



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, D.C. 20240



IN REPLY REFER TO:

MAR 26 1999

Memorandum

To: Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

From: Acting Director, Office of Tribal Services /S/ Robert R. Jaeger

Subject: H.R. 946, Graton Rancheria Restoration Act

H.R. 946, now being considered in the 106th Congress, 1st Session, is the same bill as H.R. 4434, "A Bill to restore Federal recognition to the Indians of the Graton Rancheria of California." H.R. 4434 was introduced in the 105th Congress, Second Session. Since no changes have occurred, our comments for the H.R. 4434 are applicable to H.R. 946.

This office provided comments on H.R. 4434 on September 8, 1998, and we enclose a copy of these comments. In our previous comments on H.R. 4434, we stated that "we would generally support a tribe requesting restoration of Federal recognition when there is documentation to show that the group is significantly tied to the terminated tribe." We further stated that "we have not seen any such evidence in regards to the Graton Rancheria and therefore cannot recommend support of this bill at this time."

In relation to H.R. 946, however, we would like to further comment that we would like the opportunity to review such evidence in order to make further recommendations.

cc: Surname [REDACTED] 400; Hold
RLFleming; 3/26/99; x2785; K:/SHARE/OTS/BAR/CORRESP/Lee/HR946