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**APPROVED**  
**OCT 18 1974**

**THE WHITE HOUSE**

**WASHINGTON**

**ACTION**

Last Day - October 21

October 17, 1974

*Posted 10/19*  
*To HRC/US 10/19*

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: KEN COLE  
SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954  
Release of reversionary and  
mineral interests, New York  
State

Attached for your consideration is House bill H.R. 7954, sponsored by Representative Hastings, which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit New York to sell the land.

Roy Ash recommends approval and provides you with additional background information in his enrolled bill report (Tab A).

We have checked with Secretary Butz, the Counsel's office (Chapman) and Bill Timmons who also recommend approval.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign House bill H.R. 7954 (Tab B).



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

APPROVED  
OCT 18 1974

OCT 11 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of reversionary  
and mineral interests, New York State  
Sponsor - Rep. Hastings (R) New York

Last Day for Action

October 21, 1974 - Monday

Purpose

Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit New York, subject to certain conditions, to sell the land.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Department of Agriculture  
Department of the Interior

Approval (Informally)  
No objection (Informally)

Discussion

Under provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, in 1961 the Secretary of Agriculture conveyed a 0.42 acre tract of land in New Hudson, New York, to the State of New York which was to be managed by the State as a part of the Hanging Bog Game Management Area. The conveyance was subject to a reversionary clause in the deed which requires that the land be managed for public purposes. In addition, the United States has a 75 percent interest in the minerals in the land.

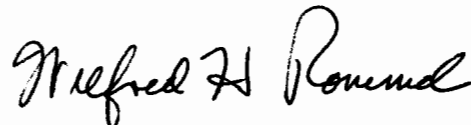
This tract is contiguous to a cemetery operated by the Bellville Cemetery Association. State lands surround the cemetery and the Bellville Cemetery Association desires to acquire the 0.42 acre tract for cemetery purposes. However, because of the reversionary and mineral interests presently held by the United States, this is not possible.

H.R. 7954 would authorize and direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release, on behalf of the United States, the reversionary interest in the 0.42 acre tract of land described above. This release would be conditioned on the State of New York agreeing to convey the land to the Bellville Cemetery Association for a fair and equitable consideration.

The enrolled bill would also direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey, at fair market value, all the undivided mineral interests of the United States in this 0.42 acre tract. In this regard, the Secretary would be required to receive payment for all administrative costs associated with the conveyance.

In its report on H.R. 7954, Agriculture stated that:

"The only practical opportunity for enlarging the cemetery appears to be through the acquisition of a portion of the adjacent State land. Because the State would receive fair value for the land and the proceeds would be used for public purposes, we would have no objection to releasing the reversionary condition as it applies to the land to be conveyed."



Assistant Director for  
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 654

Date: October 15, 1974

Time: 9:30 a.m.

FOR ACTION: ✓ Michael Duval  
✓ Phil Buchen  
Bill Timmons

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
Jerry Jones  
Paul Theis  
Norm Ross

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

---

DUE: Date: October 17, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

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SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of reversionary  
and mineral interests, New York State

ACTION REQUESTED:

\_\_\_ For Necessary Action

~~\_\_\_~~ For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_ Prepare Agenda and Brief

\_\_\_ Draft Reply

\_\_\_ For Your Comments

\_\_\_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

---

K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

10/14/74

TO:

W. Hendricks

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John J. Ratchford

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 654

Date: October 15, 1974

Time: 9:30 a.m.

FOR ACTION: Michael Duval  
Phil Buchen  
Bill Timmons

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
Jerry Jones  
Paul Theis  
Norm Ross

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: October 17, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of reversionary  
and mineral interests, New York State

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

*No objection  
D.C.*

**PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.**

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 16, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. WARREN HENDRIKS

FROM: WILLIAM E. TIMMONS *WT*

SUBJECT: Action Memorandum - Log No. 654  
Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of  
reversionary and mineral interests,  
New York State

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs in the attached proposal and has no additional recommendations.

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 654

Date: October 15, 1974

Time: 9:30 a.m.

