H.R. 5682, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5682, which will return ancestral homelands in southern California to the Pechanga Band of Indians. The lands that would be returned under this bill are located within the Pu'eska Mountain, a sacred site with cultural, historic, and religious significance to the Tribe.

In the mid-2000s, the Tribe fought tirelessly to protect these lands from destructive mining that would have destroyed the mountain. They ultimately purchased and took into trust much of these lands.

In addition to the Tribe, the Bureau of Land Management holds several parcels on the mountain, including approximately 1,261 acres adjacent to the Tribe's trust land.

H.R. 5682 will take these lands into trust for the benefit of the Tribe, consolidating most of the mountain into

Tribal trust land and allowing the Tribe to steward their ancestral lands.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. ISSA. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the first or the second time the Pechanga have reached out to expand these historic and ancestral lands and to preserve them. We have a long track history now of the Pechanga Indians taking into trust and improving the lands that they have purchased or that are transferred.

Previously, the Bureau of Land Management came to us and said: We have land we cannot afford to maintain. It has no value. It is a mountainside. Is there any interest in it by the Native American Tribes in the area? We were pleasantly surprised to discover that, yes, there was. And, in fact, they had for years been clandestinely trying to do what they could to preserve the land.

As many people know, California's Native Americans were landless for many years, displaced by the Spaniards, taken away, and not until Ulysses S. Grant did they begin returning to their ancestral homes.

As a result, there are massive amounts of their historic lands that either lie in private hands or public hands.

Pechanga has bought at its own expense private lands, in this case public lands which are not able to be maintained properly and which would have a cost to the Federal Government. These lands will be taken over and maintained by the Pechanga Band of Native American Indians. That means that the Federal Government saves money through this transfer.

More importantly, their stewardship has, in fact, been good for the surrounding area. As many people know, fires rage in southern California on a regular basis. Land that is not properly maintained, especially with low-lying, highly flammable shrubbery, burns quickly and spreads to surrounding areas. Under the Pechanga stewardship, that will be partially abated and, in fact, managed.

Lastly, Pechanga at its own expense has built a large fire department, one that maintains these lands as well or better than the surrounding communities. That means for Temecula, Riverside County, and other areas, again, this is a savings at the expense of the Tribe. They do this because of the importance of the land to their people.

For that reason, I ask that this be moved forward positively on behalf of the Federal Government's benefit and the benefit of our Native Americans.

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

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, again, the Pechanga Band of Indians have worked to consolidate their ancestral and cultural land for years. The conveyance authorized by this legislation will unwind much of the checkerboard pattern that has prevented the Pechanga Band from readily accessing its lands, including its most sacred site, the Pu'eska Mountain.

I thank Mr. ISSA for his work on this straightforward but important legislation. I support H.R. 5682, 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. 5682, 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.

□ 1440

UNRECOGNIZED SOUTHEAST ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES RECOGNITION AND COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 41) to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 41

*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 "Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act".*

**SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

*The purpose of this Act is to redress the omission of the southeastern Alaska communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell from eligibility under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) by authorizing the Alaska Natives enrolled in the communities—*

*(1) to form Urban Corporations for the communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.); and*

*(2) to receive certain settlement land pursuant to that Act.*

**SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL NATIVE CORPORATIONS.**

*Section 16 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1615) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*"(e) NATIVE VILLAGES OF HAINES, KETCHIKAN, PETERSBURG, TENAKEE, AND WRANGELL, ALASKA.—*

*"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Native residents of each of the Native Villages of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee, and Wrangell, Alaska, may organize as Urban Corporations.*