

LA PINE LAND CONVEYANCE ACT

JULY 9, 2012.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, from the Committee on Natural Resources, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 270]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (S. 270) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 270 is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

La Pine is a rural community located on the southern edge of Deschutes County, Oregon, and surrounded by lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The city has previously acquired BLM parcels under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (RPPA) and community leaders have discussed with the BLM the need for additional land to serve other public purposes. S. 270 proposes to convey to the City of La Pine and Deschutes County, Oregon, three parcels, consisting of 150 acres for Parcel A, 750 acres for Parcel B, and 10 acres for Parcel C. The conveyances would be subject to valid existing rights and RPPA requirements. The bill will provide for community events land, the expansion of the community's wastewater treatment facilities and open space for the City of La Pine and its public library.

Parcel A is comprised of Community Events Land that would provide room for expansion of long-running and growing community events including La Pine Frontier Days and La Pine Rodeo.

The proposed event area will be used to boost the region's tourism by developing grounds for rodeo and community wide events as well as provide for the development of other park and recreation facilities. Essentially, this land will serve to enhance the community's tourism and recreational pursuits, which are vital to the area's continued economic development.

Parcel B would provide much needed waste water effluent disposal from the growing city. The City of La Pine currently is disposing of effluent to a reuse site that has seasonal water tables varying from 7 to 12 feet below the ground surface. The ability of the community to expand for business and residential growth is limited by the size of the existing reuse site and its close proximity to groundwater. The proposed new treatment and reuse site for La Pine will provide a site of adequate size for the long-term growth of the community.

Finally, Parcel C is a small parcel of BLM land in the city. Located in the center of town where an existing library is located, the City of La Pine will utilize this parcel for open space uses and the continued operation of the library.

COMMITTEE ACTION

S. 270 was introduced on February 3, 2011, by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR). On October 18, 2011, the bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent. The bill was then referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. On May 17, 2012, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On June 7, 2012, the Full Resources Committee met to consider S. 270. The Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands was discharged by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered to the bill and the bill was then adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by voice vote.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(1) 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 this bill. However, clause 3(d)(2)(B) 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 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII 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 this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

S. 270—La Pine Land Conveyance Act

S. 270 would direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to convey, without consideration, 910 acres of land in Oregon to certain local governments. Based on information provided by BLM, CBO estimates that implementing S. 270 would have no significant impact on discretionary spending. Enacting the act would affect direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any such effects would be negligible. Enacting the act would not affect revenues.

Under S. 270, BLM would convey two parcels of land totalling 900 acres to Deschutes County and one parcel of 10 acres to the city of La Pine. The conveyed properties would be used for various public purposes, including recreation. Deschutes County would be responsible for administrative costs associated with conveying the land that it would receive.

Because some of the property to be conveyed under S. 270 has already been identified by BLM for potential sale, CBO estimates that enacting the act would reduce offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending). However, we expect that any such sale would be conducted under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (RPPA), which allows state or local governments to receive federal property at less than fair market value. Therefore, we estimate that any loss of receipts that would result from donating the property to the county or the city (rather than selling it under the RPPA) would be less than \$10,000. We further estimate that any discretionary costs of the conveyances would be negligible.

S. 270 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The land conveyance authorized in the act would benefit the city of La Pine and Deschutes County. Any costs to those entities would be incurred voluntarily.

On August 1, 2011, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 270, the La Pine Land Conveyance Act, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on July 14, 2011. The two versions of the legislation are similar, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

2. Section 308(a) of Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures. Based on information provided by the Bureau of Land Management, CBO estimates that implementing S. 270 would have no significant impact on discretionary spending. Enacting the act would affect direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any such effects would be negligible.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

