

MOUNT OLIVET CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

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. 5598]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5598) to authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey a parcel of land to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association, Salt Lake City, Utah, 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 authorizes the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association of Salt Lake City, Utah, a strip of land approximately 10 feet in width and 2,800 feet in length. This strip of land was secured by transfer from the Army of a portion of Fort Douglas Military Reservation. Prior to the time the Veterans' Administration acquired the hospital reservation, a fence separating the Army and the cemetery land was inadvertently placed on the Army land 10.6 feet east of the true boundary line.

Sections 2 and 3 of the bill adequately protect the interest of the Government. Among other terms and conditions, the deed of conveyance is to provide that the land so transferred shall be used only for cemetery purposes.

The enactment of the bill would not entail the expenditure of appropriated funds by the Veterans' Administration, and no objection has been noted by the Veterans' Administration to the enactment of this proposal.

The report of the Veterans' Administration follows:

MOUNT OLIVET CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D. C., December 27, 1951.

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

DEAR MR. RANKIN: This has reference to your letter of October 23, 1951, requesting a report by the Veterans' Administration on H. R. 5598, Eighty-second Congress, a bill to authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey a parcel of land to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey, without monetary consideration, to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association of Salt Lake City, Utah, a described strip of land approximately 10.6 feet in width and 2,813 feet in length.

The strip proposed for conveyance is at the western extremity of the Veterans' Administration hospital reservation, Salt Lake City, Utah, which reservation was secured by transfer from the Army of a portion of the Fort Douglas Military Reservation. Further, the strip is contiguous to the Mount Olivet Cemetery, land for which was likewise obtained from the Army out of the mentioned military reservation. Prior to the time the Veterans' Administration acquired the hospital reservation, a fence separating the Army and the cemetery lands was inadvertently placed on the Army land 10.6 feet east of the true boundary line. Throughout the years thereafter a number of bodies were interred in the area of encroachment by the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association. As previously indicated, the proposed legislation would authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey this area to the cemetery association.

It is noted that in view of sections 2 and 3 of H. R. 5598, the Government is assured of the inclusion of provisions in the deed of conveyance which will adequately protect its interests. One of the conditions it is planned to include in the deed, pursuant to section 3, is the erection by the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association of a suitable fence along the full length of the new boundary, comparable to the existing fence along the other boundaries of the Veterans' Administration hospital reservation.

The enactment of the bill would not entail the expenditure of appropriated funds by the Veterans' Administration. On the contrary, it might render unnecessary the expenditure of funds by the Veterans' Administration for the erection of a fence along the west boundary of the hospital reservation.

In view of the foregoing, the Veterans' Administration has no objection to enactment of the bill.

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

Sincerely yours,

CARL R. GRAY, Jr., *Administrator.*

