

The original documents are located in Box 51, folder “1976/07/14 HR1404 Relief of Lucille Jones” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Exact duplicates within this folder were not digitized.

APPROVED
JUL 14 1976

87/14/76

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
July 13, 1976

ACTION

Last Day: July 17

posted
7/15/76

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
FROM: JIM CANNON *J.C.*
SUBJECT: H.R. 1404 Relief of Lucille Jones

archives
7/15/76

Attached for your consideration is H.R. 1404, sponsored by Representative Johnson. The enrolled bill would permit Mrs. Lucille Jones to acquire 160 acres in Madera County, California upon payment of the present fair market value and administrative costs.

A discussion of the enrolled bill is provided in OMB's bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, Counsel's Office (Lazarus) and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign H.R. 1404 at Tab B.



107 1 202



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUL 9 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 1404 - Relief of Lucille Jones
Sponsor - Rep. Johnson (D) California

Last Day for Action

July 17, 1976 - Saturday

Purpose

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Department of Health, Education,
and Welfare

Approval

General Services Administration

No objection

Department of the Interior

Defers to GSA

Department of Justice

Defers to GSA and
Interior

Discussion

The enrolled bill would permit Mrs. Lucille Jones to acquire 160 acres of unimproved Federal land located in Madera County, California. Mrs. Jones would be required to acquire the land within one year after the date of enactment of this legislation and to make payment of the fair market value of the land less any enhancement thereto by herself or her predecessors.

The 160-acre tract of land was patented to John McMann, Mrs. Jones' grandfather, in 1893, but the patent was not recorded at that time. In 1902 a suit was brought against Mr. McMann by the Department of Justice on behalf of the United States to recover a money judgment in the amount of \$570, plus costs, for timber trespass. Judgment was awarded and the land was sold to the United States for \$500. In 1909, Mr. McMann recorded the original 1893 patent.



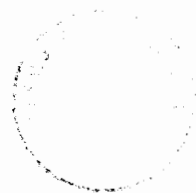
Since the issuance of the patent the land has been occupied by Mr. McMann and/or Mrs. Jones. The Justice Department has determined that title to the subject property clearly vests with the United States, despite the fact that Mrs. Jones has paid the property taxes for 30 years.

In 1972, the tract was reported to GSA for further Federal utilization or disposal as excess to the needs of the Department of Justice. No further Federal requirements for the property developed and plans were made for its disposal as surplus property. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has requested transfer of the property for educational use by the California State University at Fresno, California, and under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, HEW would have a preference over Mrs. Jones. However, due to the special circumstances surrounding this case, GSA has deferred to Congress for determination of the question of whether it is advisable to obtain the fair market value of the property from Mrs. Jones, or to obtain the benefit which would flow from use of the property for educational purposes.

We recommend approval and concur with HEW's comment in its attached views letter that it is reasonable "to sell at market value an unneeded parcel of land to a person who has with good cause believed the land to be hers and has paid property taxes on the land for thirty years."

James M. Frey
Assistant Director
for Legislative Reference

Enclosures



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: July 9

Time: 600pm

FOR ACTION:

George Humphreys
Max Friedersdorf
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information):

Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: July 12

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

H.R. 1404-Relief of Lucille Jones

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor 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



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

JUL 8 1976

The Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This is in response to your request for a report on H.R. 1404, an enrolled bill "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes."

In summary, we recommend that the President sign the enrolled bill, as this would enable the Federal government to sell at market value an unneeded parcel of land to a person who has with good cause believed the land to be hers and has paid property taxes on the land for thirty years.

The bill would direct the Federal government to sell to Lucille Jones at market value a parcel of land of 160 acres located in Madera County, California. If the enrolled bill does not become law, the property will be handled through the usual channels for property no longer needed by the Federal government, and probably be donated for educational use to a nearby college.

Mrs. Jones, due to the recordation history of this parcel of land, has with good cause believed the property to be hers, and has paid property taxes on it for thirty years. Under these circumstances, we feel it is reasonable to require the government to sell the property to her at market value.

We therefore recommend that the President sign the enrolled bill.

Sincerely,

Under Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20405



July 6, 1976

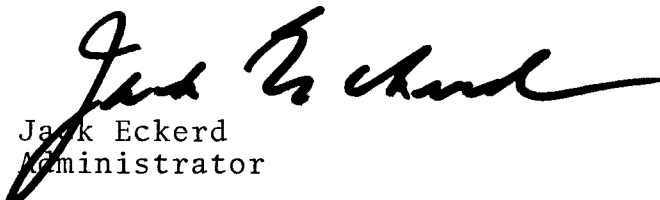
Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of
Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

By letter of July 2, 1976, you requested the views of the General Services Administration (GSA) on enrolled bill H.R. 1404, a bill "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes.

