

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4196

To authorize the conveyance of certain environmentally sensitive land at former Fort Sheridan, Illinois, for the purpose of ensuring the permanent protection of the lands.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 2004

Mr. KIRK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To authorize the conveyance of certain environmentally sensitive land at former Fort Sheridan, Illinois, for the purpose of ensuring the permanent protection of the lands.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. LAND CONVEYANCE, NAVY PROPERTY, FORMER**  
4 **FORT SHERIDAN, ILLINOIS.**

5 (a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of  
6 the Navy may convey, without consideration, to the State  
7 of Illinois, a political subdivision of the State, or a non-  
8 profit land conservation organization (in this section col-

1 lectively referred to as the “grantee”), all right, title, and  
2 interest of the United States in and to certain environ-  
3 mentally sensitive land at the former Fort Sheridan, Illi-  
4 nois, consisting of mostly bluffs and ravines, for the pur-  
5 pose of ensuring the permanent protection of the lands.

6 (b) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Secretary de-  
7 termines at any time that the real property conveyed  
8 under subsection (a) is not being used or maintained in  
9 accordance with the purpose of the conveyance specified  
10 in such subsection, all right, title, and interest in and to  
11 all or any portion of the property shall revert, at the option  
12 of the Secretary, to the United States, and the United  
13 States shall have the right of immediate entry onto the  
14 property. Any determination of the Secretary under this  
15 subsection shall be made on the record after an oppor-  
16 tunity for a hearing.

17 (c) RECONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary  
18 may permit the grantee to convey the real property con-  
19 veyed under subsection (a) to another eligible entity de-  
20 scribed in such subsection, subject to the same covenants  
21 and terms and conditions as provided in the deed from  
22 the United States.

23 (d) PAYMENT OF COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—(1) The  
24 Secretary shall require the grantee to cover costs to be  
25 incurred by the Secretary, or to reimburse the Secretary

1 for costs incurred by the Secretary, to carry out the con-  
2 veyance under subsection (a), including survey costs, costs  
3 related to environmental documentation, and other admin-  
4 istrative costs related to the conveyance. If amounts are  
5 collected from the grantee in advance of the Secretary in-  
6 ccurring the actual costs, and the amount collected exceeds  
7 the costs actually incurred by the Secretary to carry out  
8 the conveyance, the Secretary shall refund the excess  
9 amount to the grantee.

10 (2) Amounts received as reimbursement under para-  
11 graph (1) shall be credited to the fund or account that  
12 was used to cover the costs incurred by the Secretary in  
13 carrying out the conveyance. Amounts so credited shall be  
14 merged with amounts in such fund or account, and shall  
15 be available for the same purposes, and subject to the  
16 same conditions and limitations, as amounts in such fund  
17 or account.

18 (e) EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL SCREENING.—The  
19 conveyance authorized by subsection (a) is exempt from  
20 the requirement to screen the property for other Federal  
21 use pursuant to sections 2693 and 2696 of title 10, United  
22 States Code.

23 (f) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage  
24 and legal description of the real property to be conveyed

1 under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satis-  
2 factory to the Secretary.

3 (g) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The  
4 Secretary may require such additional terms and condi-  
5 tions in connection with the conveyance under subsection  
6 (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the  
7 interests of the United States.

8 (h) USE OF ALTERNATE CONVEYANCE AUTHOR-  
9 ITY.—In lieu of using the authority provided by this sec-  
10 tion to convey the real property described in subsection  
11 (a), the Secretary may elect to include the property in a  
12 conveyance authorized by section 2878 of title 10, United  
13 States Code, subject to such terms, reservations, restric-  
14 tions, and conditions as may be necessary to ensure the  
15 permanent protection of the property, if the Secretary de-  
16 termines that a conveyance under such section is advan-  
17 tageous to the interests of the United States.

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