

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7785

To make additional Federal public land available for selection under the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 21, 2024

Mrs. PELTOLA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To make additional Federal public land available for selection under the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, 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 “Alaska Native Vietnam
5 Era Veterans Land Allotment Extension and Fulfillment
6 Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF THE ALASKA NATIVE VIETNAM ERA**
2 **VETERANS LAND ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.**

3 Section 1119(b)(3)(B) of the John D. Dingell, Jr.
4 Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (43
5 U.S.C. 1629g–1(b)(3)(B)) is amended by striking “5-year
6 period” and inserting “10-year period”.

7 **SEC. 3. MAKING ADDITIONAL LAND AVAILABLE FOR SELEC-**
8 **TION UNDER THE ALASKA NATIVE VIETNAM**
9 **ERA VETERANS LAND ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.**

10 (a) WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM LAND.—All Federal
11 land identified as suitable for allotment selection in the
12 report under subsection (c)(1) of section 1119 of the John
13 D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recre-
14 ation Act (43 U.S.C. 1629g–1), and published by the
15 United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the report enti-
16 tled “Identification of National Wildlife Refuge System
17 Lands in Alaska That Should Be Made Available for Allot-
18 ment Selection by Eligible Alaska Native Vietnam Era
19 Veterans” (November 2020), shall be made immediately
20 available by the Secretary of the Interior for selection in
21 accordance with that section.

22 (b) FEDERAL LAND MANAGED BY THE FOREST
23 SERVICE.—

24 (1) DEFINITION OF AVAILABLE FEDERAL
25 LAND.—Section 1119(a)(1)(B) of the John D. Din-

1 gell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation
2 Act (43 U.S.C. 1629g–1(a)(1)(B)) is amended—

3 (A) by striking clause (v); and

4 (B) by redesignating clauses (vi) through
5 (x) as clauses (v) through (ix), respectively.

6 (2) IDENTIFICATION OF FEDERAL LAND.—Sec-
7 tion 1119 of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation,
8 Management, and Recreation Act (43 U.S.C.
9 1629g–1) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(e) IDENTIFICATION OF FEDERAL LAND ADMINIS-
12 TERED BY THE FOREST SERVICE.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
14 the date of enactment of this subsection, the Sec-
15 retary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Sec-
16 retary, the State, Regional Corporations, and Village
17 Corporations, shall identify available Federal land
18 within units of the National Forest System in the
19 State that should be made available for allotment se-
20 lection by eligible individuals.

21 “(2) EXCLUSIONS.—In identifying available
22 Federal land within units of the National Forest
23 System in the State that should be made available
24 for allotment selection under paragraph (1), the Sec-

1 retary shall not identify any available Federal land
2 in a unit of the National Forest System—

3 “(A) the conveyance of which, independ-
4 ently or as part of a group of allotments,
5 could—

6 “(i) significantly interfere with bio-
7 logical, physical, cultural, scenic, rec-
8 reational, or subsistence values; or

9 “(ii) interfere with the management
10 plan of the unit;

11 “(B) that is located within 300 feet from
12 the shore of a navigable body of water;

13 “(C) that is not consistent with the pur-
14 poses for which the unit was established; or

15 “(D) that is designated by Congress as wil-
16 derness.

17 “(3) AVAILABILITY OF LAND.—All available
18 Federal land identified as suitable for allotment se-
19 lection under this subsection shall be made imme-
20 diately available for selection in accordance with this
21 section.”.

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