

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6097

To facilitate contacts and cooperation, including commercial relationships, between Native American Tribes and Indigenous peoples in the Western Hemisphere, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 30, 2021

Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself and Mr. HIMES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To facilitate contacts and cooperation, including commercial relationships, between Native American Tribes and Indigenous peoples in the Western Hemisphere, 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 “Indigenous Peoples
5 Exchange and Economic Cooperation Act”.

1 SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

2 It is the policy of the United States to facilitate con-
3 tacts and cooperation, including commercial relationships,
4 between Native American Tribes and Indigenous peoples
5 in the Western Hemisphere, in accordance with regional
6 trade agreements and the Presidential memorandum titled
7 “Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening
8 Nation-to-Nation Relationships”, dated January 26,
9 2021, which directs executive branches to engage in “reg-
10 ular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal offi-
11 cials”.

12 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

13 In this Act:

14 (1) NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES.—The term
15 “Native American Tribe” means any federally recog-
16 nized Tribe.

17 (2) INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.—The term “Indige-
18 nous peoples” means peoples residing in foreign
19 countries and territories in the Western Hemisphere
20 who have historical ties to a particular territory and
21 are culturally or historically distinct from the politi-
22 cally dominant population.

23 SEC. 4. STRATEGY.

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
25 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Com-
26 merce, in coordination with the Secretary of Interior, shall

1 submit to the appropriate congressional committees a
2 strategy, in consultation with the individuals listed in sub-
3 section (b), to promote and facilitate—

4 (1) cross-investments and export opportunities
5 between Native American Tribes and Indigenous
6 peoples in Tribal businesses and commercial enter-
7 prises that involve Indigenous peoples, such as sus-
8 tainable natural resource management, agricultural
9 development, timber, fish and other seafood, energy,
10 handicraft and art production, or entrepreneurship
11 for economic growth and diversification; and

12 (2) the development of supply chains for United
13 States entities that include certified products pro-
14 duced by Native American Tribes and Indigenous
15 peoples.

16 (b) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The individuals re-
17 ferred to in subsection (a) are the following:

18 (1) The President of the Inter-American Foun-
19 dation.

20 (2) The Secretary of State.

21 (3) The United States Trade Representative.

22 (4) The Secretary of Agriculture.

23 (5) The Secretary of Energy.

24 (6) The Administrator of the Small Business
25 Administration.

1 (7) The Administrator and the Advisor for In-
2 indigenous Peoples Issues of the United States Agency
3 for International Development.

4 (8) The Chief Executive Officer of the United
5 States International Development Finance Corpora-
6 tion.

7 (9) The Chief Executive Officer of the Millen-
8 nium Challenge Corporation.

9 (10) Representatives of Native American
10 Tribes.

11 (11) Representatives of civil society organiza-
12 tions advocating for the rights or interests of Indige-
13 nous peoples.

14 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—
15 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-
16 mittees” means—

17 (1) the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-
18 mittee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on
19 Natural Resources of the House of Representatives;
20 and

21 (2) the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-
22 mittee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on En-
23 ergy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on
24 Indian Affairs of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 5. UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT INDIGE-**
2 **NOUS PEOPLES.**

3 In order to improve the capacity of Indigenous peo-
4 ples to engage in and benefit from increased trade and
5 investment relationships, the Inter-American Foundation,
6 Secretary of State, United States Agency for International
7 Development, and Millennium Challenge Corporation
8 shall—

9 (1) consult with representatives of civil society
10 organizations, especially organizations comprised of
11 or representing the interests of Indigenous peoples;
12 and

13 (2) provide assistance to countries in the West-
14 ern Hemisphere in a manner that promotes and fa-
15 cilitates entrepreneurship among Indigenous peo-
16 ples—

17 (A) by strengthening the capacity of civil
18 society organizations and local governments;
19 and

20 (B) by supporting community-led and com-
21 munity-based projects including sustainable
22 natural resource management, agricultural de-
23 velopment, and handicraft production.

1 **SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.**

2 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
3 retary of Commerce \$3,000,000 to carry out this Act.

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