

Committee on Natural Resources
Rob Bishop, Chairman
Markup Memorandum

September 9, 2015

To: Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Majority Committee Staff, Sub. on Federal Lands, Terry Camp, x 6-7736

Markup: Full Committee Markup of H.R. 1541 (Grijalva), "*Preservation Research at Institutions Serving Minorities Act*"

Bill Summary

H.R. 1541, introduced by Congressman Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), amends the Historic Preservation Act by making Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) eligible for technical and financial assistance from the Secretary of the Interior to establish preservation training and degree programs. The bill utilizes the Higher Education Act of 1965 definition of HSIs as accredited, post-secondary higher educational institutions with at least 25 percent total full-time enrollment of Hispanic undergraduate student pursuing terminal degrees.

Background

This legislation amends the National Historic Preservation Act to provide colleges and universities with a high enrollment of Hispanic students access to a grant program that encourages student involvement in historic and cultural projects. This grant program is already available for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and non-tribal colleges with a high enrollment of Native Americans or Native Hawaiians.

A Senate companion has been introduced as S. 805 by Senator Tom Udall (D-NM).

Administration Position

Unknown at this time.

Cost

CBO has not yet provided a cost estimate for this bill.

Amendments

Congresswoman Bordallo plans to offer an amendment adding Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving Institutions to the list of eligible institutions provided in the bill.

Effect on Current Law

Showing Current Law as Amended by H.R. 1541

[new text highlighted in yellow]

§303903. Preservation education and training program

The Secretary, in consultation with the Council and other appropriate Federal, tribal, Native Hawaiian, and non-Federal organizations, shall develop and implement a comprehensive preservation education and training program. The program shall include-

(1) standards and increased preservation training opportunities for Federal workers involved in preservation-related functions;

(2) preservation training opportunities for other Federal, State, tribal and local government workers, and students;

(3) technical or financial assistance, or both, to historically black colleges and universities, to Hispanic-serving institutions (as defined in section 502(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a))), [sic] to tribal colleges, and to colleges with a high enrollment of Native Americans or Native Hawaiians, to establish preservation training and degree programs; and

(4) where appropriate, coordination with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training of-

(A) distribution of information on preservation technologies;

(B) provision of training and skill development in trades, crafts, and disciplines related to historic preservation in Federal training and development programs; and

(C) support for research, analysis, conservation, curation, interpretation, and display related to preservation.

(Pub. L. 113–287, §3, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3208)