

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4444

To take certain mineral interests into trust for the benefit of the Crow  
Tribe of Montana, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 3, 2024

Mr. DAINES introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred  
to the Committee on Indian Affairs

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## A BILL

To take certain mineral interests into trust for the benefit  
of the Crow Tribe of Montana, 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 “Crow Revenue Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) **BULL MOUNTAINS TRACTS.**—The term  
8 “Bull Mountains Tracts” means the mineral inter-  
9 ests that—

1 (A) are located in Musselshell County,  
2 Montana;

3 (B) comprise approximately 4,530 acres of  
4 subsurface interests owned by the United States  
5 located in—

- 6 (i) T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 2;  
7 (ii) T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 24;  
8 (iii) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 4;  
9 (iv) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 8;  
10 (v) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 10;  
11 (vi) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 14;  
12 (vii) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 22;  
13 (viii) T. 7 N., R. 26 E., sec. 24;  
14 (ix) T. 7 N., R. 26 E., sec. 26;  
15 (x) T. 7 N., R. 26 E., sec. 34;  
16 (xi) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., sec. 20; and  
17 (xii) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., sec. 22;

18 (C) comprise approximately 940 acres of  
19 surface interests owned by the United States lo-  
20 cated in—

- 21 (i) T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 2;  
22 (ii) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 8;  
23 (iii) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 10;  
24 (iv) T. 6 N., R. 28 E., sec. 8; and  
25 (v) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., sec. 34; and

1 (D) are generally depicted on the map en-  
 2 titled “Bull Mountains Tracts” and dated Jan-  
 3 uary 30, 2024.

4 (2) HOPE FAMILY TRACTS.—The term “Hope  
 5 Family Tracts” means the aggregate mineral inter-  
 6 ests that—

7 (A) are located in Big Horn County, Mon-  
 8 tana, within the boundaries of the Crow Res-  
 9 ervation;

10 (B) comprise approximately 4,660 acres of  
 11 subsurface interests owned by the Hope Family  
 12 Trust located in—

13 (i) T. 4 S., R. 37 E., sec. 33;

14 (ii) T. 4 S., R. 37 E., sec. 34;

15 (iii) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 1;

16 (iv) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 2;

17 (v) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 3;

18 (vi) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 10;

19 (vii) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 11;

20 (viii) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 12;

21 (ix) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 13;

22 (x) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 14;

23 (xi) T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 15;

24 (xii) T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 5;

25 (xiii) T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 8;

1 (xiv) T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 9;

2 (xv) T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 16; and

3 (xvi) T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 17; and

4 (C) are generally depicted on the map enti-  
5 tled “Hope Family Tracts” and dated January  
6 30, 2024.

7 (3) HOPE FAMILY TRUST.—The term “Hope  
8 Family Trust” means the Joe and Barbara Hope  
9 Mineral Trust.

10 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
11 the Secretary of the Interior.

12 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
13 of Montana.

14 (6) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the Crow  
15 Tribe of Montana.

16 **SEC. 3. MINERAL RIGHTS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.**

17 (a) COMPLETION OF MINERAL CONVEYANCES.—Not  
18 later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act,  
19 in a single transaction—

20 (1) as authorized by section 9(b) of Bureau of  
21 Land Management Lease MTM–97988 dated June  
22 1, 2012, the Secretary shall accept the relinquis-  
23 ment of that Lease;

1           (2) the Hope Family Trust shall convey to the  
2           Tribe all right, title, and interest in and to the min-  
3           eral interests in the Hope Family Tracts; and

4           (3) the Secretary shall convey to the Hope  
5           Family Trust all right, title, and interest of the  
6           United States in and to the mineral interests and  
7           surface land in the Bull Mountains Tracts.

8           (b) TRUST STATUS.—On the request of the Tribe,  
9           the mineral interests conveyed to the Tribe under sub-  
10          section (a)(2) shall be held in trust by the United States  
11          for the benefit of the Tribe.

12          (c) NO STATE TAXATION.—The mineral interests  
13          conveyed to the Tribe under subsection (a)(2) shall not  
14          be subject to taxation by the State (including any political  
15          subdivision of the State).

16          (d) REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT.—The Tribe  
17          shall notify the Secretary, in writing, that the Tribe and  
18          the Hope Family Trust have agreed on a formula for shar-  
19          ing revenue from development of the mineral interests de-  
20          scribed in subsection (a)(2) if those mineral interests are  
21          developed at a later date.

22          **SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER FEDERAL BENEFITS.**

23          No amounts or other benefits provided to the Tribe  
24          under this Act shall result in the reduction or denial of  
25          any Federal services, benefits, or programs to the Tribe

1 or any member of the Tribe to which the Tribe or member  
2 of the Tribe is entitled or eligible because of—

3 (1) the status of the Tribe as a federally recog-  
4 nized Indian Tribe; or

5 (2) the status of the member as a member of  
6 the Tribe.

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