
CERA/CERF SUPPORTS THESE BILLS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (H.R.)

H.R.3752

Title: To provide that the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act shall not apply to an Indian tribe or to Indian lands of an Indian tribe until that Indian tribe has been federally recognized for a period of not less than 25 continuous years.

Sponsor: Rep Campbell, John [CA-48] (introduced 10/4/2007) **Cosponsors:** Boucher, Lofgren, Delahunt, Wolf (**Latest Major Action:** 10/4/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.2562

Title: To amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to limit casino expansion.

Sponsor: Rep Dent, Charles W. [PA-15] (introduced 6/5/2007) **Cosponsors** Rep. Robert Aderholt (AL) Limitation of Tribal Gambling to Existing Tribal Lands Act of 2007 - Amends the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to limit the Indian land eligible for gaming.

Revises the prohibition against gaming on lands acquired by the Secretary of the Interior in trust for the benefit of an Indian tribe after October 17, 1988, by repealing the exception to such prohibition for lands taken into trust as part of: (1) a settlement of a land claim; (2) the initial reservation of an Indian tribe acknowledged by the Secretary under the federal acknowledgment process; or (3) the restoration of lands for an Indian tribe that is restored to federal recognition.

Requires joint approval by the legislature of a state as well as by its governor of gaming on other lands otherwise excepted from the prohibition when the Secretary determines that a gaming establishment on newly acquired lands would be in the best interest of the Indian tribe and its members, and would not be detrimental to the surrounding community. Latest Major Action: 6/5/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.1555

Title: To impose a two year moratorium on the approval by the Secretary of the Interior of new Tribal-State compacts for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Sponsor: Rep Rogers, Mike J. [MI-8] (introduced 3/15/2007) **Cosponsorst** Aderholt, Ehlers ,Wolf **Latest Major Action:** 3/15/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.3787

Title: To require that the Secretary of the Interior hold at least one public hearing in the surrounding community where land requested to be taken into trust for an Indian tribe is located in order to ascertain the needs and interests of that surrounding community.

Sponsor: Rep McHugh, John M. [NY-23] (introduced 10/9/2007) **Cosponsors** Arcuri
Latest Major Action: 10/9/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.4462

Title: To authorize the award of a congressional gold medal on behalf of the Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th Century in *recognition of their heroic and dramatic contributions to the Nation, and for other purposes.*

Sponsor: Rep Granger, Kay [TX-12] (introduced 12/12/2007) **Cosponsors** Bordallo, Carter, Norton, Holmes Enzi ,Taylor, Young, Boswell, Farr, Kind, Peterson, Heath ,Shuler, Wolf (VA) **Latest Major Action:** 12/12/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

H.R.1654

Title: To amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to require that the Secretary of the Interior determine that a gaming establishment on certain newly acquired Indian lands would be in the best interests of certain *Indian tribes and not detrimental to the surrounding community* before such lands would be eligible for certain exceptions to the general prohibition on gaming on such lands. **Sponsor:** Rep Lungren, Daniel E. [CA-3] (introduced 3/22/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 3/22/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

SENATE: (S)

S.1347

Title: A bill to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land.

Sponsor: Sen Feinstein, Dianne [CA] (introduced 5/9/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 11/6/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. **Senate Reports:** 110-208

S.90

Title: A bill to modify the application of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to Indian tribes. Unincorporated tribes will be treated as corporations.

Sponsor: Sen Vitter, David [LA] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Latest Major Action: 1/4/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

S.2676 Title: A bill to make technical corrections to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and for other purposes. (109th Congress-S 1260). reintroduced 2/28/2008.

Sponsor: Sen Vitter, David [LA] (introduced 6/16/2005) co-sponsors, DeWine, Voinovich .**Latest Major Action:**2/28/08. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

SUMMARY AS OF:

2/28/08--Introduced.

Common Sense Indian Gambling Reform Act - Amends the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act with respect to: (1) consultation with state, local, and tribal governments; (2) tribal gaming ordinances; (3) investigation and approval of the involvement in a gaming activity; and (4) changing use of Indian land. Must concur with communities, Governor, legislatures, Indian tribes within a 60 mile radius. Gives more input from locals. Land into trust must be the last recognized reservation of said Indian tribe and 50% of the Indians must live there now. Tribe must indicate that are going to build a class II facility on said land.

(B) DETERMINATION- For purposes of subparagraph (A), a geographic, social, and historical nexus to land of an Indian tribe shall exist with respect to land that is--

(i)(I) owned by, or held in trust by the United States for the benefit of, an Indian tribe;

(II) located within the boundaries of--

(aa) the geographical area, as designated by the Secretary, in which financial assistance and social service programs are provided to the Indian tribe, including land on or contiguous to a reservation;

or

(bb) the geographical area designated by the Indian tribe during the Federal acknowledgment process of the Indian tribe as the area in which more than 50 percent of the members of the Indian tribe reside in a group composed exclusively or almost exclusively of members of the Indian tribe; and

(GPO on this bill not available yet, making assumption that it is the same as the 05 bill.)

