

The title amendment was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey the Clifford P. Hansen Federal Courthouse to Teton County, Wyoming."

The bill (S. 898) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 898

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Albuquerque, New Mexico, Federal Land Conveyance Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of General Services.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term "Federal land" means the real property located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that, as determined by the Administrator, subject to survey, generally consists of lots 12 through 19, and for the westerly boundary, the portion of either lot 19 or 20 which is the outside west wall of the basement level of the Old Post Office building, and which has a municipal address of 123 Fourth Street, SW, in Block 18, New Mexico Town Company's Original Townsite, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

(3) FOUNDATION.—The term "Foundation" means the Amy Biehl High School Foundation.

SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, TO THE AMY BIEHL HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION.

(a) CONVEYANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall offer to convey to the Foundation, by quitclaim deed, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for conveyance of the Federal land under subsection (a), the Administrator shall require the Foundation to pay to the Administrator consideration in an amount equal to the fair market value of the Federal land, as determined based on an appraisal that is acceptable to the Administrator.

(c) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—The Foundation shall be responsible for paying—

(1) the costs of an appraisal conducted under subsection (b); and

(2) any other costs relating to the conveyance of the Federal land under this Act.

(d) PROCEEDS.—

(1) DEPOSIT.—Net proceeds received under subsection (b) shall be paid into the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code.

(2) EXPENDITURE.—Amounts paid into the Federal Buildings Fund under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Administrator, in amounts specified in appropriations Acts, for expenditure for any lawful purpose consistent with existing authorities granted to the Administrator, except that the Administrator shall provide to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate 30 days advance written notice of any expenditure of the proceeds.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Administrator may require that any conveyance under subsection (a) be subject to such additional terms and conditions as the Administrator considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(f) DEADLINE.—The conveyance of the Federal land under this Act shall occur not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF JAMES FOLEY AND STEVEN SOTLOFF

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 538, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 538) expressing the condolences of the Senate to the families of James Foley and Steven Sotloff, and condemning the terrorist acts of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 538) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF JAMES M. JEFFORDS, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF VERMONT

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 539, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 539) relative to the death of James M. Jeffords, former United States Senator for the State of Vermont.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 539) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Sen-

ate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 19 postcloture; further, that at 2 p.m. all postcloture time be considered expired and the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, we expect a voice vote on the motion to proceed to the constitutional amendment on campaign finance reform. Shortly after 2 p.m., we expect a roll-call vote relative to the paycheck fairness bill.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the provisions of S. Res. 539, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator James M. Jeffords, former United States Senator for the State of Vermont, following the remarks of Senator RUBIO. And a special mention: My chief of staff, Mark Powden, who used to be the chief of staff for Senator Jeffords, gave a eulogy at his funeral and had immense respect for the late Senator from Vermont.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Florida.

CONGRATULATING BOOKER T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, I appreciate the opportunity to speak for a few moments this evening before the Senate adjourns its workday.

I begin with a couple points of personal privilege. One is to congratulate a local high school in Miami, FL, by the name of Booker T. Washington. This is a school which has now won 29 consecutive games. They were the national champions last year in high school football, and I think they are headed to that again this year.

But what really impresses me about this program is the work they do with these young men. These young men come from a very challenging part of Miami, of Overtown, and have really overcome tremendous obstacles in their personal lives to achieve both in the classroom and on the field.

What I am most impressed about, as I tell Coach Harris every time I get to see him, is that it is not the kind of football players he has made them—because they are excellent—but the kind

of young men they are becoming. I think they are worthy of congratulations.

I was at their game on Friday against another very good team from South Florida, both ranked in the top 10 nationally in high school. I assure my colleagues from States such as California and Texas that while their football is good, our football is special.

Enough bragging on them. They are a great team, and we are fortunate to be able to witness what they have been able to do over the last couple of years.

REMEMBERING STEVEN SOTLOFF

The second point, which is related to my comments here in a moment, is toward the family of Steven Sotloff, who lost his life tragically in the Middle East over the last few days. We are all familiar with that horrific tale.

Steven actually lived in Miami, FL, with his family literally blocks away from where I go to church, literally blocks away from where I live. He was a member of our community.

As I said last week at his memorial service, Steven had dedicated his life to revealing the suffering and the reality of what was happening in some of the most dangerous areas of the world. And while he lost his life tragically, I think it is both ironic and appropriate that in his last act, as he lost his life he revealed the true nature of what we confront in that part of the world and the true nature of the Islamic State, who they are, and what they are all about. This was a young man who, as I said, dedicated his life not just to journalism but to journalism in the most dangerous part of the world and in so doing was able to bring that reality to us even in the last moments of his life.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Intriguing, of course, is the debate which has occurred here over the last couple of days on this very interesting political matter. There is a lot of hyperbole being thrown around about the influence money has on our political process. I have found there is plenty of money on both sides of every issue, and certainly all of my colleagues here, including those who support this amendment before us, have been the beneficiaries of vast amounts of campaign spending. In fact, as some of my colleagues pointed to earlier, the majority of the money being raised and spent in political campaigns, including from Wall Street, is on behalf of many of the same people who are now here condemning it. If in fact it is so unseemly, as they say, then perhaps they should take a unilateral pledge not to accept these sources of funds. Of course they won't, but it is an interesting dynamic at a time when our Nation faces so many struggles.

ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

What I hope and wish is that more time in this Chamber would be dedicated to the issues this country faces, the ones that threaten our status as a special and unique nation.

When we look across the country today at the economic challenges our

people are facing, they are pervasive and they are real. We see that the 21st century has brought extraordinary and rapid change to our lives. The economy that once produced millions of jobs which allowed people to make it to the middle class and achieve that American dream—many of those jobs have been outsourced. They are automated. They have gone away.

Millions of people who have worked their entire lives are now struggling to find a job that allows them to keep pace with the cost of living. People are stuck in low-wage jobs, and I will have more to say about that later this week. People are working for \$9 or \$10 an hour and cannot make ends meet, especially when the cost of living continues to rise in every facet of our lives.

We have students who have gone to school, graduated with a degree, have done everything they were told they needed to do to succeed, and now cannot find a job with the degree they sought, but they potentially owe tens of thousands of dollars in student loans—an issue I am both sensitive to and familiar with because I myself owed well over \$100,000, including on the day I swore into the Senate. This is a real strain on people.

Whatever it may be, there are millions of Americans who are starting to doubt whether that fundamental promise of America—that if they work hard, they can get ahead and achieve happiness as they define it—is still true. We understand the reasons why, and this is something we need to address, and we address it by addressing the core challenges of our time, which are not the different issues I heard thrown around here today.

The core challenges of our time are that, first and foremost, the nature of our economy has changed rapidly. America faces more global competition than ever for investment and for innovation. There are more countries than ever competing with us for investment and for innovation, and tragically we haven't kept pace with that change. We still have policies in this country deeply rooted in the last century, in an era that has come and gone. We continue to impose taxes and regulations and a national debt and a health care law and all sorts of other measures that put us at a competitive disadvantage.

I wish the No. 1 priority of the Senate was to make America once again the single-best place in the world to invest and to innovate so we could create millions of higher paying 21st-century jobs.

I wish that were our No. 1 priority, followed closely by our No. 2 priority, which is equipping people with the skills they need for the jobs of the 21st century. It wasn't that long ago that someone could come to this country or grow up in this country, not have a lot of advanced education, and still make it to the middle class. My parents did it. They worked service sector jobs. My mother was a maid and a cashier at hotels, and my father was a banquet bar-

tender. They never made a lot of money. Yet they achieved the American dream.

The American dream has never been about how much money you make or how many things you own; it is about achieving happiness. For them, achieving happiness was giving us the chance to do all the things they never could, and they were able to do that in the 20th century in service sector jobs.

That is still possible in America for many people, but it is increasingly more difficult. I wish we would address that because the reason it has become more difficult is because almost all the higher paying jobs of the 21st century require some sort of advanced skill acquisition, and millions of our people simply don't have it. The reason is because our educational system is not a 21st-century one. Why have we stigmatized vocational education in America? Why have we told people that if they want to be an electrician or a plumber or a truckdriver or a welder or any other number of vocational professions—why have we stigmatized that when we know there are jobs available in those fields and we need people to fill them?

The second issue is, what about the people trapped in those low-paying jobs—the single mother who works as a home health aide for \$10 an hour, the receptionist at a law firm making \$11 an hour, the people working in a fast food restaurant for \$9 an hour? There is nothing wrong with those jobs, but I am sure that as time goes on they want more, and we have to equip them with the skills to be able to do more so that the home health aide can become an ultrasound technician or a dental hygienist not making \$12 an hour but making \$30 an hour, so that the young man who is on the unemployment line can become a welder or a building specialist or some other 21st-century career or profession that gives him the skills he needs for those better paying jobs. I wish we were focused on that.

By the way, how about informing our college students about the true value of their degrees? In America—a free country—you can study anything you want, but before you borrow \$50,000 to attain a major in Greek philosophy, you deserve to know that the market for Greek philosophers is tight and that it is going to be difficult to pay off that loan. I think every student in America who is taking out student loans has the right to know how much people make when they graduate from their school with that degree so they can make informed and educated decisions about whether they should borrow money to pay for the specific degree they seek.

This is an important issue, and I wish that was our second top priority here, that we would focus more on how to help people trapped in low-paying jobs, how to help people who are struggling with the challenges of the 21st century, how to help these people acquire the skills they need for better paying jobs.

