

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-19**  
**OFFERED BY MR. HUFFMAN OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of subtitle H of title X, insert the following:

1 **SEC. \_\_\_\_ . LANDS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST AS PART OF**  
2 **THE RESERVATION OF THE LYTTON**  
3 **RANCHERIA.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) The Lytton Rancheria of California is a fed-  
6 erally recognized Indian tribe that lost its homeland  
7 after its relationship to the United States was un-  
8 justly and unlawfully terminated in 1958. The Tribe  
9 was restored to Federal recognition in 1991, but the  
10 conditions of its restoration have prevented it from  
11 regaining a homeland on its original lands.

12 (2) Congress needs to take action to reverse  
13 historic injustices that befell the Tribe and that have  
14 prevented it from regaining a viable homeland for its  
15 people.

16 (3) Prior to European contact there were as  
17 many as 350,000 Indians living in what is now the  
18 State of California. By the turn of the 19th century,

1 that number had been reduced to approximately  
2 15,000 individuals, many of them homeless and liv-  
3 ing in scattered bands and communities.

4 (4) The Lytton Rancheria's original homeland  
5 was purchased by the United States in 1926 pursu-  
6 ant to congressional authority designed to remedy  
7 the unique tragedy that befell the Indians of Cali-  
8 fornia and provide them with reservations called  
9 Rancherias to be held in trust by the United States.

10 (5) After the Lytton Rancheria lands were pur-  
11 chased by the United States, the Tribe settled on  
12 the land and sustained itself for several decades by  
13 farming and ranching.

14 (6) By the mid-1950s, Federal Indian policy  
15 had shifted back towards a policy of terminating the  
16 Federal relationship with Indian tribes. In 1958,  
17 Congress enacted the Rancheria Act of 1958 (72  
18 Stat. 619), which slated 41 Rancherias in California,  
19 including the Lytton Rancheria, for termination  
20 after certain conditions were met.

21 (7) On August 1, 1961, the Federal Govern-  
22 ment terminated its relationship with the Lytton  
23 Rancheria. This termination was illegal because the  
24 conditions for termination under the Rancheria Act  
25 had never been met. After termination was imple-

1       mented, the Tribe lost its lands and was left without  
2       any means of supporting itself.

3           (8) In 1987, the Tribe joined three other tribes  
4       in a lawsuit against the United States challenging  
5       the illegal termination of their Rancherias. A Stipu-  
6       lated Judgment in the case, *Scotts Valley Band of*  
7       *Pomo Indians of the Sugar Bowl Rancheria v. United*  
8       *States*, No. C-86-3660 (N.D.Cal. March 22, 1991),  
9       restored the Lytton Rancheria to its status as a fed-  
10      erally recognized Indian tribe.

11          (9) The Stipulated Judgment provides that the  
12      Lytton Rancheria would have the “individual and  
13      collective status and rights” which it had prior to its  
14      termination and expressly contemplated the acquisi-  
15      tion of trust lands for the Lytton Rancheria.

16          (10) The Stipulated Judgment contains provi-  
17      sions, included at the request of the local county  
18      governments and neighboring landowners, that pro-  
19      hibit the Lytton Rancheria from exercising its full  
20      Federal rights on its original homeland in the Alex-  
21      ander Valley.

22          (11) In 2000, approximately 9.5 acres of land  
23      in San Pablo, California, was placed in trust status  
24      for the Lytton Rancheria for economic development  
25      purposes.

1           (12) The Tribe has since acquired, from willing  
2           sellers at fair market value, property in Sonoma  
3           County near the Tribe's historic Rancheria. This  
4           property, which the Tribe holds in fee status, is suit-  
5           able for a new homeland for the Tribe.

6           (13) On a portion of the land to be taken into  
7           trust, which portion totals approximately 124.12  
8           acres, the Tribe plans to build housing for its mem-  
9           bers and governmental and community facilities.

10          (14) A portion of the land to be taken into  
11          trust is being used for viticulture, and the Tribe in-  
12          tends to develop more of the lands to be taken into  
13          trust for viticulture. The Tribe's investment in the  
14          ongoing viticulture operation has reinvigorated the  
15          vineyards, which are producing high-quality wines.  
16          The Tribe is operating its vineyards on a sustainable  
17          basis and is working toward certification of sustain-  
18          ability.

19          (15) No gaming shall be conducted on the lands  
20          to be taken into trust by this section.

21          (16) No gaming shall be conducted on any  
22          lands taken into trust on behalf of the Tribe in  
23          Sonoma County after the date of the enactment of  
24          this Act.

1           (17) By directing that these lands be taken into  
2 trust, the United States will ensure that the Lytton  
3 Rancheria will finally have a permanently protected  
4 homeland on which the Tribe can once again live  
5 communally and plan for future generations. This  
6 action is necessary to fully restore the Tribe to the  
7 status it had before it was wrongfully terminated in  
8 1961.

9           (18) The Tribe and County of Sonoma have en-  
10 tered into a Memorandum of Agreement as amended  
11 in 2018 in which the County agrees to the lands in  
12 the County being taken into trust for the benefit of  
13 the Tribe in consideration for commitments made by  
14 the Tribe.

15       (b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this section,  
16 the following definitions apply:

17           (1) COUNTY.—The term “County” means  
18 Sonoma County, California.

19           (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

21           (3) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the  
22 Lytton Rancheria of California.

23       (c) LANDS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.—

24           (1) IN GENERAL.—The land owned by the  
25 Tribe and generally depicted on the map titled

1 “Lytton Fee Owned Property to be Taken into  
2 Trust” and dated May 1, 2015, is hereby taken into  
3 trust for the benefit of the Tribe, subject to valid ex-  
4 isting rights, contracts, and management agreements  
5 related to easements and rights-of-way.

6 (2) LANDS TO BE MADE PART OF THE RES-  
7 ERVATION.—Lands taken into trust under para-  
8 graph (1) shall be part of the Tribe’s reservation  
9 and shall be administered in accordance with the  
10 laws and regulations generally applicable to property  
11 held in trust by the United States for an Indian  
12 tribe.

13 (d) GAMING.—

14 (1) LANDS TAKEN INTO TRUST UNDER THIS  
15 SECTION.—Lands taken into trust for the benefit of  
16 the Tribe under subsection (c) shall not be eligible  
17 for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act  
18 (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.).

19 (2) OTHER LANDS TAKEN INTO TRUST.—Lands  
20 taken into trust for the benefit of the Tribe in  
21 Sonoma County after the date of the enactment of  
22 this Act shall not be eligible for gaming under the  
23 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et  
24 seq.).

1           (e) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LAW.—Notwith-  
2 standing any other provision of law, the Memorandum of  
3 Agreement entered into by the Tribe and the County con-  
4 cerning taking land in the County into trust for the benefit  
5 of the Tribe, which was approved by the County Board  
6 of Supervisors on March 10, 2015, and any addenda and  
7 supplement or amendment thereto, is not subject to review  
8 or approval of the Secretary in order to be effective, in-  
9 cluding review or approval under section 2103 of the Re-  
10 vised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 81).