GSA has no objection to presidential approval of this bill.

Sincerely,


Jack Eckerd
Administrator

Keep Freedom in Your Future With U.S. Savings Bonds



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 6 - 1976

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This responds to your request for this Department's views on H. R. 1404, an enrolled bill "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes."

As noted in our legislative report of June 13, 1975, on this bill, we have been informed that the land described in the bill has been under the jurisdiction of the General Services Administration since October 1972. We therefore defer to them for their views on the bill.

H.R. 1404 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey 160 acres of designated land in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones for fair market value, less any enhancement in value of the land brought by Mrs. Jones or her predecessors. The bill requires Mrs. Jones to make an application to purchase the land within one year of the date of enactment of the bill and to bear any administrative costs arising from the conveyance.

The land was patented to Mr. John McMann in 1893 under the homestead laws. The patent was not recorded until 1909. During the interim, in 1902, the Department of Justice brought suit against Mr. McMann to recover a money judgment of \$570 plus costs, based on a timber trespass. The property was levied on and sold at public sale to the United States for \$500. A Marshall's Deed was issued to the United States on December 1, 1904. We understand that Mrs. Jones is the daughter of Mr. McMann and apparently the property has been occupied by one or both of them since issuance of the patent.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant

Secretary of the Interior

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of
Management and Budget
Washington, D. C.



Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

July 7, 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

In compliance with your request, I have examined a facsimile of the enrolled bill (H.R. 1404), "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes."

The bill permits Mrs. Jones to acquire a 160-acre tract of land upon payment of the present fair market value and administrative costs. Mrs. Jones is an heir of one John McMann, who homesteaded the 160 acres. He received a patent in 1893, but before he recorded it in 1909, the United States obtained a judgment against him for timber trespass and received a United States Marshall's Deed for the property. Taxes have been paid annually since 1909 by Mr. McMann and his heirs.

Mrs. Jones first requested a quitclaim deed from the Secretary of the Interior. However, since the Department of Justice had retained administrative jurisdiction over the land (pursuant to the Marshall's Deed), it was reported as excess to the General Services Administration in 1972 for disposal pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act, 40 U.S.C. 484.

The Department of Justice defers to the General Services Administration and the Department of the Interior as to whether this bill should receive Executive approval.

Sincerely,



Michael M. Uhlmann
Assistant Attorney General



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: July 9

Time: 600pm

FOR ACTION: George Humphreys
Max Friedersdorf
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: July 12

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

H.R. 1404-Relief of Lucille Jones

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

No objection -- Ken Lazarus 7/12/76

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.

James M. Cannon
For the President

Date: July 9

Time: 600pm

FOR ACTION: George Humphreys ✓ cc (for information): Jack Marsh
 Max Friedersdorf Jim Cavanaugh
 Ken Lazarus Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: July 12

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

H.R. 1404-Relief of Lucille Jones

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

Recommend Approval
putt

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.

James M. Cannon
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *M.L.F.*
SUBJECT: HR 1404 - Relief of Lucille Jones

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies
that the subject bill be signed.

Attachments

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

JUL 9 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 1404 - Relief of Lucille Jones
Sponsor - Rep. Johnson (D) California

Last Day for Action

July 17, 1976 - Saturday

Purpose

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Department of Health, Education,
and Welfare

Approval

General Services Administration

No objection

Department of the Interior

Defers to GSA

Department of Justice

Defers to GSA and
Interior

Discussion

The enrolled bill would permit Mrs. Lucille Jones to acquire 160 acres of unimproved Federal land located in Madera County, California. Mrs. Jones would be required to acquire the land within one year after the date of enactment of this legislation and to make payment of the fair market value of the land less any enhancement thereto by herself or her predecessors.

The 160-acre tract of land was patented to John McMann, Mrs. Jones' grandfather, in 1893, but the patent was not recorded at that time. In 1902 a suit was brought against Mr. McMann by the Department of Justice on behalf of the United States to recover a money judgment in the amount of \$570, plus costs, for timber trespass. Judgment was awarded and the land was sold to the United States for \$500. In 1909, Mr. McMann recorded the original 1893 patent.

Calendar No. 950

94TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 94-1006

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CONVEY
CERTAIN LANDS IN MADERA COUNTY, CALIF., TO MRS. LUCILLE
JONES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

JUNE 28 (legislative day, JUNE 18), 1976.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HASKELL, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 1404]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to which was referred the Act H.R. 1404 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the Act do pass.