FOR ACTION: Michael Duval  
Phil Buchen  
✓ Bill Timmons

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
Jerry Jones  
Paul Theis  
Norm Ross

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: October 17, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of reversionary  
and mineral interests, New York State

ACTION REQUESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_ For Necessary Action

XX For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_\_\_ Prepare Agenda and Brief

\_\_\_\_\_ Draft Reply

\_\_\_\_\_ For Your Comments

\_\_\_\_\_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 654

Date: October 15, 1974

Time: 9:30 a.m.

FOR ACTION: Michael Duval  
Phil Buchen  
Bill Timmons

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
Jerry Jones  
Paul Theis  
Norm Ross

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: October 17, 1974 *Thursday* Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of reversionary and mineral interests, New York State

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

*OK*  
*Mike Duval 10/15*

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

This looks alright to me, Kathy -- 10-16-74

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks  
For the President



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

**OCT 11 1974**

Dear Mr. Ash:

This responds to your request for our views on the enrolled bill H.R. 7954, "To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit such State, subject to certain conditions, to sell such land."

We would have no objection to the President's approval of the enrolled bill.

The bill, as enrolled, directs the Secretary of Agriculture to release a reversionary interest in .42 acres without consideration for the benefit of the State of New York, and it directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey the mineral interests in the same land to the State upon payment of fair market value and administrative costs. If the lands are determined to have no mineral value, the mineral interests are to be conveyed for a consideration of \$1.

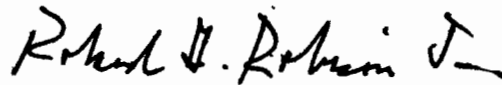
The land at one time was under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture and was conveyed to the State of New York under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, 50 Stat. 525 as amended, 7 U.S.C. §1010 et seq. (1970), subject to a mineral reservation and a reverter to protect against use for nonpublic purposes. The land is needed by the Bellville Cemetery Association in order to expand its holdings which are surrounded by State-owned lands.

This Department's only concern is with the disposition of the mineral interests. We defer to the Department of Agriculture as to whether the release of the reversionary interest would be consistent with their policy for releasing reversionary interests on lands conveyed under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

It is the Department's policy not to object to legislation to convey mineral interests (1) when the land is not valuable for development

of the minerals or the mineral interests in the U.S. interferes with more beneficial development of the land than mineral development, and (2) when the conveyance would be for fair market value plus administrative costs. The Geological Survey indicates that the land is not valuable for mineral development, the bill provides for payment of fair market value for the mineral interests in any event, and Congress adopted provisions recommended by the Department of Agriculture on our behalf to ensure payment of administrative costs. The bill, as enrolled, is therefore consistent with our policies for the conveyance of mineral interests.

Sincerely yours,



**Deputy Assistant**

Secretary of the Interior

Honorable Roy L. Ash  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D. C. 20503



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

October 11, 1974

Honorable Roy L. Ash  
Director, Office of Management  
and Budget

Dear Mr. Ash:

In reply to the request of your office, the following report is submitted on the enrolled enactment H.R. 7954, "To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interest in such lands so as to permit such State, subject to certain conditions, to sell such land."

The enactment authorizes and directs the Secretary of Agriculture to release, on behalf of the United States, a condition contained in a deed conveying a tract of land once owned by the United States to the State of New York. The condition requires that the conveyed lands be used for public purposes and provides for a reversion to the United States if the lands cease to be so used. The release would only apply to a 0.42 acre portion of the lands conveyed to the State. The release would be made in consideration of an agreement by the State to convey the 0.42 acres to the Bellville Cemetery Association for a fair and equitable consideration.

The Department of Agriculture recommends that the President approve the enactment.

The land conveyed by the United States to the State of New York had been acquired and administered under the provisions of Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (50 Stat. 525). This title authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a program for the rehabilitation of submarginal lands. Title III also authorizes the Secretary to dispose of lands to public authorities and agencies under terms and conditions he deems will best accomplish Title III purposes, but only on the condition that the property conveyed is used for public purposes. In the late 1940's the land was leased to the State for wildlife conservation purposes and in 1961 it was conveyed to the State to be managed for public purposes.


