

S 1879

Interior Improvement Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Jul 28, 2015

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 514.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 514. (Jun 9, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1879>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]

Party: Republican • **State:** WY • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Indian Affairs Committee | Senate | Reported By | Jun 9, 2016 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Interior Improvement Act

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the Indian Reorganization Act to expand the definition of Indian to include members of Indian tribes that were federally recognized after June 18, 1934. Trust acquisitions by the Department of the Interior for tribes recognized after June 18, 1934, are ratified and confirmed.

(Sec. 3) Indian tribes and individual Indians may apply to Interior to have off-reservation land taken into trust for the benefit of that tribe or individual. An application must include specified information, including a description of the need for the proposed acquisition and the purpose for which the property is to be used.

Interior must publish these applications and notify jurisdictions contiguous to land included in an application.

Interior must encourage applicants to enter into cooperative agreements with contiguous jurisdictions. An application with a cooperative agreement is automatically approved if Interior does not make a decision on the application within a specified number of days.

In making a decision on an application that does not include a cooperative agreement, Interior must determine whether anticipated impacts on contiguous jurisdictions have been mitigated and consider whether contiguous jurisdictions failed to work in good faith to reach an agreement with the applicant.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 9, 2016:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Reported by Senator Barrasso with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 114-275. Minority views filed.
- **Jun 9, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 514.
- **Dec 2, 2015:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jul 28, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 28, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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