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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To provide protections and certainty for private landowners related to resurveying certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, 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 provide protections and certainty for private landowners related to resurveying certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, 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. BUREAU RESURVEY TRANSPARENCY; NOTICE**
4 **REQUIREMENTS.**

5 (a) NOTICE.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days be-
7 fore the commencement of a resurvey of Federal

1 land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bu-
2 reau of Land Management, the Secretary shall no-
3 tify all property owners with land abutting or adja-
4 cent to the Federal land being resurveyed of the
5 pending resurvey. If a resurvey extends the bound-
6 aries of Federal land, the Secretary shall notify af-
7 fected landowners of the results of the resurvey not
8 later than 30 days after the completion of the sur-
9 vey.

10 (2) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall use
11 certified or registered mail to notify landowners
12 under this subsection.

13 (3) IDENTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS.—When
14 identifying affected landowners for the purpose of
15 notification under this subsection, the Secretary
16 shall use the most recently available tax records.

17 (b) PUBLIC COMMENT.—Not later than 30 days after
18 completing a resurvey, the Secretary shall publish a notice
19 in the Federal Register. Affected landowners may com-
20 ment to the Secretary and by submitting formal comments
21 to the Federal Register notice.

22 **SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF PERSONS.**

23 If a resurvey results in land previously thought to be
24 privately owned to be reclassified as Federal land, the per-
25 sons thought to be a private owner of such land—

1 (1) shall—

2 (A) be given the right of first refusal to
3 purchase the land for fair market value minus
4 the value of any significant improvements made
5 to such lands; or

6 (B) be reimbursed for the fair market
7 value of any significant improvements made to
8 such lands; and

9 (2) may not be charged with willful trespass
10 onto such land unless the person used such lands
11 with the knowledge that the lands should be classi-
12 fied as Federal land.

13 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

14 For the purposes of this Act:

15 (1) RESURVEY.—The term “resurvey” means a
16 reconstruction of land boundaries and subdivisions
17 accomplished by remarking the lines represented in
18 the field-note record or on the plat of a previous offi-
19 cial survey.

20 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
21 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
22 rector of the Bureau of Land Management.