The lands conveyed to the State surround a cemetery held by the Bellville Cemetery Association. The Association needs to enlarge the cemetery and has sought to purchase a small parcel (0.42 acres) from the State. However, the State cannot sell the land unless it is released from the condition in the deed from the United States.

Honorable Roy L. Ash

2

Because the State would receive fair value for the land and the proceeds would be used for public purposes, we have no objection to releasing the condition as it applies to the small parcel to be conveyed to the Bellville Cemetery Association.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Phil Campbell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

J. Phil Campbell  
Acting Secretary

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

W. Henderson  
6 PM  
10/1/74

OCT 11 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 7954 - Release of reversionary  
and mineral interests, New York State  
Sponsor - Rep. Hastings (R) New York

Last Day for Action

October 21, 1974 - Monday

Purpose

Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit New York, subject to certain conditions, to sell the land.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Department of Agriculture  
Department of the Interior

Approval (Informally)  
No objection (Informally)

Discussion

Under provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, in 1961 the Secretary of Agriculture conveyed a 0.42 acre tract of land in New Hudson, New York, to the State of New York which was to be managed by the State as a part of the Hanging Bog Game Management Area. The conveyance was subject to a reversionary clause in the deed which requires that the land be managed for public purposes. In addition, the United States has a 75 percent interest in the minerals in the land.

This tract is contiguous to a cemetery operated by the Bellville Cemetery Association. State lands surround the cemetery and the Bellville Cemetery Association desires to acquire the 0.42 acre tract for cemetery purposes. However, because of the reversionary and mineral interests presently held by the United States, this is not possible.

H.R. 7954 would authorize and direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release, on behalf of the United States, the reversionary interest in the 0.42 acre tract of land described above. This release would be conditioned on the State of New York agreeing to convey the land to the Bellville Cemetery Association for a fair and equitable consideration.

The enrolled bill would also direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey, at fair market value, all the undivided mineral interests of the United States in this 0.42 acre tract. In this regard, the Secretary would be required to receive payment for all administrative costs associated with the conveyance.

In its report on H.R. 7954, Agriculture stated that:

"The only practical opportunity for enlarging the cemetery appears to be through the acquisition of a portion of the adjacent State land. Because the State would receive fair value for the land and the proceeds would be used for public purposes, we would have no objection to releasing the reversionary condition as it applies to the land to be conveyed."

(signed) Wilfred H. Rommel

Assistant Director for  
Legislative Reference

Enclosures



## LAND CONVEYANCE TO STATE OF NEW YORK

August 15, 1974.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. POAGE, from the Committee on Agriculture,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 7954]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 7954) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit such State, subject to certain conditions, to sell such land, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 3, line 4, strike out the word "Bellview", and insert in lieu thereof the word "Bellville".

Page 3, line 19, strike out lines 19 through 25; page 4, line 1, strike out lines 1 through 3 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior shall require the deposit of a sum of money which he deems sufficient to cover estimated administrative costs of this Act. If a conveyance is, or is not made pursuant to this Act, and the administrative costs exceed the deposit, the Secretary shall bill the applicant for the outstanding amount, but if the amount of the deposit exceeds the actual administrative costs, the Secretary shall refund the excess.

#### PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of this bill is to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to release, on behalf of the United States Government, certain reversionary conditions contained in a deed conveying U.S. Government lands to the State of New York.

The Bellville Cemetery Association, located in New Hudson, New York, is surrounded by a 3,700 acre tract of land which was deeded to New York in 1961. Bellville Cemetery, faced with a need for enlarging

its facilities, has attempted to purchase 0.42 acre of this tract from the State. The transaction has been delayed by a reversionary clause in the original deed, which declares that if the land is not used for public purposes, it reverts back to the U.S. Government. This bill would allow the Secretary of Agriculture to release and permit the Bellville Cemetery Association to acquire the 0.42 acre of land from New York State, at a fair and equitable consideration.

#### COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On May 21, 1973, H.R. 7954 was introduced in the House by Mr. Hastings of New York, and on May 22, 1973, was referred to the Department Operations Subcommittee. The Department Operations Subcommittee held an open hearing and business meeting on July 9, 1974, and reported the bill, amended, to the full committee. On July 16, 1974, in an open business meeting, and in the presence of a quorum, the full committee ordered reported to the House H.R. 7954, as amended, by a unanimous voice vote.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION

On April 24, 1974, the Department of Agriculture submitted the following:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, D.C., April 24, 1974.*

HON. W. R. POAGE,  
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As you requested, here is the report of the Department of Agriculture on H.R. 7954, a bill, "To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit such State, subject to certain conditions, to sell such land."

The Department of Agriculture would have no objection to the enactment of H.R. 7954, if amended as suggested herein.

H.R. 7954 would authorize and direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States a certain condition contained in a 1961 deed conveying certain described land owned by the United States to the State of New York. The condition requires that the lands conveyed to the State be used for public purposes and provides for a reversion to the United States if the lands cease to be so used. This bill would provide that the Secretary shall release the condition only with respect to a tract of land consisting of approximately 0.42 acres. The bill would stipulate that the land is to be released to Bellview Cemetery Association for a fair and equitable consideration.

H.R. 7954 also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of New York all the undivided mineral interests, which were previously reserved to the United States, in any parcel of land released pursuant to the legislation.

The land described in the 1961 deed was originally acquired by the United States and administered under the provisions of Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (50 Stat. 525). This Title authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a program for the rehabilitation of submarginal lands. Title III also authorizes the Secretary to dispose of lands to public authorities and agencies under terms and conditions he deems will best accomplish Title III purposes, but only on condition that the property conveyed is used for public purposes. Land use practices that existed when the land was originally acquired by the United States have changed. Resource damage existing at the time of acquisition has been corrected: In the late 1940's the land was leased to the State for wildlife conservation purposes and in 1961 it was conveyed to the State to be managed for public purposes.

The 0.42 acre parcel of land that would be conveyed by H.R. 7954 has been managed by the State as part of the larger Hanging Bog Game Management Area. The parcel is adjacent to a cemetery held by the Bellville Cemetery Association. The cemetery is surrounded by lands owned by the State and the additional 0.42 acre is needed for cemetery purposes. The land cannot be conveyed to the Association unless the State is released from a condition in the deed which requires the land to revert to the United States if not used for public purposes.

Some 836,000 acres of Title III lands have been conveyed by this Department to various public bodies in a number of separate transactions. Over the years, changes in land use patterns, administrative requirements and other factors have affected the ability of some public bodies to effectively administer portions of the Title III lands conveyed to them. Consequently, some have sought to sell or exchange these lands. Special legislation that authorized and directed the Secretary of Agriculture to release the reversionary conditions has been enacted for such cases; however, the legislation would require the public bodies to agree that the proceeds from a sale of the lands would be used to acquire comparable lands for public purposes.

In this case the State does not need to dispose of the land. It would only be doing so to accommodate the Bellville Cemetery Association, which finds itself in the position of needing more land. The only practical opportunity for enlarging the cemetery appears to be through the acquisition of a portion of the adjacent State land. Because the State would receive fair value for the land and the proceeds would be used for public purposes, we would have no objection to releasing the reversionary condition as it applies to the land to be conveyed.

The authorization to convey the mineral interest as contained in section 4 does not conform to the provisions utilized by the Department of the Interior in such cases. We recommend that section 4 be amended to so conform. A suggested amendment is provided in the attached supplement to this report.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

J. PHIL CAMPBELL,  
*Under Secretary.*

## SUPPLEMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE REPORT ON H.R. 7954

Department of Agriculture recommended amendment:

The authorization to convey the mineral interest contained in section 4, does not conform to the provisions recommended by the Department of the Interior in these cases. Section 4 provides that the deposit for administrative costs is nonrefundable and constitutes full payment of the costs if a conveyance of the mineral interest is not made. The substitute provisions authorize the Secretary of the Interior to refund the applicant for any part of the deposit in excess of the costs and to bill the applicant for any deficit. In order to ensure proper payment of costs, we suggest that section 4 be amended as follows:

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior shall require the deposit of a sum of money which he deems sufficient to cover estimated administrative costs of this Act. If a conveyance is not made pursuant to this Act, and the administrative costs exceed the deposit, the Secretary shall bill the applicant for the outstanding amount, but if the amount of the deposit exceeds the actual administrative costs, the Secretary shall refund the excess.

