

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4777

To permit the Miami Nation of Indiana to apply for acknowledgment as a federally recognized Indian tribe, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 4, 2022

Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To permit the Miami Nation of Indiana to apply for acknowledgment as a federally recognized Indian tribe, 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. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**—The term “acknowl-
6 edgment” means acknowledgment as a federally rec-
7 ognized Indian tribe.

8 (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 **SEC. 2. MIAMI NATION OF INDIANA PERMITTED TO PETI-**
2 **TION FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of law (including regulations) that denies acknowledg-
5 ment to an entity that previously petitioned for and was
6 denied acknowledgment, the Miami Nation of Indiana may
7 submit a petition to the Secretary, under part 83 of title
8 25, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date
9 of enactment of this Act), for acknowledgment.

10 (b) **EFFECT ON DETERMINATION.**—In reviewing and
11 making a determination on a petition for acknowledgment
12 that the Miami Nation of Indiana submitted, the Sec-
13 retary shall not use, as a reason to deny the petition for
14 acknowledgment that the Miami Nation of Indiana sub-
15 mitted, any previous denial of a petition for acknowledg-
16 ment that the Miami Nation of Indiana submitted, includ-
17 ing—

- 18 (1) a denial by the Secretary of a petition;
19 (2) a court decision affirming a denial of a peti-
20 tion; and
21 (3) any other denial of a petition.

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