CERA OPPOSES 2008:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H.R.2837

Title: To provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups, and for other purposes. Sets forth procedures for an Indian group to submit letters of intent and a petition to the Commission requesting federal recognition as an Indian tribe (effectively transferring the federal recognition process from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Commission).

Sponsor: Rep Faleomavaega, Eni F.H. [AS] (introduced 6/22/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 10/3/2007 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee Hearings Held.

SUMMARY AS OF:

6/22/2007--Introduced.

Indian Tribal Federal Recognition Administrative Procedures Act - Establishes the Commission on Indian Recognition. Sets forth procedures for an Indian group to submit letters of intent and a petition to the Commission requesting federal recognition as an Indian tribe (effectively transferring the federal recognition process from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Commission).

Specifies the requirements of a petition for recognition.

Requires the Commission upon receiving a petition to: (1) send acknowledgment of receipt in writing to the petitioner; and (2) conduct a review to determine whether the petitioner is entitled to be recognized as an Indian tribe.

Authorizes the petitioner to seek judicial review of a final determination with respect to a petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Makes an Indian tribe upon recognition by the Commission: (1) eligible for services and benefits from the federal government that are available to other federally recognized Indian tribes by virtue of their status as Indian tribes with a government-to-government relationship with the United States; and (2) have responsibilities, obligations, privileges, and immunities of those Indian tribes.

Authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to award grants to Indian groups seeking federal recognition as Indian tribes to enable them to conduct research to substantiate, and prepare documentation necessary for submission of, documented petitions under this Act.

H.R.1294

Title: To extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe. **Sponsor:** Rep Moran, (introduced 3/1/2007) Cosponsors: Adelholdt, Kildee, Rahall, Scott, Davis Grijalva, Frank, Pallone, Renzi,

H.R.106

Title: To extend Federal recognition to the Rappahannock Tribe, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Davis, (introduced 1/4/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 1/4/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

S.1058 : A bill to expedite review of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians of Michigan to secure a timely and just determination of whether the Bands are entitled to recognition as a Federal Indian tribe so that the Bands may receive eligible funds before the funds are no longer available.

Sponsor: Sen Levin, Carl [MI] (introduced 3/29/2007) Cosponsor-Stabenow

Committees: Senate Indian Affairs **Latest Major Action:** 3/29/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R.1301-S.724

Title: To extend the Federal relationship to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana as a distinct federally recognized Indian tribe, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Rep Rehberg, (introduced 3/1/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 3/1/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources

H.R.949

Title: To extend Federal recognition to the Duwamish Tribe, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep McDermott, Jim [WA-] (introduced 2/8/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 2/8/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.3069

Title: To reaffirm and clarify the Federal relationship of the Dunlap Band of Mono Indians as a distinct federally recognized Indian Tribe. **Sponsor:** Rep Nunes, Devin(introduced 7/17/2007) **Cosponsors:**Costa. **Latest Major Action:** 7/17/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.3788

Title: To ensure that no Federal law shall prevent the Tuscarora Nation of Indians of the Carolinas from seeking Federal recognition as an Indian tribe, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Myreck, (introduced 10/9/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 10/9/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.2837

Title: To provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups, and for other purposes. Sets forth procedures for an Indian group to submit letters of intent and a petition to the Commission requesting federal recognition as an Indian tribe (effectively transferring the federal recognition process from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Commission). **Sponsor:** Rep Faleomavaega, Eni F.H. [AS] (introduced 6/22/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 10/3/2007 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee Hearings Held.

H.R.3490

Title: To transfer administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands from the Bureau of Land Management to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to take such lands into trust for Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Rep Radanovich, George [CA-19] (introduced 9/6/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 9/6/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.2963

Title: To transfer certain land in Riverside County, California, and San Diego County, California, from the Bureau of Land Management to the United States to be held in trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Rep Issa, Darrell E. [CA-49] (introduced 7/10/2007) **Cosponsors** Rep Baka **Latest Major Action:** 8/3/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. Passed in the House.

H.R.2120

Title: To direct the Secretary of the Interior to proclaim as reservation for the benefit of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians a parcel of land now held in trust by the United States for that Indian tribe. **Sponsor:** Rep Stupak, Bart [MI-1] (introduced 5/2/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 8/3/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. Passed the House.

House Reports: 110-273

S.2494

Title: A bill to provide in excess of \$85 million for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and for other purposes. The Spokane Tribe has already been paid twice before.

Sponsor: Cantwell [WA] (introduced 12/17/2007) **Cosponsors:** Murray. **Latest Major Action:** 12/17/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R.2176

Title: To provide for and approve the settlement of certain land claims of the Bay Mills Indian Community.