We have seen virtually no conversations about those two issues here in the last few days.

No wonder people are disgusted with Washington. We don't spend any time here talking about what they are worried about. We spend very little time talking about what they are concerned about. Our discourse in this body is so irrelevant to their daily lives that they have reason not just to be disgusted with politics but quite frankly to be tempted to give up on us and our ability to address any of these challenges.

WORLD EVENTS

There is a third 21st-century challenge and one I hope to speak about in the moments I have remaining; that is, the reality that world events have an impact on us greater than ever before. I am not saying world events never used to matter. Of course they did. But we are increasingly members of a growing global economy, which means that today when there is instability on this planet, it isn't just our national security that is threatened, it is our economic security as well.

We are 6 percent of the world's population. In order to achieve more prosperity, we have to sell more things to more people everywhere in the world. But that depends on peace and stability across the planet, and we can't have peace and stability when the world is in chaos. So I would say today that foreign relations and foreign policy matter more from an economic perspective than they ever have in the history of this Nation. I wish there were more focus in this body on what is happening all over the world because the world is in total chaos.

In the Asia-Pacific region, China is undergoing a dramatic modernization of its military capabilities—increasingly challenging, for example, U.S. air power in the region and increasingly acting out on illegitimate territorial claims.

In Latin America we have seen an erosion of democratic order, the rise of antidemocratic governments that threaten to erode almost two decades of democratic progress in the region.

By the way, in this body we have endeavored to address one of those challenges in Venezuela—an outrage, a place full of corruption and human rights violations, an anti-American government that does everything possible to undermine us and our interests, not just the interests of their own people. We have been blocked in our efforts to address it because somehow the Venezuelan Government, acting through CITGO—a wholly owned company of the Venezuelan Government—got lobbyists to come here to the Senate and lobby for blockage and stoppage of a measure we were ready to pass by unanimous consent.

So I come to the floor to ask the majority leader to please schedule a vote on these sanctions on Venezuela because it will pass overwhelmingly. Do not allow lobbyists for the Venezuelan Government to be able to come to

Washington, DC, and impede action on this matter.

In Europe we see chaos too. Russia has invaded Ukraine. Maybe they switched uniforms and have lied about it, but they have invaded Ukraine, and NATO has been helpless to do anything about it. I hope we will be more forceful in our response because the implications not just for that region but for the world are very significant.

But the one I want to close on tonight is focused on—and this relates to Steven Sotloff, as discussed a moment ago—what is happening with ISIL.

Tomorrow night I believe the President will give the most important address of his Presidency—perhaps the most important address of any Presidency in the last decade. Tomorrow night I hope he comes before the American people and explains to them what is truly at stake. I was about to say that I thought he should have done this weeks ago, maybe months ago, but I am glad he is doing this.

I would ask my Republican colleagues—all of my colleagues—that at this time of such critical national security importance, we try as much as possible to rally behind our efforts to address this challenge because it is a real challenge. If and when this group comes after the United States, both around the world or here at home, they will not be coming after Republicans and they will not be coming after Democrats; they will be coming after Americans; the threat we face is real.

We have a tradition in this government of rallying together and acting in a nonpartisan way when it comes to national security. That is not just something we do because it is polite; it is something we must do because unity is important in order to address these challenges.

I have been critical of the President. I have been critical of the slow response. I think it is valid to point out the mistakes he has made so we can learn and so he can be held accountable. But I also think it is important to look forward at what we can do now.

While I thought that what the President is about to do he should have done weeks and months ago, I am glad he is finally doing it. Tomorrow night's address to the Nation is an important one. I hope all Americans tune in.

Here are the three points I hope the President will make: First, I hope he clearly outlines to our fellow Americans what is at stake here. ISIL is not just a collection of crazy terrorists. It is the single most dangerous terrorist challenge this Nation has ever faced. We faced some dangerous terrorists before. We are familiar with Al Qaeda and their capability. We are familiar with some of the nation-states we faced down in the past.

This group is uniquely dangerous for a number of reasons. First, it is by far the best funded terrorist operation perhaps in all of human history. They are generating millions of dollars a day alone just from oil revenue. Second,

they are replete with foreign fighters, including thousands of foreign fighters that have visa waiver passports from countries where all they have to do is buy a plane ticket to come to the United States. Among those, by the way, are Americans, including one who is from Florida who even came back to the United States for a number of weeks and then returned and conducted a suicide attack on behalf of this group.

Last but not least, they control territory. We know that in order to carry out the 9/11 attacks Al Qaeda needed a safe haven in parts of Afghanistan. These folks in the Islamic State—these lunatics—control a vast space. Most of northern Syria and vast portions of Iraq are under their control. This makes this group very significant and dangerous with intentions not just on taking over Iraq but dominating the region, ultimately moving into Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, and other places, and conducting attacks against the United States.

