

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2815

[Report No. 119-]

To provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2025

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

OCTOBER --, 2025

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 10, 2025]

A BILL

To provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, 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 “Cape Fox Land Entitle-*
5 *ment Finalization Act of 2025”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 *In this Act:*

8 (1) *CAPE FOX.*—*The term “Cape Fox” means the*
9 *Cape Fox Village Corporation, a Village Corporation*
10 *for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, organized*
11 *pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act*
12 *(43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).*

13 (2) *FEDERAL LAND.*—*The term “Federal land”*
14 *means the approximately 180 acres of surface land*
15 *within the Tongass National Forest in the State of*
16 *Alaska, as generally depicted on the Map.*

17 (3) *MAP.*—*The term “Map” means the map enti-*
18 *tled “Cape Fox Village Corporation Final Selection”*
19 *and dated December 18, 2023.*

20 (4) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
21 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

22 **SEC. 3. WAIVER OF CORE TOWNSHIP REQUIREMENT FOR**
23 **CERTAIN LAND.**

24 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Notwithstanding section 16(b) of*
25 *the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.*

1 1615(b)), *Cape Fox shall not be required to select or receive*
2 *conveyance of the approximately 185 acres of unconveyed*
3 *land described in subsection (b) located within the township*
4 *in which the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, is located.*

5 (b) *LAND DESCRIBED.*—*The land referred to in sub-*
6 *section (a) is as follows:*

7 (1) *Approximately 40 acres in T. 74 S., R.90 E.,*
8 *sec. 10, SWNE, Copper River Meridian.*

9 (2) *Approximately 144.57 acres in T. 75 S.,*
10 *R.91 E., sec. 1, lots 1, 3, and 4, Copper River Merid-*
11 *ian.*

12 **SEC. 4. SELECTION OUTSIDE EXTERIOR SELECTION**
13 **BOUNDARY.**

14 (a) *SELECTION AND CONVEYANCE OF SURFACE ES-*
15 *TATE.*—*Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment*
16 *of this Act, if Cape Fox submits to the Secretary a written*
17 *notice of selection of the Federal land, the Secretary shall,*
18 *on receiving that written notice, convey the Federal land*
19 *to Cape Fox.*

20 (b) *CONVEYANCE OF SUBSURFACE ESTATE.*—*On con-*
21 *veyance to Cape Fox of the surface estate to the Federal*
22 *land under subsection (a), the Secretary shall convey to*
23 *Sealaska Corporation the subsurface estate to that Federal*
24 *land.*

1 (c) *TIMING.*—*It is the intent of Congress that the Sec-*
2 *retary complete the conveyances to Cape Fox and Sealaska*
3 *Corporation under subsections (a) and (b), respectively, as*
4 *soon as practicable after the date on which the Secretary*
5 *receives a written notice of the selection of Cape Fox under*
6 *subsection (a), but not later than 180 days after the date*
7 *on which the Secretary receives that written notice.*

8 (d) *ENTITLEMENT FULFILLED.*—*The conveyance of*
9 *Federal land to Cape Fox and the subsurface interest in*
10 *the Federal land to Sealaska Corporation under subsections*
11 *(a) and (b), respectively, shall be considered to fulfill the*
12 *entitlement of—*

13 (1) *Cape Fox under section 16 of the Alaska Na-*
14 *tive Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1615); and*

15 (2) *Sealaska Corporation to any subsurface in-*
16 *terest in the Federal land under section 14(f) of that*
17 *Act (43 U.S.C. 1613(f)).*

18 **SEC. 5. PUBLIC ACCESS EASEMENT.**

19 *The conveyance of the Federal land under section 4*
20 *shall be subject to the reservation of a public easement under*
21 *section 17(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act*
22 *(43 U.S.C. 1616(b)) to allow for access to National Forest*
23 *System land further inland on Revillagigedo Island from*
24 *the George Inlet.*

1 **SEC. 6. VALID EXISTING RIGHTS.**

2 *Unless otherwise agreed to by the Secretary, the Sec-*
3 *retary of Agriculture, and Cape Fox, the conveyances under*
4 *this legislation shall be subject to any valid existing rights,*
5 *reservations, rights-of-way, and other encumbrances of third*
6 *parties in, to, or on the Federal land as of the date of enact-*
7 *ment of this Act.*