H.R. 3620

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have come to the floor this afternoon to seek unanimous consent to pass a bill. This is called the Southcentral Foundation Land Transfer Act.

I know that oftentimes, Members come the floor and say: Oh, it is not controversial at all.

Let me tell you, this one is pretty straightforward, and it is truly a noncontroversial provision.

Senator SULLIVAN and I have introduced this in the Senate. Congressman BEGICH is leading the companion legislation in the House. We are seeking to send this bill to the President's desk before recess because it has become time-sensitive.

It is pretty simple. It would convey approximately 3.5 acres—3.5 acres—of Federal land in Anchorage. This is land that is currently owned by the Indian Health Service, and it would be conveyed from IHS to the Southcentral Foundation.

The Southcentral Foundation is an Alaskan Native Tribal health organization that provides healthcare services to IHS beneficiaries under a self-governance compact. The Southcentral Foundation has built something pretty special on this property. They call it the Quyana Clubhouse. This is where Alaska Native people can find support, find connection and a path forward when they are dealing with mental health challenges.

The program serves adults that are over 21 who are experiencing severe and persistent mental health issues through case management, therapy sessions, health education, tobacco cessation, life skills training—all while integrating Alaska Native culture.

Given its success, Southcentral Foundation plans to expand the building as well as the services they provide as they work to support intensive levels of outpatient programming. Right now, Southcentral Foundation is providing these services in one of the oldest buildings in the IHS inventory in Alaska. They were really never intended to provide this kind of patient care. In fact, one of the rooms that is now still being used was once a morgue. So it has been around for a while.

As I noted, we are here because this straightforward land transfer has become time-sensitive. Without ownership of the parcel, Southcentral Foundation cannot finance and construct capital improvements and permanent facilities and, in turn, do more to address mental health in Alaska. So this legislation will give Southcentral Foundation the certainty it needs to keep investing in places like Quyana and continue providing these services for the long term.

This is a House-passed bill. It can go directly to the President and be signed into law. I would hope that we would agree to do that today because there are no substantive objections to it. Both the House and Senate have had hearings on their prospective versions. Both have been marked up and reported favorably by unanimous consent on the Committee on Indian Affairs.

So, really, there is no reason to hold the bill up. We can add to our record of bipartisan legislating at scale. We can address an issue that is important to Alaska Native health and uphold the Federal trust responsibility by passing the Southcentral Foundation Land Transfer Act.

THE CALENDAR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc: Calendar No. 535, H.R. 3620, the Southcentral Foundation Land Transfer Act of 2025; Calendar No. 459, S. 3383; and Calendar No. 682, S. 3219.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that amendments, where applicable, be agreed to; that the bills, as amended, if amended, be considered read a third time and passed en bloc; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bills considered and passed en bloc are as follows:

SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION LAND TRANSFER ACT OF 2025

The bill (H.R. 3620) to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southcentral Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska, and for other purposes, was ordered to a third read, was read the third time, and passed.

UNLOCKING NATIVE LANDS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMERCE AND KEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS ACT OF 2025

The bill (S. 3383) to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

The amendment (No. 6839), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to, as follows:

SA 6839. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3383, to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF TRIBAL LEASES AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS INDIAN LAND.

(a) LEASES OF TRUST OR RESTRICTED LANDS.—The first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415) (commonly known as the ''Long-Term Leasing Act''), is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the second sentence, by inserting '', land held in trust for any other Indian tribe included on the most recent list published by the Secretary pursuant to section 104(a) of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131(a))'' after ''Chehalis Reservation'';

(2) by striking ''That (a) any'' and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. LEASES OF TRUST OR RESTRICTED LANDS.

''(a) AUTHORIZED PURPOSES; TERM; APPROVAL BY SECRETARY.—Any''; and

(3) in subsection (h)(1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''and the term of the lease does not exceed—'' and inserting a period; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 2 of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415a) (commonly known as the ''Long-Term Leasing Act''), is amended by inserting ''of the Interior'' after ''Secretary'' each place it appears.

(c) MODIFICATIONS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS INDIAN LAND.—The Act of February 5, 1948 (62 Stat. 17, chapter 45), is amended—

(1) in the first section (62 Stat. 17, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 323), by striking ''That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, empowered to'' and inserting the following:

''SECTION 1. RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR ALL PURPOSES ACROSS INDIAN LAND.

''(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The Secretary of the Interior may'';

(2) in section 2 (62 Stat. 18, chapter 45; 25 U.S.C. 324), by striking ''organized under the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended; the Act of May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250); or the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967),''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 8. TRIBAL GRANTS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

''(a) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an Indian tribe may grant a right-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe for any purpose.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—A right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) shall not require the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or a grant by the Secretary of the Interior under the section 1 if the right-of-way granted under paragraph (1) is executed in accordance with a Tribal regulation approved by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (b).

''(b) REVIEW OF TRIBAL REGULATIONS.—

''(1) TRIBAL REGULATION SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL.—

''(A) SUBMISSION.—An Indian tribe seeking to grant a right-of-way under subsection (a) shall submit for approval a Tribal regulation governing the granting of rights-of-way over and across the Tribal land of the Indian tribe.

''(B) APPROVAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority to approve or disapprove any Tribal regulation submitted under subparagraph (A).

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS FOR APPROVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall approve a Tribal regulation submitted under paragraph (1)(A), if the Tribal regulation—