

HR 984

Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Native Americans

**Introduced:** Feb 7, 2017

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 115-121.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 115-121. (Jan 29, 2018)

**Law:** 115-121 (Enacted Jan 29, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/984>

Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** VA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Feb 7, 2017
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Feb 7, 2017
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Feb 7, 2017
Rep. Taylor, Scott [R-VA-2]	R · VA		Feb 7, 2017
Rep. McEachin, A. Donald [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Mar 21, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Jan 11, 2018
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 23, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 691	Identical bill	<b>Jun 28, 2017:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 161.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The expanded summary of the House passed version is repeated here.)

## **Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2017**

### **TITLE I--CHICKAHOMINY INDIAN TRIBE**

(Sec. 103) This bill extends federal recognition to the Chickahominy Tribe. The tribe and its members are made eligible for the services and benefits provided by the federal government to federally recognized Indian tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The bill establishes the service area of the tribe.

(Sec. 104) The bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

(Sec. 106) The Department of the Interior, upon the request of the tribe, must take certain land owned by the tribe in Virginia into trust for the benefit of the tribe, to be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

The bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

(Sec. 107) The bill does not affect the hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, or water rights of the tribe or its members.

### **TITLE II--CHICKAHOMINY INDIAN TRIBE--EASTERN DIVISION**

(Sec. 203) This bill extends federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe--Eastern Division. The tribe and its members are made eligible for the services and benefits provided by the federal government to federally recognized tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The bill establishes the service area of the tribe.

(Sec. 204) The bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

(Sec. 206) The Department of the Interior, upon the request of the tribe, must take certain land owned by the tribe in Virginia into trust for the benefit of the tribe, to be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

The bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

(Sec. 207) The bill does not affect the hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, or water rights of the tribe or its members.

### **TITLE III--UPPER MATTAPONI TRIBE**

(Sec. 303) This bill extends federal recognition to the Upper Mattaponi Tribe. The tribe and its members are made eligible for the services and benefits provided by the federal government to federally recognized tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The bill establishes the service area of the tribe.

(Sec. 304) The bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

(Sec. 306) The Department of the Interior, upon the request of the tribe, must take certain land owned by the tribe in Virginia into trust for the benefit of the tribe, to be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

The bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

(Sec. 307) The bill does not affect the hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, or water rights of the tribe or its members.

#### TITLE IV--RAPPAHANNOCK TRIBE, INC.

(Sec. 403) This bill extends federal recognition to the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc. The tribe and its members are made eligible for the services and benefits provided by the federal government to federally recognized tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The bill establishes the service area of the tribe.

(Sec. 404) The bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

(Sec. 406) The Department of the Interior, upon the request of the tribe, must take certain land owned by the tribe in Virginia into trust for the benefit of the tribe, to be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

The bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

(Sec. 407) The bill does not affect the hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, or water rights of the tribe or its members.

#### TITLE V--MONACAN INDIAN NATION

(Sec. 503) This bill extends federal recognition to the Monacan Indian Nation. The tribe and its members are made eligible for the services and benefits provided by the federal government to federally recognized tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The bill establishes the service area of the tribe.

(Sec. 504) The bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

(Sec. 506) The Department of the Interior, upon the request of the tribe, must take certain land owned by the tribe in Virginia into trust for the benefit of the tribe, to be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

The bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

(Sec. 507) The bill does not affect the hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, or water rights of the tribe or its members.

#### TITLE VI--NANSEMOND INDIAN TRIBE

(Sec. 603) This bill extends federal recognition to the Nansemond Indian Tribe. The tribe and its members are made eligible for the services and benefits provided by the federal government to federally recognized tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The bill establishes the service area of the tribe.

(Sec. 604) The bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

(Sec. 606) The Department of the Interior, upon the request of the tribe, must take certain land owned by the tribe in Virginia into trust for the benefit of the tribe, to be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

The bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

(Sec. 607) The bill does not affect the hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, or water rights of the tribe or its members.

## TITLE VII--EMINENT DOMAIN

(Sec. 701) Eminent domain may not be used to acquire lands for a tribe recognized under this bill.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Jan 29, 2018:** Signed by President.
- **Jan 29, 2018:** Became Public Law No: 115-121.
- **Jan 17, 2018:** Presented to President.
- **Jan 12, 2018:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jan 11, 2018:** Senate Committee on Indian Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S153)
- **Jan 11, 2018:** Senate Committee on Indian Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S153)
- **Jan 11, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Jan 11, 2018:** Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 13, 2017:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **May 18, 2017:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.
- **May 17, 2017:** Mr. Wittman moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **May 17, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H4251-4259)
- **May 17, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 984.
- **May 17, 2017:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **May 17, 2017:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H4266)
- **May 17, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H4251-4257)
- **May 17, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H4251-4257)
- **May 17, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 23, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- **Feb 7, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 7, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.