

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 719

To amend the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 to improve that Act,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 to
improve that Act, 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 “Tribal Forest Protec-
5 tion Act Amendments Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRIBAL FOREST PROTECTION ACT OF 2004 AMEND-**
7 **MENTS.**

8 Section 2 of the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004
9 (25 U.S.C. 3115a) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (2)
 2 and inserting the following:

3 “(2) INDIAN FOREST LAND OR RANGELAND.—

4 The term ‘Indian forest land or rangeland’ means—

5 “(A) land that is held in trust by, or with
 6 a restriction against alienation by, the United
 7 States for an Indian tribe or a member of an
 8 Indian tribe, and—

9 “(i) is Indian forest land (as defined
 10 in section 304 of the National Indian For-
 11 est Resources Management Act (25 U.S.C.
 12 3103));

13 “(ii) has a cover of grasses, brush, or
 14 any similar vegetation; or

15 “(iii) formerly had a forest cover or
 16 vegetative cover that is capable of restora-
 17 tion; and

18 “(B) land that is in the State of Alaska
 19 and held by an Alaska Native Corporation pur-
 20 suant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
 21 Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).”;

22 (2) in subsection (b)—

23 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
 24 “OR RESTORE” after “PROTECT”;

1 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “to pro-
2 tect Indian forest land or rangeland” and all
3 that follows through “Indian forest land or
4 rangeland)” and inserting “to protect or restore
5 Indian forest land or rangeland, or to carry out
6 a project to protect or restore Federal land”;
7 and

8 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “that
9 is—” and all that follows through the period at
10 the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “or
11 Indian forest land or rangeland.”;

12 (3) in subsection (c)—

13 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
14 “FOR FEDERAL LAND” after “CRITERIA”;

15 (B) by striking “an Indian tribe,” in the
16 matter preceding paragraph (1) and all that fol-
17 lows through “Indian tribe—” in the matter
18 preceding subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2)
19 and inserting the following: “Federal land, are
20 whether—

21 “(1) the Federal land has a special geographic,
22 historical, or cultural significance to the Indian tribe
23 and—”;

24 (C) in paragraph (1) (as so designated)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 2 clause (i) and inserting the following:

3 “(i) Indian forest land or rangeland;
 4 or”; and

5 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
 6 “or watershed” after “land”;

7 (D) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and
 8 (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively;

9 (E) in paragraph (2) (as so redesignated),
 10 by striking “subject” and inserting “Federal”;
 11 and

12 (F) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated),
 13 by striking “Forest Service or Bureau of Land
 14 Management” and inserting “Federal”;

15 (4) in subsection (g), by striking “date of en-
 16 actment of this Act” and inserting “date of enact-
 17 ment of the Tribal Forest Protection Act Amend-
 18 ments Act of 2025”; and

19 (5) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 21 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
 22 \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031.”.

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