Public Law 98-133
98th Congress

An Act

Oct. 18, 1983
[H.R. 1556]

To authorize the conveyance of the Liberty ship John W. Brown.

Liberty ship John W. Brown. Vessel conveyance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Transportation (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") may convey, subject to such conditions he deems appropriate and subject to the conditions set forth in section 2, the right, title, and interest of the United States in the vessel John W. Brown to a nonprofit corporation (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "recipient") for use as a merchant marine memorial. If such a conveyance is made, the Secretary shall deliver the vessel to the recipient at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the enactment of this Act, in its present condition, without cost to the United States.

SEC. 2. The conveyance of the vessel John W. Brown under the first section of this Act shall be subject to the following conditions:

(1) The recipient shall use the vessel as a nonprofit merchant marine memorial museum and may not use it for commercial transportation purposes.

(2) If the United States has need for the vessel at a later date, the recipient, at the request of the Secretary, shall make the vessel available to the United States without cost to the United States.

(3) In the event the recipient no longer requires the vessel for use as a merchant marine memorial museum, the recipient shall, at the discretion of the Secretary, reconvey the vessel to the United States in as good a condition as when it was received from the United States, except for ordinary wear and tear, and shall deliver it to the United States at the place where the vessel was delivered to the recipient.

SEC. 3. Nothing in this Act shall require the Secretary to retain this vessel in the Reserve Fleet for a period longer than two years from the date of enactment.

Ante, p. 217.

SEC. 4. Section 202 of the Act of July 12, 1983 (Public Law 98-44), is amended by striking "July 1, 1983," and substituting "August 1, 1983,".

Approved October 18, 1983.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1556:

HOUSE REPORT No. 98-261 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 129 (1983):
Aug. 2, considered and passed House.
Sept. 30, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Oct. 6, House concurred in Senate amendment.

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