## CURRENT AND FIVE SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEAR COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 7 of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the committee estimates the cost to be incurred by the Federal Government during the current and the five subsequent fiscal years as a result of the enactment of this legislation would be negligible, with administrative costs to be paid by the applicant.

The same cost estimate was submitted to the committee by the Department of Agriculture.



# Ninety-third Congress of the United States of America

## AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four*

### An Act

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit such State, subject to certain conditions, to sell such land.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, notwithstanding the provisions of section 32(c) of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1011(c)), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to release, on behalf of the United States, with respect to the following described land, the condition in a deed dated January 28, 1961, between the United States and the State of New York, conveying certain lands in Allegany County in the State of New York to the State of New York, of which such described land is a part, which requires that the lands so conveyed be used for public purposes and provides for a reversion of such land to the United States if at any time it ceases to be so used:

A parcel or tract of land consisting of approximately .42 acre, being a portion of the lands conveyed by such deed dated January 28, 1961, being in the town of New Hudson, county of Allegany, State of New York, being part of lot 47 in such town which begins at the southwest corner of the existing cemetery lot; thence south on a line that is the continuation of the west line of said existing cemetery lot a distance of 100 feet to a point; thence east and parallel to the south line of said existing cemetery lot a distance of 185 feet to a point on the continuation of the east line of said existing cemetery lot; thence north along ~~the said continuation of said east line a distance of 100 feet to the~~ southeast corner of said existing cemetery lot; thence west along the south line of said existing cemetery lot a distance of 185 feet to the place of beginning.

SEC. 2. The Secretary shall release the condition referred to in the first section of this Act only with respect to land covered by and described in any agreement or agreements entered into between the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of New York in which such State in consideration of the release of such conditions as to such land, agrees to convey the land with respect to which such condition is released to the Bellville Cemetery Association for a fair and equitable consideration.

SEC. 3. Upon application all the undivided mineral interests of the United States in any parcel or tract of land, released pursuant to this Act from the condition as to such lands, shall be conveyed to the State of New York for the use and benefit of the State by the Secretary of the Interior. In areas where the Secretary of the Interior determines that there is no active mineral development or leasing, and that the lands have no mineral value, the mineral interests covered by a single application shall be sold for a consideration of \$1. In other areas the mineral interests shall be sold at the fair market value thereof as determined by the Secretary of the Interior after taking into consideration such appraisals as he deems necessary or appropriate.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior shall require the deposit of a sum of money which he deems sufficient to cover estimated administrative costs of this Act. If a conveyance is, or is not made pursuant to this Act, and the administrative costs exceed the deposit, the Secretary shall bill the applicant for the outstanding amount, but if the amount of the deposit exceeds the actual administrative costs, the Secretary shall refund the excess.

H. R. 7954—2

SEC. 5. The term "administrative costs" as used in this Act includes, in addition to other items, all costs which the Secretary of the Interior determines are included in a determination of (1) the mineral character of the land in question, and (2) the fair market value of the mineral interest.

SEC. 6. Amounts paid to the Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of this Act shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

October 9, 1974

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on October 9th:

S.J. Res. 12 <sup>✓</sup>	H.R. 7954 <sup>✓</sup>
S. 1794 <sup>✓</sup>	H.R. 9054 <sup>✓</sup>
S. 2220 <sup>✓</sup>	H.R. 11537 <sup>✓</sup>
S. 3362 <sup>✓</sup>	

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder  
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable Roy L. Ash  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D. C.