PURPOSE

H.R. 1404 would authorize and direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to 160 acres of land located in Madera County, Calif., to Lucille Jones provided that Mrs. Jones applies to acquire the tract of land within 1 year after the date of legislation and makes payment of the fair market value of the land less any enhancement thereto by herself or her predecessors. In addition, Mrs. Jones would be required to bear any administrative expenses arising from the conveyance.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

The 160-acre tract consists of unimproved land which was formerly part of the public domain. It was patented to John McMann in 1893, Mrs. Jones' grandfather, but the patent was not recorded at that time. In 1902, a suit was brought against Mr. McMann by the Department of Justice on behalf of the United States to recover a money judgment in the amount of \$750, plus costs for timber trespass. Judg-



ment was awarded and the tract in question was levied upon in satisfaction thereof. It was sold to the United States for \$500 at a U.S. marshal's sale. A Certificate of Sale and Purchase was issued to the Government in November 1902, subsequently recorded, and confirmed by a U.S. marshal's deed, issued in 1904. However, in 1909 the original 1893 patent was finally recorded by the patentee, Mr. McMann.

On January 5, 1972, the tract was reported to GSA for further Federal utilization or disposal as excess to the needs of the Department of Justice. No further Federal requirements for the tract developed and plans were made for its disposal as surplus property pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949.

The Land and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice determined that title to the subject property clearly vests with the United States, despite the fact that Mrs. Jones is Mr. McMann's granddaughter and has paid the property taxes for 30 years. Even though it appears that the property has been occupied by one or both of them since issuance of the patent, the doctrine of adverse possession does not run against the Government.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has requested transfer of the property for educational use by the California State University at Fresno, Calif., and under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, HEW would have a preference over Mrs. Jones. However, in the special circumstances surrounding this case, the General Services Administration feels it should defer to Congress for determination of the question of whether it is advisable to obtain the fair market value of the property from Mrs. Jones, or to obtain the benefit which would flow from use of the property for educational purposes. The report from GSA expresses no objection to enactment of H.R. 1404.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

H.R. 1404 was introduced by Mr. Johnson of California on January 14, 1975. A hearing before the Subcommittee on Public Lands of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs was held on October 30, 1975. On January 27, 1976, the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs ordered H.R. 1404 reported without amendment. On March 3, 1976, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1404 by a voice vote.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND TABULATION OF VOTES

The Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, in open business session on June 23, 1976, by unanimous vote of a quorum present, recommended that the Senate pass H.R. 1404 without amendments.

Pursuant to section 133(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended, the following is a tabulation of votes of the Committee during consideration of H.R. 1404.

The bill was ordered favorably reported to the Senate on a roll call vote. The vote was as follows:

Yeas—8

Jackson
Church
Metcalf
Johnston
Abourezk
Haskell
Stone
Bumpers

Nays—0

COST

In accordance with subsection (a) of section 255 of the Legislative Reorganization Act, the following is a statement of estimated costs which would be incurred in the implementation of H.R. 1404 as ordered reported. Enactment of this legislation would not have an impact on the Federal budget, since Mrs. Jones would be required to pay fair market value for the property and bear any administrative expenses arising from the conveyance.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The reports of the Federal agencies to the Committee concerning H.R. 1404, are set forth in full, as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., June 13, 1975.

HON. JAMES A. HALEY,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This responds to your request for this Department's views on H.R. 1404, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, Calif., to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes.

We have been informed that the land described in the bill has been under the jurisdiction of the General Services Administration since October 1972. We therefore defer to them for their views on the bill.

H.R. 1404 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey 160 acres of designated land in Madera County, Calif., to Mrs. Lucille Jones for fair market value, less any enhancement in value of the land brought by Mrs. Jones or her predecessors. The bill requires Mrs. Jones to make an application to purchase the land within 1 year of the date of enactment of the bill and to bear any administrative costs arising from the conveyance.

The land was patented to Mr. John McMann in 1893 under the homestead laws. The patent was not recorded until 1909. During the

interim, in 1902, the Department of Justice brought suit against Mr. McMann to recover a money judgment of \$570 plus costs, based on a timber trespass. The property was levied and sold at public sale to the United States for \$500. A marshal's deed was issued to the United States on December 1, 1904.

We understand that Mrs. Jones is the daughter of Mr. McMann and apparently the property has been occupied by one or both of them since issuance of the patent.

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

Sincerely yours,

JOHN KYL,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Washington, D.C., June 19, 1975.

HON. JAMES A. HALEY,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice on H.R. 1404, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, Calif., to Mrs. Lucille Jones.

The land in question was homesteaded by one John McMann. A patent was issued to him in 1893, but not recorded until 1909. During the interim, the United States obtained a judgment against McMann for timber trespass. In 1902, the property was sold under a writ of execution. A marshal's deed for the property was executed in favor of the United States in 1904.

