

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 634 - Kootenai Indian Trust Land, Idaho, which transfers 12.5 acres of Federal land into trust status for the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho.

The Kootenai Tribe, which numbers about 60 persons, resides in the northernmost part of Idaho near the Canadian border. Although the tribe is federally recognized, it has no reservation, and its members live on a number of scattered tracts of allotted land. The bill will transfer to trust status two adjacent tracts totaling 12.5 acres which are owned by the Federal Government, thus creating a reservation.

The bill provides for transfer of the lands without consideration, it contains the standard off-set provision which directs the Indian Claims Commission to determine whether and to what extent the value of the land should be set off against any pending claim against the United States.

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