

## MOUND CITY GROUP NATIONAL MONUMENT

MARCH 14 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 25), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GEORGE, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 5951]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5951) to add certain federally owned land to the Mound City Group National Monument, in the State of Ohio, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

By virtue of this act the House report is accepted as follows:

#### EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

This bill would transfer to the Mound City Group National Monument (administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior) approximately 10½ acres of land on the north side of such monument. The land is now under the jurisdiction of the Veterans' Administration, being a part of the former Camp Sherman Military Reservation. Its addition to the National Monument will include within the Monument the last of the historic borrow pits. No additional cost is involved.

The Veterans' Administration has interposed no objection to the transfer, and the report of the Department of the Interior as well as the Veterans' Administration follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., January 5, 1952.

Hon. SAM RAYBURN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed is a draft of a proposed bill to add certain federally owned land to the Mound City Group National Monument, in the State of Ohio, and for other purposes.

I respectfully request that this proposed bill be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration, and I recommend that it be enacted.

This proposed legislation will add to the national monument approximately 10½ acres of land on the north side of the national monument. This land is now under the administrative jurisdiction of the Veterans' Administration, and is a part of the former Camp Sherman Military Reservation. The addition of this area to the national monument will include within the monument the last of the historic borrow pits, which are one of the principal features of the national monument. It will further the basic purpose of the national monument in preserving from depredation and harmful change the famous prehistoric group of mounds known as the Mound City Group.

We have been advised by the Veterans' Administration that it has no objection to the addition of this property to the national monument upon the conditions set forth in the bill.

We have been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that that Bureau has no objections to the submission of this bill to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

DALE E. DORR,  
*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

A BILL

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled* That the following-described Federal lands, comprising approximately ten and one-half acres of the Veterans' Administration hospital property, Chillicothe, Ohio, are hereby transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior:

Beginning at the intersection of the north boundary line of the Mound City Group National Monument and the east line of Ohio State Highway numbered 104; thence northerly along the east line of said highway for a distance of three hundred feet; thence easterly and parallel with the north boundary of said monument to the west bank of the Scioto River; thence southerly along the west bank of said river to the north boundary line of said monument; thence westerly along the north boundary line of said monument to the point of beginning.

Hereafter this land shall be a part of the Mound City Group National Monument, subject to all laws and regulations applicable thereto, and subject, also, to the condition that the Veterans' Administration shall retain, for such length of time as required by it, the use of the incinerator and access roads and water pipe leading thereto which are now located upon the said lands, and the use of the present railroad track across the lands.

VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION,  
*Washington, D. C., January 21, 1952.*

Hon. JOHN E. RANKIN,  
*Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. RANKIN: This is in reply to your letter of January 10, 1952, requesting a report by the Veterans' Administration relative to H. R. 5951, Eighty-second Congress, a bill to add certain federally owned land to the Mound City Group National Monument, in the State of Ohio, and for other purposes.

The bill proposes to transfer to the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, a tract of approximately 10½ acres of land situated within the present boundaries of the Veterans' Administration hospital reservation at Chillicothe, Ohio. The tract of land would become a part of the Mound City Group National Monument.

The Department of the Interior has expressed the desire of securing the transfer to it of the tract in question which adjoins the existing Mound City Group National Monument, and which that Department has indicated is of historic interest. The Veterans' Administration has previously advised the Secretary of the Interior that it had no objection to the permanent transfer of this tract to the Department of the Interior provided that provision be made for the continued use by the Veterans' Administration of the present incinerator with access roads and water pipe leading thereto, which are now located across the property, and also for maintenance by the Veterans' Administration of the present railroad spur track across the property, as long as it is required by the Veterans' Administration. It is noted that H. R. 5951 contains the terms and conditions specified by the Veterans' Administration.

The transfer of the subject tract of land, under the terms and conditions set forth in the bill, would in no way interfere with the present or prospective operation of the Veterans' Administration Hospital at Chillicothe and, accordingly, the Veterans' Administration would interpose no objection to the favorable consideration of the proposed legislation.

Advice has been received from the Bureau of the Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

O. W. CLARK,  
*Deputy Administrator*  
(For and in the absence of the Administrator).