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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPORT
107–669

TIMPANOGOS INTERAGENCY LAND EXCHANGE ACT

SEPTEMBER 23, 2002.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. HANSEN, from the Committee on Resources, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 1240]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1240) to provide for the acquisition of land and construction of an interagency administrative and visitor facility at the entrance to American Fork Canyon, Utah, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 1240 is to provide for the acquisition of land and construction of an interagency administrative and visitor facility at the entrance to American Fork Canyon, Utah, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

In 1991, the visitor center for the Mount Timpanogos National Monument burned down. Since that time the National Park Service and visitors to the Monument have used a double-wide trailer as a visitor center and administrative office. The trailer is unsuitable to meet the demands of 125,000 annual visitors. There have also been some safety issues that have arisen due to rock fall. In addition, the U.S. Forest Service's Pleasant Grove Ranger Station for the Uinta National Forest is currently housed in an outdated building that is ill-equipped to meet the administrative and technology needs at the Station. The joint office would allow the visitors' needs and the Station's needs to be met in one location.

The legislation would authorize the exchange of 266 acres of National Forest System land within the Uinta and Wasatch-Cache

National Forests in Utah for 37 acres of private land at the mouth of American Fork Canyon. The bill would also require the Secretary of the Interior to construct a joint visitor center for the Mount Timpanogos National Monument, administered by the National Park Service, and the Uinta National Forest, administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

The single largest parcel of federal land that is to be involved in the exchange is a 237 acre tract located near the forest border known as the Long Hollow-Provo Canyon parcel. The land includes only general resource land with no outstanding resource values. The exchange also involves a 20 acre federal parcel located in Corner Canyon. The private land to be acquired is located near the mouth of American Fork Canyon in Utah County, Utah. The exchange stipulates that the parcels must be of equal value.

COMMITTEE ACTION

S. 1240 was introduced on July 25, 2001, by Senator Robert F. Bennett (R–UT). On August 1, 2002, the Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent. The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources. On September 12, 2002, the Full Resources Committee met to consider the bill. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported by the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

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 Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) 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)(3)(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.

2. 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 tax expenditures. According to the Congressional Budget Office, enactment of this bill would result in the loss of offsetting receipts, but these receipts total less than $1000 a year.

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 provide for the acquisition of land and construction

of an interagency administrative and visitor facility at the entrance to American Fork Canyon, Utah, and for other purposes.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. 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:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 17, 2002.

Hon. JAMES V. HANSEN,
Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1240, the Timpanogos Interagency Land Exchange Act.

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

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

S. 1240—Timpanogos Interagency Land Exchange Act

Summary: CBO estimates that implementing S. 1240 would cost $9 million over the 2003–2005 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. The act would increase direct spending by resulting in the loss of offsetting receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but we estimate that those effects would not exceed $1,000 annually. S. 1240 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 1240 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain federal lands in Utah for privately owned lands in that state. If the value of the lands are not equal, the Secretary could accept or make cash equalization payments. Following the exchange, S. 1240 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to build administrative and visitor facilities on the acquired lands. Under the legislation, both agencies would jointly occupy, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities.

Estimated Cost to the Federal Government: For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 1240 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2002 and that funds necessary to implement the legislation will be provided near the start of each year. Estimates of outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1240 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION [1]					
Estimated authorization level	2	5	2	0	0

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Estimated outlays	2	5	2	0	0

[1] Enacting S. 1240 would also have a very small impact on direct spending—an increase of less than $1,000 a year.

Basis of estimate: S. 1240 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange roughly 266 acres of federal lands in Utah for about 37 acres of privately owned lands in that state. According to the Forest Service, the federal lands that would be exchanged under S. 1240 currently generate less than $1,000 a year in offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) from grazing permits. Hence, we estimate that exchanging the lands would increase direct spending by that amount each year.

S. 1240 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to construct administrative and visitor facilities on the lands acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture. Based on preliminary plans for the proposed facilities provided by the National Park Service (NPS), CBO estimates that building those structures would cost $9 million over the 2003–2005 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Under the bill, the NPS and the Forest Service would jointly occupy the new buildings and share annual costs to operate and maintain them. Based on information from the agencies, we estimate that any increase in federal spending for such costs would not exceed $200,000 a year.

According to the Forest Service, the agency would probably make payments to the private landowner to compensate for differences in the value of lands exchanged. Based on information from the agency on the estimated value of those lands, we estimate that such payments, which would be subject to appropriation, would be less than $200,000.

Pay-as-you-go considerations: The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act sets up pay-as-you-go procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or receipts. The land exchange authorized by S. 1240 would result in forgone offsetting receipts from grazing permits; hence, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but we estimate that any such effects would total less than $1,000 annually.

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: S. 1240 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

Previous CBO estimate: On June 21, 2002, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1240 as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on June 5, 2002. The two versions of the legislation are identical, and our cost estimates are the same.

Estimate prepared by: Federal costs: Megan Carroll; impact on State, local, and tribal governments: Marjorie Miller; impact on private sector: Jean Talarico.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

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.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.

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