

HR 5083

To extend Federal recognition to the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians of South Carolina, and for other purposes.

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Jul 28, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. (Jul 28, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5083>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 28, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

This bill extends federal recognition to the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians of South Carolina.

Specifically, the bill makes the tribe and its members eligible for services and benefits provided to federally recognized tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the tribe. The delivery area for services and benefits shall be determined in coordination and consultation with the Department of the Interior.

Next, the bill sets forth requirements for the tribe regarding its membership roll, governing documents, and governing body.

Upon request of the tribe, Interior (1) must take into trust certain land in Orangeburg, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester Counties in South Carolina for the benefit of the tribe; and (2) may take into trust land in specified counties for the benefit of the tribe. Land taken into trust shall be considered part of the tribe's reservation.

Further, the bill prohibits the tribe from conducting gaming activities.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 28, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.