It is simple. ISIL cannot fulfill its regional ambitions if it doesn't drive the United States out of the Middle East, and the only way they can draw us out of the Middle East is by terrorizing us out of the Middle East. To terrorize us they will have to conduct terrorist attacks against us both abroad and here in the homeland. Here we have the most well-funded, most capable terrorist group in modern history with a clear intention and desire to attack us in order to terrorize us out of the region. This is a very serious national security threat, and it is important for the President to clearly explain that to our fellow Americans.

The second thing I hope we will do is outline a clear goal about what we intend to achieve and that goal should be unequivocal: the complete defeat and annihilation of ISIL. That goal is accomplished in three steps: first, by stopping their continued spread; second, by eroding their capability and control of territory; and ultimately by defeating them as an organization—by eliminating them as an organization.

So after he has outlined who this group is and why it is in our national interest to defeat them and he has outlined his goal to defeat them, I hope the President will explain to the American people in as much detail as possible—and clearly there are things he cannot share for operational security purposes—but in as much detail as possible how he intends to defeat them.

I think this is a multi-faceted process, but it should include the continued air strikes in northern Iraq. Air strikes are most successful when they are done in coordination with Kurds and Iraqi ground forces there on the ground now—by continuing to supply and equip the Kurds by giving them logistical support they need in order to take on the supplies and get them out to the troops by hopefully working with the new Iraqi government that was just formed to stand as a unified

Iraqi government that is capable not just of supplying a government that unites all of the people of Iraq but also one that is capable of fielding security forces capable of conducting operations without dividing the country along the Shia and Sunni lines.

We also need more cooperation from Arabs in the region because they are immediately threatened. They are coming after the Crown in Saudi Arabia; they are coming after the Crown in Jordan. They are eventually going to move into Lebanon as well. They pose a real and present threat to all the nations in this region and they must act. We need their cooperation both militarily and diplomatically but also by using the megaphone that the government and state-run media provides to stigmatize this group by revealing them for who they truly are. There should be nothing romantic about ISIL in the minds of any Arab, about joining their ranks or their efforts. We need the government's help in spreading that word and revealing that reality.

By the way, we also need to work with them and other regional governments—especially the Turks—to help cut off ISIL's access to funds and to fighters. The Turks need to step up and do a better job of securing that border. Cutting off their funds requires us to go after their most significant source of funds and that is the refinery capacity in Syria. I will have more to say about that in a moment. We should target that because the black market sale of oil in Syria is the single and fastest growing source of revenue for ISIL, but it is also a fuel for their terrorist operations.

But ultimately there is no way to defeat ISIL without defeating them in Syria. Someone is going to have to confront them in Syria and defeat

them. It is my hope that it will be a combination of U.S. air power and qualified, well-equipped, well-trained competent moderate rebel forces within Syria, because here is the problem: If you eliminate ISIL but you don't have some sort of capable moderate group left behind, then all you are doing is replacing ISIL with al-Nusra or some other radical Islamic group on the ground there. So it is important that we do both.

I know no one wants to get into another conflict. We have no choice. We are going to have to deal with ISIL. The choice is not whether we deal with them. The choice is do we deal with them now while they are still growing or do we deal with them later when they have grown and when they have controlled vast and larger territories than they do now, when they have more fighters and are better funded. That is the choice before us.

I submit to you that I know of no medical condition that is easier to treat later rather than earlier. Every medical condition that I know—ISIL has been compared to cancer—every cancer that I know is easier to treat if you catch it earlier rather than later. I would say this is true with this cancer, ISIL. If we deal with them sooner, it will not be costless or fast, but it will be easier to deal with them then, than if we wait until later. But to do so will ultimately require someone to confront them and defeat them within Syria itself, and defeating them in Syria alone is not enough. We have to ensure that there is some group there on the ground, some moderate rebel force that can take over not just from them but from the Assad regime.

There is collusion between Assad and ISIL. The refineries that ISIL controls in Syria are former Assad refineries

which he won't bomb because he hopes to take them one day intact so he can use them. There is collusion between them. If anybody has any illusions about who Assad really is, I hope the President will outline this for us tomorrow. It is important for us and for our future.

I will make one more point about why this is the most important speech that the President will give. Because this threat will probably outlive his Presidency. We have to be prepared for the fact that ISIL may not be defeated in 24 months, that the next President of the United States and many of us—whether it is serving here, whether it is controlled by Republicans or Democrats—will have to remain committed to this goal, because this threat in all likelihood will outlive the Presidency of Barack Obama. It is important for him to put in place a clear goal and a plan that can survive his Presidency so that we can carry out this task. It is critical for our country.

I wish the President the best on his address tomorrow, and I hope we can come together in a bipartisan way to confront and defeat this evil before it is too late.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow under the provisions of S. Res. 539, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable James M. Jeffords.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 10, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.