

TO REQUIRE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO CONVEY A PARCEL OF  
PROPERTY OF THE FOREST SERVICE TO PERRY COUNTY, ARKANSAS,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

---

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the  
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

---

Mr. WESTERMAN, from the Committee on Natural Resources,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 3187]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3187) to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey a parcel of property of the Forest Service to Perry County, Arkansas, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF SPECIFIED FOREST SERVICE PROPERTY TO PERRY COUNTY, ARKANSAS.**

(a) **REQUIRED CONVEYANCE.**—Subject to this section, if the County submits to the Secretary a written request for conveyance of the property described in subsection (b) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey to the County all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property described in subsection (b).

(b) **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The property referred to in subsection (a) is the parcel of real property, including all land and improvements, generally referred to as parcel 850-10555-001 in the urban property records of the County, consisting of approximately 0.81 acres of Forest Service land located at 1069 Fourche Avenue, Perryville, Arkansas 72126.

(2) **SURVEY.**—The exact acreage and legal description of land to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary.

(c) **TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—The conveyance under subsection (a) shall be—

- (1) subject to valid existing rights;
- (2) subject to reversion under subsection (g);
- (3) made without consideration;
- (4) made by quitclaim deed; and
- (5) subject to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary considers to be appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(d) **COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.**—As a condition of the conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall pay all costs associated with the conveyance, including the cost of—

- (1) a survey, if necessary, under subsection (b)(2);
  - (2) any environmental analysis or resources survey required under Federal law; and
  - (3) any analysis required to comply with division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “National Historic Preservation Act”).
- (e) ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS.—Notwithstanding section 120(h)(3)(A) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)(3)(A)), the Secretary shall not be required to provide any covenant or warranty for the property and improvements conveyed to the County under subsection (a).
- (f) PUBLIC PURPOSES USE.—The property conveyed under subsection (a) shall be used only for public purposes, such as supporting education and youth development.
- (g) REVERSION.—If the property conveyed under subsection (a) ceases to be used in a manner consistent with subsection (f), the property shall, at the discretion of the Secretary, revert to the United States.
- (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
- (1) COUNTY.—The term “County” means Perry County, Arkansas.
  - (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

#### PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of H.R. 3187 is to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey a parcel of property of the Forest Service to Perry County, Arkansas, and for other purposes.

#### BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Perry County, Arkansas, is a rural area northwest of Little Rock with roughly 10,000 residents.<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) manages approximately 119,171 acres of forested land and various administrative buildings in Perry County.<sup>2</sup> One such building, located on approximately 0.81 acres of land in Perryville, Arkansas, is currently vacant, and USFS has no future plans for its use. Perry County has long sought to acquire this property to meet growing needs in education, conservation, and youth services, but has been unsuccessful in doing so for more than a decade.<sup>3</sup>

H.R. 3187 directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey this building and its surrounding land to Perry County. The county intends to renovate and repurpose the site to support the University of Arkansas Extension Program, the Perry County Conservation District, and youth development programs, such as 4-H.<sup>4</sup> This is a smart use of public resources that would serve a compelling public purpose, particularly in a rural county with limited financial resources. Creating a permanent space for the University of Arkansas Extension Program and 4-H Youth Development Program would enhance their coordination and allow them to extend outreach to more Perry County youth.

H.R. 3187 provides a cost-effective solution that leverages existing infrastructure for community use and empowers local efforts to support economic development, natural resource stewardship, and

<sup>1</sup>United States Census Bureau. Perry County, Arkansas. data.census.gov, [https://data.census.gov/profile/Perry\\_County,\\_Arkansas?g=050XX00US05105](https://data.census.gov/profile/Perry_County,_Arkansas?g=050XX00US05105).

<sup>2</sup>“USFS Land Conveyance to Perry County, Arkansas: H.R. 3187 One-Pager.” The Office of Congressman French Hill. 5 May 2025, [https://hill.house.gov/uploadedfiles/h.r.\\_3187\\_one-pager.pdf](https://hill.house.gov/uploadedfiles/h.r._3187_one-pager.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>THV11, “Hill working to get old Forest Service building conveyed to Perry Co.,” May 9, 2025, <https://www.kvom.com/news-sports-headlines/hill-working-to-get-old-forest-service-building-conveyed-to-perry-co>.

<sup>4</sup>“Rep. Hill Introduces Bill to Transfer U.S. Forest Service Building to Perry County,” The Office of Congressman French Hill, May 14, 2024, <https://hill.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=9456>.

youth engagement. This legislation also removes a burden from the American taxpayer by disposing of a vacant federal building, consistent with President Trump’s Executive Order on “Restoring Common Sense to Federal Office Space Management.”<sup>5</sup>

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 3187 was introduced on May 5, 2025, by Representative French Hill (R–AR). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. On June 10, 2025, the Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on the bill. On July 15, 2025, the Committee on Natural Resources met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on Federal Lands was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3187 by unanimous consent. Chairman Bruce Westerman (R–AR) offered an amendment designated Westerman AMD1. The amendment was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

#### HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on Federal Lands held on June 10, 2025.

#### SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

##### *Section 1. Conveyance of specified forest service property to Perry County, Arkansas*

Section 1 requires the Secretary of Agriculture to convey approximately 0.81 acres of USFS land to Perry County, Arkansas within 180 days of the bill’s enactment if the county submits a written request for the conveyance. Section 1 specifies that the conveyance will be made subject to valid and existing rights, without consideration, and that the exact property to be conveyed will be determined based on the results of a mutually satisfactory survey. Further, this section requires Perry County to pay all costs associated with the conveyance. This section also specifies that the Secretary of Agriculture shall not have to provide a covenant or warranty for the property under the “Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980.”<sup>6</sup> Finally, Section 1 dictates that the land and administrative building conveyed by this legislation will continue to be used for public purposes, such as supporting education and youth development, or its ownership will revert back to the United States federal government.

#### 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.

---

<sup>5</sup>*Id.*

<sup>6</sup>42 U.S.C. § 9620(h)(3)(A).

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL  
BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of House rule XIII and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and pursuant to clause 3(c)(3) of House rule XIII and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has requested but not received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office a budgetary analysis and a cost estimate of this bill.

2. *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 require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey a parcel of property of the Forest Service to Perry County, Arkansas, and for other purposes.

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.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

An estimate of federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act was not made available to the Committee in time for the filing of this report. The Chair of the Committee shall cause such estimate to be printed in the Congressional Record upon its receipt by the Committee, if such estimate is not publicly available on the Congressional Budget Office website.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

*Directed Rule Making.* This bill does not contain any directed rule makings.

*Duplication of Existing Programs.* This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program. Such program was not included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95–220, as amended by Public Law 98–169) as relating to other programs.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

As ordered reported by the Committee on Natural Resources,  
H.R. 3187 would make no changes in existing law.

