Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States Hybrid Legislative Hearing

April 27, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. ET

Legislative Hearing on H.R. 437, H.R. 6063, H.R. 6181 [Discussion Draft ANS], S. 314, S. 559, and S. 789

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Hon. Douglas G. Lankford, Chief, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

- 1. Why has the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma been unable to pursue its claims in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims before this legislation?
- 2. Are you able to elaborate on the local non-tribal support for this legislation?

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Hon. Tom Wooten, Chairman, Samish Indian Nation

- 1. Why is it important that Congress passes a Carcieri fix into law?
- 2. In your testimony, you talk about some of the lands that the Nation has been trying to take into trust that have been held up since the Carcieri decision. Can you describe some of these lands?
- 3. Your testimony mentions how litigation has held up critical administrative processes for your Nation, like re-recognition and placing land into trust.
 - a. How have these time delays impacted the Nation's capacity as a sovereign tribal government over the years?

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Hon. Donald Gentry, Chairman, Klamath Tribes

- 1. Generally, can you highlight how the Klamath Judgement Fund Act was a product of the Termination Era and how its original purpose is now outdated?
- 2. When the Tribe worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to track down the living heirs to the Fund, what were the issues that arose?
 - a. In what ways was this process difficult?
 - b. What was the outcome of this process?
- 3. If this legislation were to pass into law, how would the Klamath Tribes address the Judgement Fund and its remaining balance?
- 4. As you discuss in your testimony, the Klamath Tribes were subject to Termination policies for decades until federal recognition was restored in 1986.
 - a. How did the Termination Era impact the Tribes' resources and citizens?
 - b. What impacts are tribal citizens still dealing with today?

Questions from Rep. Grijalva for Hon. Cheryle A. Kennedy, Chairwoman, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

- 1. When did the Tribe realize that the Grand Ronde Reservation Act contained harmful language errors?
- 2. What would happen if the Tribe received recent news of other historical survey errors?a. What actions would your tribal government be able to take?
- 3. Your testimony mentions some essential points regarding the slight change in language to this bill from the version introduced in the 116th Congress.
 - a. Can you speak to the intent of this change?