Sponsor: Rep Stupak, Bart [MI-1] (introduced 5/3/2007) **Cosponsors** Kennedy,](RI), Miller (MI)

Latest Major Action: 5/3/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.4115

Title: To provide for and approve the settlement of certain land claims of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. **Sponsor:** Rep Dingell, John D. [MI-15] (introduced 11/8/2007) **Cosponsor,** Rep Bart Stupak. **Related Bills:** H.R.3048 **Latest Major Action:** 11/8/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.673

Title: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take lands in Yuma County, Arizona, into trust as part of the reservation of the Cocopah Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Grijalva, (introduced 1/24/2007) **Latest Major Action:** 8/3/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. **Passed in the House House Reports:** 110-271

H.R.3164

Title: To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of Indian tribal governments as State governments for purposes of issuing tax-exempt governmental bonds, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Rep Becerra, Xavier [CA-31] (introduced 7/24/2007) **Cosponsors :** Baca, Blumenauer, Nunes **Latest Major Action:** 7/24/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

H.R.3413

Title: To clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act. Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2007 - Amends the National Labor Relations Act to provide that any enterprise or institution owned and operated by an Indian tribe and located on its Indian lands is not considered an employer for purposes of such Act. **Sponsor:** Rep Kline, John [MN-2] (introduced 8/3/2007) **Cosponsors** Calvert, Campbell, Cole, McKeon, Paul, Pickering. **Latest Major Action:** 9/19/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions. (2) The term "employer" includes any person acting as an agent of an employer, directly or indirectly, but shall not include the United States or any wholly owned Government corporation, or any Federal Reserve Bank, or any State or political subdivision thereof, "or any enterprise or institution owned and operated by an Indian tribe and located on its Indian lands," or any person subject to the Railway Labor Act [45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.], as amended from time to time, or any labor organization (other than when acting as an employer), or anyone acting in the capacity of officer or agent of such labor organization.

SENATE

S.2087

Title: A bill to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans to make technical corrections, and for other purposes. Tribes no longer would have to prove a connection to the remains beyond the coincidence the remains were found on their ancestral lands, despite prolific evidence of the widespread migration of early people. The new rules clearly attempt to subvert the 2002 federal court ruling that unequivocally gave prominent scientists the right to study the remains and rejected faith-based claims of Columbia Basin tribes that Kennewick Man was their direct ancestor. **Sponsor:** Sen Dorgan, Byron L. [ND] (introduced 9/25/2007) **Cosponsors** Baucus, Kyl, McCain **Latest Major Action:** 9/27/2007 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. **Status:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

S.310

Title: A bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity. **Sponsor:** Sen Akaka, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 1/17/2007) **Cosponsors:** Cantwell, Dodd, Inouye, Murkowski, Stevens, Coleman, Dorgan, Klobuchar, Smith.

S.333 -HR. 65

Title: A bill to provide for the acknowledgment of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and for other purposes. **Sponsor:** Sen Dole (introduced 1/18/2007) **Cosponsors** Burr, Mikulski, Inouye **Latest Major Action:** 1/18/2007 Referred to Senate committee. **Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

S.514 -HR 2028

Title: A bill to extend Federal recognition to the Muscogee Nation of Florida. **Sponsor:** Sen. Nelson, Bill [FL] (introduced 2/7/2007) **Cosponsor:** Miller **Latest Major Action:** 2/7/2007 Referred to Senate committee. **Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

S.J.RES.4-HR 68-HR 3

Title: A joint resolution to acknowledge a long history of official depredations and ill-conceived policies by the United States Government regarding Indian tribes and offer an apology to all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States. **Sponsor:** Sen Brownback, Sam [KS] (introduced 3/1/2007) **Cosponsors** Senators: Akaka, Boxer, Crapo, Dorgan, Inouye, Lieberman, Baucus, Cantwell, Dodd, Harkin, Landrieu, Tester. **Latest Major Action:** 6/18/2007 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 202. Senate Reports: 110-83

S. 608-S328

Title: A bill to improve the allocation of grants through the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes. **Makes eligible for a covered grant any state, region, or directly eligible tribe.** Sets forth grant application requirements. **Sponsor:** Sen Feinstein, Dianne [CA] (introduced 2/15/2007) **Cosponsors** Boxer, Cornyn, Lautenberg, Obama, Clinton, Hutchison, Menendez, Schumer. **Latest Major Action:** 2/15/2007 Referred to Senate committee. **Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs.

Foreign aid for American Indians?

February 25th, 2008

"The Senate Indian Affairs Committee is holding a hearing this Wednesday on S.2232, the Foreign Aid Lessons for Domestic Economic Assistance Act. The bill was introduced by Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska). It would create the Native American Millennium Challenge Demonstration Project, which would help tribes, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians develop economic development programs based on international models. "The Foreign Aid Lessons for Domestic Economic Assistance Act would also authorize administering federal economic development assistance in a novel manner to promote economic growth, eliminate poverty, and strengthen good governance, entrepreneurship, and investment in Native communities," Stevens said in introducing the bill on October 25, 2007.

Co-sponsors include Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) and Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), the vice chair of the committee. Inouye and Akaka are members of the committee."

HEARING on S. 2232, the Foreign Aid Lessons for Domestic Economic Assistance Act of 2007 (February 27, 2008)

Get the Bill: Foreign Aid Lessons for Domestic Economic Assistance Act (S.2232)