COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES 114th Congress Disclosure Form As required by and provided for in House Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5)

Legislative Hearing:

• H.R. 3477 (Rep. Markwayne Mullin), To enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between Federal tourism assets, and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States. "*The Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act*"; and

February 24, 2016

For Individuals:

Name: Address: Email Address: Phone Number:

* * * * *

For Witnesses Representing Organizations:

Name: Sherry L. Rupert

Name of Organization(s) You are Representing at the Hearing: American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA)

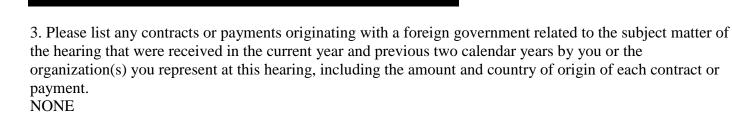
Business Address **Constant Sector**: Business Email Address: Business Phone Number:

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For Nongovernment Witnesses ONLY:

1. Please attach/include current curriculum vitae or resume. (Attached to email)

2. Please list any federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) related to the subject matter of the hearing that were received in the current year and previous two calendar years by you or the organization(s) you represent at this hearing, including the source and amount of each grant or contract.



Sherry L. Rupert

State of Nevada Indian Commission:

Sherry L. Rupert is the Executive Director of the State of Nevada Indian Commission, appointed by Governor Kenny Guinn September of 2005. On October 10, 2013, Sherry was sworn in by Governor Brian Sandoval as the first American Indian woman to be appointed a member of his cabinet. With over 20 years of tribal, public and private business experience, she possesses a strong background in accounting, finance, business administration, tribal tourism and Indian Affairs.

Mrs. Rupert is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. She is past President of the Native American Chapter of the University of Nevada, Reno Alumni Association. She has presented at numerous tribal, state, regional and national conferences and served two terms as President of the Governors' Interstate Indian Council, and was formerly its Treasurer for two terms. The Governors' Interstate Indian Council (GIIC) is a national organization promoting and protecting the various interests, welfare and well-being of American Indian people of the United States and in particular those American Indian residents within the participating states of the GIIC.

Sherry is the Chairwoman of Nevada's Indian Territory, a marketing arm of the Nevada Commission on Tourism, and was awarded the 2007 and 2008 Excellence in Tourism Award as well as the 2011 Statewide Excellence in Tourism Award from the Nevada Commission on Tourism for her success in promoting and advancing tourism in Indian Country. She was also awarded the 2009 Human and Civil Rights Award from the Nevada State Education Association for her work in the advancement of Indian education in the state.

Mrs. Rupert has a record of notable service as the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) Vice President, Treasurer, and a member of its Board of Directors (Southwest Region Representative). As a consequence, she was elected President of the Board of Directors in January 2014. The American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit association of American Indian tribes, tribal tourism, cultural and private sector representatives, representatives from the tourism industry, Federal, State and local governments, colleges and universities, and friends that was incorporated in 2002 to advance Indian Country tourism.

Last year Mrs. Rupert served on the U.S. Department of Commerce Travel and Tourism Advisory Board (US TTAB). The US TTAB, established in 2003, serves as the advisory body to the Secretary of Commerce and the White House on matters relating to the travel and tourism industry in the United States.

Sherry is an American Indian of Paiute and Washoe heritage. She is also a proud Native Nevadan, born in Carson City and raised on the Washoe Reservation in Gardnerville, Nevada. Now residing in Carson City, she is a wife and mother of two. Her eldest son proudly serves in the United States Navy.

EDUCATION

August 2002- May 2005	Bachelor of Science <i>University of Nevada Reno</i> , Reno, Nevada Major: Finance
August 1999- May 2002	Associate of Arts College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada Major: General Studies

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

September 2005-	Executive Director
Present	State of Nevada, Indian Commission, Carson City, NV
July 2004 -	Administrative Assistant
September 2005	State of Nevada, Indian Commission, Carson City, NV
June 1999 -	Senior Financial Office Specialist
November 2000	Clark County, Comptroller's Office, Las Vegas, Nevada
March 1998 -	Program Officer I
June 1999	State of Nevada, Department of Business & Industry, Las Vegas, Nevada
January 1996-	Accounting Specialist
March 1998	State of Nevada, Department of Business & Industry, Las Vegas, Nevada
February 1993 -	Accountant Tech I
January 1996	State of Nevada, Department of Administration, Carson City, Nevada
February 1991 -	Accounting Clerk III
February 1993	State of Nevada, Department of Administration, Carson City, Nevada
June 1990 -	Word Processor I
February 1991	State of Nevada, Department of Administration, Carson City, Nevada

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Local/State/Regional/Federal Service

September 2010 -	President, Board of Directors
Present	American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Albuquerque, NM

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June 2013 -	Board Member
December 2015	U.S. Department of Commerce, Travel and Tourism Advisory Board,
	Washington D.C.
August 2008 -	Chairwoman
Present	Nevada's Indian Territory, Carson City, Nevada
April 2007 - 2010	Sierra Nevada College Native American Scholars Program Coordinator Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, Nevada
December 2006 -	UNR Powwow Committee Member
May 2010	University of Nevada, Reno; Reno, Nevada
August 2006 -	Secretary/Treasurer, Board of Directors
Present	Governors' Interstate Indian Council, Salt Lake City, UT
December 2005 -	Ely Shoshone Powwow Coordinator
July 2008	Ely Shoshone Tribe, Ely, Nevada
July 2004 –	Stewart Father's Day Powwow Coordinator
Present	Stewart Father's Day Powwow Committee, Carson City, Nevada

HONORS AND AWARDS

April 2011	Statewide Excellence in Tourism Award Nevada Commission on Tourism, Carson City, Nevada
April 2009	Human and Civil Rights Award Nevada State Education Association, Reno, Nevada
April 2009	Excellence in Tourism Award Nevada Commission on Tourism, Carson City, Nevada
November 2007	Native American Community Leader American Indian Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas, Nevada
February 2007	Graduate Horizons Scholar Seattle, Washington
March 2007	Excellence in Tourism Award Nevada Commission on Tourism, Carson City, Nevada

STUDENT AFFILIATIONS

February 2003 -	Nevada Alpha Chapter, Beta Gamma Sigma, Member
Present	University of Nevada, Reno; Reno, Nevada
	GPA Requirement of 3.5 or Better, Top 10% of Business College