

LAND CONVEYANCE, CITY OF SUMPTER, OREGON

NOVEMBER 6, 1995.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 1581]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1581) to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture to the City of Sumpter, Oregon, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 1581 is to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture to the City of Sumpter, Oregon.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 1581 would allow Forest Service lands to be conveyed to the City of Sumpter, Oregon. The Forest Service has requested that the City be given ownership of a United States Forest Service guard station to be used as a city park facility. For various management reasons, the Forest Service desires to convey the guard station to the City of Sumpter, Oregon. Due to administrative complications, the conveyance has not been completed.

The Sumpter Guard Station is currently under a Special Use Permit to the City of Sumpter for a community service facility. This permit expires December 31, 1995, and will have to be re-issued to the City. The Forest Service has formally said that they would prefer to transfer the property to the City of Sumpter through legislative action and actively supports this bill.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Congressman Wes Cooley introduced H.R. 1581 on May 9, 1995. The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources, and within the Committee, to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Lands. On July 20, 1995, the Subcommittee held a hearing on various land exchange bills, including H.R. 1581.

Consideration and mark-up of H.R. 1581 was held in the Subcommittee on October 17, 1995. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the Committee by voice vote, without amendment. Full Committee consideration and mark-up of H.R. 1581 was held on October 25, 1995. The bill was ordered reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1—Land conveyance, City of Sumpter, Oregon

Under subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey, without consideration, to the City of Sumpter, Oregon, all right, title and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of land approximately 1.43 acres, as described in the bill.

Subsection (b) provides a further description of the property.

Subsection (c) specifies that the conveyance shall be subject to the condition that the City use the conveyed property for public purposes, such as a city park, information center, or interpretive area.

Under subsection (d), the United States is relieved of liability for claims arising from the presence of hazardous materials on the conveyed property.

Under subsection (e), if the City does not use the property in accordance with the condition of the bill, then the Secretary has the option to take possession of the property.

Under subsection (f), the Secretary may authorize the City to dispose of the property for fair market value and transfer the proceeds to the United States.

Under subsection (g), the Secretary may require additional terms and conditions of the conveyance to protect the interests of the United States.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With respect to the requirements of clause 2(l)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 2(l)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee estimates that the enactment of H.R. 1581 will have no significant inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy.

COST OF THE LEGISLATION

Clause 7(a) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out H.R. 1581. However, clause 7(d) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XI

1. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(l)(3)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, H.R. 1581 does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenue or tax expenditures.

2. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(l)(3)(D) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received no report of oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight on the subject of H.R. 1581.

3. With respect to the requirement of clause 2(l)(3)(C) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for H.R. 1581 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, November 3, 1995.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 1581, a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture to the city of Sumpter, Oregon, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on October 25, 1995. We estimate that enacting H.R. 1581 would have no impact on the federal budget. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. Enacting H.R. 1581 would impose no costs on state or local governments.

The bill would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey about one and a half acres of land to the city of Sumpter, Oregon, on the condition that the land be used only for public purposes, such as a city park, and that if the land is later sold the city reimburse the federal government for the land's fair market value. Since the city currently has a permit to use the land free of charge, there would be no change in offsetting receipts as a result of the land transfer. Since the city plans to use the land as a park and does not intend to sell the land, we expect no additional receipts from a land sale.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Victoria V. Heid.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director*.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, H.R. 1581 would make no changes in existing law.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Committee has received no departmental reports on H.R. 1581.

