

Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States
Remote Legislative Hearing - Cisco WebEx
May 20, 2021
12:00 p.m.

Legislative Hearing on [H.R. 438](#), [H.R. 2930](#), RESPECT Act [Discussion Draft]

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for the Honorable Brian Vallo, Governor, Pueblo of Acoma

1. Illegally acquiring and trafficking tribal cultural patrimony is more than just a property rights issue.
 - a. Can you speak more about protecting tribal cultural traditions and how it's linked to spiritual and community wellbeing?

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Mr. Matthew L.M. Fletcher, Director & Professor of Law, Michigan State University College of Law

1. Your testimony mentions how we're now living in the "self-determination era" for tribal governments. Except, you note that the federal government often reverts back to its older role as "guardian" by making decisions for tribal governments without consulting them first.
 - a. In your legal experience, why is this the case?
 - b. Can you elaborate on how the Supreme Court has made this practice possible?
2. In your comments on the RESPECT Act's discussion draft, you highlight the importance of including a provision of judicial review for tribal governments.
 - a. Can you elaborate on why Section 601 – Judicial Review is a vital element of the RESPECT Act?

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Ms. Lauren van Schilfgaarde, Director, Tribal Legal Development Clinic, UCLA School of Law

1. As Chair of the full Committee, I'm also interested in how tribal consultation intersects with environmental justice issues in Indian Country.
 - a. Would you consider the RESPECT Act to be a tool that tribal communities can use to fight environmental injustice?