After McMann recorded his patent in 1909, the Madera County Tax Assessor began assessing on the property. These taxes have been paid annually by McMann and his heirs who had possession of the property.

Sale of surplus Federal property is governed by the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of June 30, 1949, 40 U.S.C. 484, as amended. Administration of the property once rested with the Department of Justice. The property was reported excess to General Services Administration on January 3, 1972, pursuant to the act.

This Department defers to the General Services Administration and the Department of the Interior as to the advisability of enactment of H.R. 1404.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely,

A. MITCHELL MCCONNELL, JR.,
Acting Assistant Attorney General.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D.C., June 17, 1975.

HON. JAMES A. HALEY,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Your letter of March 4, 1975, requested the views of the General Services Administration on H.R. 1404, 94th Congress, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, Calif., to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to 160 acres of land located in Madera County, Calif., to Lucille Jones provided that Mrs. Jones applies to acquire the tract of land within 1 year after the date of the legislation and makes payment of the fair market value of the land less any enhancement thereto by herself or her predecessors. In addition, Mrs. Jones would be required to bear any administrative expenses arising from the conveyance.

The 160-acre tract of unimproved land formerly comprised public domain land patented to one John McMann in 1893, but the patent was not at the time recorded. In 1902 a suit was brought against McMann by the Department of Justice on behalf of the United States to recover a money judgment in the amount of \$570 plus costs for timber trespass. Judgment was awarded and the tract in question was levied upon in satisfaction thereof and sold to the United States for \$500 at a U.S. marshal's sale. A Certificate of Sale and Purchase was issued to the Government in November 1902, subsequently recorded, and confirmed by a U.S. marshal's deed issued in 1904. In 1909 the original 1893 patent was recorded by the patentee.

On January 5, 1972, the tract was reported to GSA for further Federal utilization or disposal as excess to the needs of the Department of Justice. No further Federal requirements for the tract developed and plans were made for its disposal as surplus property pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949.

Shortly after receipt of the excess report, we were advised of a possible problem with respect to the Government's title to the land. We therefore requested that the Department of Justice review and report further to us concerning the Government's ownership. The pertinent portions of the Department's report are quoted below:

"The Land and Natural Resources Division of the Department has reviewed your report indicating that there is a 'cloud on the title.' This Division agrees with the stated facts; however, they disagree with the conclusion that such facts constitute a 'cloud on the title.' Briefly, the facts are that in 1893 the Government issued a patent vesting title in John McMann, and in 1904 the Government reacquired title in the property by a Marshal's deed. In 1909 Mr. McMann recorded his 1893 patent.

"The Lands Division concludes that the Government's title is clear, and the 1909 filing by Mr. McMann does not adversely affect the title.

The fact is that the United States claims under a tax deed. Its chain of title originates with the 1893 deed to Mr. McMann. The recording of the patent was necessary to perfect the title of the United States and in no way detracts from the title. The chain of title clearly shows the Government acquired the property in 1904 and has owned the fee since that time."

The Justice Department has determined categorically that title to the subject property clearly vests with the United States, despite the fact that Mr. Jones is Mr. McMann's granddaughter and has paid the property taxes for 30 years.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has requested transfer of the property for educational use by the California State University of Fresno and under section 203 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 471), as amended HEW would have a preference over Mrs. Jones' offer.

Generally, we believe that the Property Act, a law of general application, should govern the disposal of the property as would normally be the case. We have consistently opposed special legislation which is at variance with laws of general application governing the disposal of surplus real property. However, in the special circumstances surrounding this case, we feel obliged to defer to the Congress for determination of the question of whether it is advisable to obtain the fair market value of the property from Mrs. Jones, or to obtain the benefit which would flow from use of the property for educational purposes. Accordingly, we express no objection to enactment of H.R. 1404.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that, from the standpoint of the administration's program, there is no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Sincerely,

DONALD P. YOUNG,
Acting Assistant Administrator.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee states that no changes in existing law would be made by H.R. 1404, as ordered reported.

○

Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

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

An Act

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Madera County, California, to Mrs. Lucille Jones, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to convey to Lucille Jones, Madera, California, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a tract of land in Madera County, California, more particularly described as the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29; the south half of the southwest quarter of section 20; and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 19, all in township 9 south, range 20 east, M.D.B. & M., Madera County, California, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, more or less. Such conveyance shall only be made if Lucille Jones makes application therefor, and, within one year after the date of this Act, makes payment of the fair market value of the land as of the date of this Act, less any enhancement in value brought to the land by Lucille Jones or her predecessors on the land, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior. Lucille Jones shall bear any administrative expenses, including appraisal, filing, and recording fees, arising from the conveyance.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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