

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5820

To extend Federal recognition to the Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 24, 2025

Mr. KILEY of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To extend Federal recognition to the Mono Lake
Kootzaduka’a Tribe, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Mono Lake
5 Kootzaduka’a Tribe Recognition Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) MEMBER.—The term “member” means an
9 individual who is enrolled in the Tribe pursuant to
10 the constitution of the Tribe.

1 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of the Interior.

3 (3) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the
4 Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe.

5 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL RECOGNITION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Federal recognition is extended to
7 the Tribe.

8 (b) EFFECT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—Except as other-
9 wise provided in this Act, all Federal laws (including regu-
10 lations) of general application to Indians and Indian
11 tribes, including the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C.
12 5101 et seq.; commonly known as the Indian Reorganiza-
13 tion Act), shall apply to the Tribe and members.

14 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL SERVICES AND BENEFITS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Tribe and each member of
16 the Tribe shall be eligible for all services and benefits pro-
17 vided by the United States to Indians and federally recog-
18 nized Indian Tribes, without regard to—

19 (1) the existence of a reservation for the Tribe;
20 or

21 (2) the location of the residence of any member
22 on or near an Indian reservation.

23 (b) SERVICE AREA.—For purposes of the delivery of
24 services and benefits to members, the service area of the

1 Tribe shall be considered to be the counties of Mono and
2 Inyo, in the State of California.

3 **SEC. 5. REAFFIRMATION OF RIGHTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act diminishes
5 any right or privilege of the Tribe or any member that
6 existed before the date of the enactment of this Act.

7 (b) CLAIMS OF TRIBE.—Except as otherwise pro-
8 vided in this Act, nothing in this Act alters or affects any
9 legal or equitable claim of the Tribe to enforce any right
10 or privilege reserved by, or granted to, the Tribe that was
11 wrongfully denied to, or taken from, the Tribe before the
12 date of the enactment of this Act.

13 (c) HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS.—The Tribe
14 shall be granted hunting and fishing rights on all Federal
15 lands within its aboriginal land area. Each Federal agency
16 who administers lands within the Tribe's aboriginal land
17 area shall work with the Tribe so as to accommodate the
18 exercise of its hunting and fishing rights within the agen-
19 cies existing land use plans, Federal law and governing
20 regulations.

21 **SEC. 6. MEMBERSHIP ROLL.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving rec-
23 ognition, services, and benefits pursuant to this Act, the
24 Tribe shall submit to the Secretary, by not later than 18
25 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, a

1 membership roll consisting of the name of each individual
2 enrolled as a member of the Tribe.

3 (b) DETERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—The quali-
4 fications for inclusion on the membership roll of the Tribe
5 shall be determined in accordance with section (a) of Arti-
6 cle III of the constitution of the Tribe, dated June 23,
7 2003.

8 (c) MAINTENANCE OF ROLL.—The Tribe shall main-
9 tain the membership roll.

10 **SEC. 7. TRUST LAND.**

11 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF LAND.—The Secretary shall
12 identify land administered by the Bureau of Land Man-
13 agement that is located in that portion of Mono County
14 that is within the Tribe’s ancestral homelands, sufficient
15 to support the location of Tribal Government administra-
16 tion and services, economic development, and housing.

17 (b) LAND INTO TRUST.—After the Secretary identi-
18 fies said land to meet the purposes so described, the Tribe
19 shall request and the Secretary shall accept such lands
20 into trust for the benefit of the Tribe. Nothing in this sec-
21 tion shall prevent the Secretary or the Tribe from acquir-
22 ing land, and the Secretary taking land into trust for the
23 benefit of the Tribe, pursuant to section 5 of the Act of
24 June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 5108; commonly known as the
25 Indian Reorganization Act). For purposes of acquisitions

- 1 under such Act, the Tribe shall be deemed to have been
- 2 under Federal jurisdiction in 1934.

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