

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 887

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to submit a report on Indian land fractionation, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to submit a report on Indian land fractionation, 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. REPORT ON INDIAN LAND FRACTIONATION.**

4 Not later than 6 months after funds are made avail-  
5 able for this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall  
6 submit a report to the Committee on Natural Resources  
7 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
8 Indian Affairs of the Senate that contains the following:

1           (1) A comprehensive assessment of Indian land  
2           fractionation.

3           (2) The plan of the Secretary for consolidating  
4           highly fractionated Indian lands pursuant the Indian  
5           Land Consolidation Act and the Class Action Settle-  
6           ment Agreement referred to in section 2.

7           (3) Any alternative to the plan referred to in  
8           paragraph (2) to consolidate highly fractionated In-  
9           dian lands in a manner that—

10                   (A) maximizes economic return on lands  
11                   held in trust for the benefit of individual Indi-  
12                   ans or Indian tribes;

13                   (B) lowers Federal costs of managing and  
14                   probating such lands; and

15                   (C) includes contracting and compacting  
16                   under title I and title IV of the Indian Self-De-  
17                   termination and Education Assistance Act.

18 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON INDIAN TRUST ACCOUNT SETTLE-**  
19 **MENT.**

20           Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the  
21           Class Action Settlement Agreement dated December 7,  
22           2009, in the case entitled Elouise Cobell et al. v. Ken  
23           Salazar et al., United States District Court, District of  
24           Columbia, Civil Action No. 96–1285 (TFH), the total

- 1 amount awarded for attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs
- 2 shall not exceed \$50,000,000.

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