

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the transparency and oversight of land conveyances involving the sale, exchange, or other disposal of National Forest System lands or public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management or the acquisition of non-Federal lands for inclusion in the National Forest System or administration as public lands, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TIPTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the transparency and oversight of land conveyances involving the sale, exchange, or other disposal of National Forest System lands or public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management or the acquisition of non-Federal lands for inclusion in the National Forest System or administration as public lands, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREST**
2 **SERVICE AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGE-**
3 **MENT LAND ACQUISITIONS AND CONVEY-**
4 **ANCES.**

5 (a) NOTICE TO ADJACENT LANDOWNERS.—

6 (1) LAND ACQUISITIONS.—Section 205 of the
7 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
8 (43 U.S.C. 1715) is amended by adding at the end
9 the following new subsection:

10 “(f) NOTICE TO ADJACENT LANDOWNERS.—As part
11 of the acquisition of a parcel of non-Federal lands under
12 this section, section 206, or other applicable law that will
13 become public lands or National Forest System lands, the
14 Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture, as the case may
15 be, shall provide advance written notification to each
16 owner of land that is adjacent to the parcel of land to
17 be acquired. To assist in identifying adjacent landowners,
18 the Secretary concerned should use the most recently
19 available tax records.”.

20 (2) LAND CONVEYANCES.—Section 208 of the
21 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
22 (43 U.S.C. 1718) is amended—

23 (A) by inserting “(a) ISSUANCE OF PAT-
24 ENT AND OTHER CONVEYANCE DOCUMENTS.—
25 ” before the first sentence and “(b) OTHER

1 TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—” before the second
2 sentence; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following new
4 subsection:

5 “(c) NOTICE TO ADJACENT LANDOWNERS.—As part
6 of the conveyance of a parcel of public lands or National
7 Forest System lands by sale, exchange, or other disposal
8 method under section 203 or 206 or other applicable law,
9 the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture, as the case
10 may be, shall provide advance written notification to each
11 owner of land that is adjacent to the parcel of land to
12 be conveyed. To assist in identifying adjacent landowners,
13 the Secretary concerned should use the most recently
14 available tax records.”.

15 (b) OVERSIGHT OF USE OF THIRD-PARTY
16 FACILITATORS.—

17 (1) ACQUISITION.—Section 205 of the Federal
18 Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43
19 U.S.C. 1715) is amended by inserting after sub-
20 section (f), as added by subsection (a)(1), the fol-
21 lowing new subsection:

22 “(g) OVERSIGHT OF USE OF THIRD-PARTY
23 FACILITATORS.—(1) If the acquisition process for a parcel
24 of non-Federal lands under this section, section 206, or
25 other applicable law that will become public lands or Na-

1 tional Forest System lands involves the use of a third-
2 party facilitator, the Secretary or the Secretary of Agri-
3 culture, as the case may be, shall require, as a condition
4 of the approval of the acquisition—

5 “(A) submission of all purchase contracts and
6 related agreements held by the third-party facilitator
7 related to the parcel to be acquired; and

8 “(B) supervisor review of such purchase con-
9 tracts and related agreements, the purpose of the ac-
10 quisition, and other terms and conditions of the ac-
11 quisition.

12 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘third-party
13 facilitator’ means any entity (other than an agent of the
14 United States) whose role in a real estate transaction is
15 to assist the buyer or seller, or both, in reaching agree-
16 ment in the transaction.”.

17 (2) LAND CONVEYANCES.—Section 208 of the
18 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
19 (43 U.S.C. 1718) is amended by inserting after sub-
20 section (c), as added by subsection (a)(2), the fol-
21 lowing new subsection:

22 “(d) OVERSIGHT OF USE OF THIRD-PARTY
23 FACILITATORS.—(1) If the process by which a parcel of
24 public lands or National Forest System lands will be con-
25 veyed by sale, exchange, or other disposal method under

1 section 203 or 206 or other applicable law, involves the
2 use of a third-party facilitator, the Secretary or the Sec-
3 retary of Agriculture, as the case may be, shall require,
4 as a condition of the approval of the conveyance—

5 “(A) submission of all purchase contracts and
6 related agreements held by the third-party facilitator
7 related to the Federal land to be conveyed;

8 “(B) submission to appraisers of contact infor-
9 mation for prospective end owners of the Federal
10 land to be conveyed; and

11 “(C) supervisor review of such purchase con-
12 tracts and related agreements, the purpose of the
13 conveyance, and other terms and conditions of the
14 conveyance.

15 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘third-party
16 facilitator’ means any entity (other than an agent of the
17 United States) whose role in a real estate transaction is
18 to assist the buyer or seller, or both, in reaching agree-
19 ment in the transaction.”.