

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1619

To clarify the status of gaming conducted by the Catawba Indian Nation,  
and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2021

Mr. CLYBURN (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To clarify the status of gaming conducted by the Catawba  
Indian Nation, 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 “Catawba Indian Nation  
5       Lands Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF CURRENT LAW.**

7       (a) LANDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—Section 14 of the  
8       Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Claims Settle-  
9       ment Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–116) shall only apply

1 to gaming conducted by the Catawba Indian Nation on  
2 lands located in South Carolina.

3 (b) LANDS IN STATES OTHER THAN SOUTH CARO-  
4 LINA.—Gaming conducted by the Catawba Indian Nation  
5 on lands located in States other than South Carolina shall  
6 be subject to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25  
7 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) and sections 1166 through 1168 of  
8 title 18, United States Code.

9 **SEC. 3. REAFFIRMATION OF STATUS AND ACTIONS.**

10 (a) RATIFICATION OF TRUST STATUS.—The action  
11 taken by the Secretary on July 10, 2020, to place approxi-  
12 mately 17 acres of land located in Cleveland County,  
13 North Carolina, into trust for the benefit of the Catawba  
14 Indian Nation is hereby ratified and confirmed as if that  
15 action had been taken under a Federal law specifically au-  
16 thorizing or directing that action.

17 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The land placed into trust for  
18 the benefit of the Catawba Indian Nation by the Secretary  
19 on July 10, 2020, shall—

20 (1) be a part of the Catawba Reservation and  
21 administered in accordance with the laws and regu-  
22 lations generally applicable to land held in trust by  
23 the United States for an Indian Tribe; and

24 (2) be deemed to have been acquired and taken  
25 into trust as part of the restoration of lands for an

1 Indian tribe that is restored to Federal recognition  
2 pursuant to section 20(b)(1)(B)(iii) of the Indian  
3 Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C.  
4 2719(b)(1)(B)(iii)).

5 (c) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act  
6 shall—

7 (1) enlarge, impair, or otherwise affect any  
8 right or claim of the Catawba Indian Nation to any  
9 land or interest in land in existence before the date  
10 of the enactment of this Act;

11 (2) affect any water right of the Catawba In-  
12 dian Nation in existence before the date of the en-  
13 actment of this Act;

14 (3) terminate or limit any access in any way to  
15 any right-of-way or right-of-use issued, granted, or  
16 permitted before the date of the enactment of this  
17 Act; or

18 (4) alter or diminish the right of the Catawba  
19 Indian Nation to seek to have additional land taken  
20 into trust by the United States for the benefit of the  
21 Catawba Indian Nation.

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