HR 197

Lake Winnibigoshish Land Exchange Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources
Introduced: Jan 3, 2025
Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 218.
Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 218. (Oct 27, 2025)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/197

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8]
Party: Republican • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Finstad, Brad [R-MN-1]	R · MN		Jan 3, 2025
Rep. Fischbach, Michelle [R-MN-7]	R · MN		Jan 6, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Reported By	Oct 27, 2025
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 3, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 3, 2025)

Lake Winnibigoshish Land Exchange Act of 2025

This bill directs the Forest Service to exchange specified land along the shoreline of Lake Winnibigoshish (commonly known as Lake Winnie) in the Chippewa National Forest in Minnesota for specified land owned by Big Winnie Land and Timber, LLC (BWLT), if BWLT offers to make the exchange. The land acquired by the Forest Service must be added to and managed as part of Chippewa National Forest.

The bill outlines requirements and conditions for the exchange. For example, the Forest Service must reserve an easement for road access to certain land in the forest. The bill also conditions the exchange on the satisfactory completion of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment by BWLT before the nonfederal land is accepted in the exchange.

In addition, the exchange must be for equal value or the values must be equalized by a cash payment, subject to an exception.

Finally, the bill directs BWLT to pay all closing costs associated with the exchange.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 27, 2025:** Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. Reported by Senator Boozman without amendment. Without written report.
- **Oct 27, 2025:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 218.
- **Oct 21, 2025:** Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jan 22, 2025:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
- **Jan 21, 2025:** Mr. Westerman moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jan 21, 2025:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H242-244)
- **Jan 21, 2025:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 197.
- **Jan 21, 2025:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H242-243)
- **Jan 21, 2025:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H242-243)
- **Jan 21, 2025:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 3, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 3, 2025:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

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