

the capital debt for constructing the canal, so it is financially reasonable to transfer the 48-mile long canal to it. There is no known opposition to the bill, and several good reasons to support it.

The District would like to convert the existing open earthen canal to a closed pipe at an estimated cost to the district ratepayers of \$650 million. The District understandably wants to take title to the facilities to have collateral for issuing bonds to cover the expense of the conversion.

There are a number of good reasons to convert the existing canal to a pipe:

First, 82 people have drowned in the earthen canal despite protective fencing in the 70 years since the Canal began operation. This is about a death per year on average, which would be completely prevented if the canal were converted into a pipe. Tragically, there was another drowning in the canal just last year.

A second reason is water conservation. Drought is always an issue in California, and water is becoming more and more expensive. About 6% of the canal's water is lost through evaporation and seepage. A pipeline would eliminate these losses.

A third reason is avoiding flood risk from the earthen canal. When the canal was built 70 years ago, much of the surrounding land was farming country, but more recently homes have been built around it. These homes are at risk from the types of floods that earthen canals periodically experience.

Finally, the 70-year old canal is nearing the end of its lifespan and needs a major facility upgrade or replacement. Replacement with a pipeline is the best option, for all the reasons set forth above.

Besides the advantages of the bill, there is no known opposition to it. The District has reached an MOU with East Bay Regional Parks District to continue the existing recreational uses of the adjoining parks it manages. In addition, the District has received letters of concurrence from the City Managers of Walnut Creek and Antioch regarding the smaller parks managed by the cities along the route of the existing canal. Like East Bay Regional Parks, these cities agree the bill would preserve the existing recreational uses of the adjoining lands.

The bill would not just transfer title to Contra Costa Canal, but would also authorize the transfer of the Rock Slough intake and fish screen, one of Contra Costa's diversion points from the Delta. This transfer will not affect the applicability of the various biological opinions that apply to the facility. As I understand it, because the bill will not affect the environmental management of the canal, and because the District has paid off its capital debt, the environmental groups NRDC and the Defenders of Wildlife will not oppose the bill.

In summary, this bill has no known opposition and good reasons to support.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill. Thank you, Mr. President, and I yield the floor.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 100. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land to Custer County, South Dakota; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 100

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 "Custer County Airport Conveyance Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COUNTY.—The term "County" means Custer County, South Dakota.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term "Federal land" means all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to approximately 65.7 acres of National Forest System land, as generally depicted on the map.

(3) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Custer County Airport Conveyance" and dated October 19, 2017.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

SEC. 3. LAND CONVEYANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the terms and conditions described in subsection (b), if the County submits to the Secretary an offer to acquire the Federal land for the market value, as determined by the appraisal under subsection (c), the Secretary shall convey the Federal land to the County.

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

(1) subject to valid existing rights;

(2) made by quitclaim deed; and

(3) subject to any other terms and conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(c) APPRAISAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete an appraisal to determine the market value of the Federal land.

(2) STANDARDS.—The appraisal under paragraph (1) shall be conducted in accordance with—

(A) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions; and

(B) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(d) MAP.—

(1) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate office of the Forest Service.

(2) CORRECTION OF ERRORS.—The Secretary may correct any errors in the map.

(e) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall pay to the Secretary an amount equal to the market value of the Federal land, as determined by the appraisal under subsection (c).

(f) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the Federal land to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be deter-

mined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary.

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

(1) the appraisal under subsection (c); and

(2) the survey under subsection (f).

(h) PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF LAND.—Any proceeds received by the Secretary from the conveyance under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) deposited in the fund established under Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the "Sisk Act") (16 U.S.C. 484a); and

(2) available to the Secretary until expended, without further appropriation, for the acquisition of inholdings in units of the National Forest System in the State of South Dakota.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 14—AFFIRMING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA'S FOREIGN MEDICAL MISSIONS CONSTITUTE HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 14

Whereas, in 2015, the Government of Cuba maintained more than 50,000 Cuban doctors and medical personnel in foreign medical missions in 67 countries under conditions that represent forced labor;

Whereas the Department of States' 2018 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report noted that Cuban authorities coerced some participants to remain in the foreign medical missions, including by—

(1) "withholding their passports [and] restricting their movement";

(2) "using 'minders' to monitor participants outside of work";

(3) "threatening to revoke their medical licenses";

(4) "retaliat[ing] against their family members in Cuba if participants leave the program"; or

(5) "impos[ing] exile if participants didn't return to Cuba as directed by government supervisors";

Whereas, between 2013 and 2018, more than 20,000 Cuban medical professionals served in Brazil and had their salaries garnished, movement restricted, and family visits limited by the Government of Cuba;

Whereas investigative reporting by the digital platform Diario de Cuba, through an access to information request, revealed that Brazilian diplomatic cables detailed the terms of the Government of Cuba's medical missions to Brazil;

Whereas, in early 2012, the Government of Cuba proposed to the Government of Brazil the establishment of a program to send Cuban doctors to geographic regions of Brazil that had an insufficient number of medical personnel;

Whereas, during subsequent negotiations, the administration of former Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff proposed an agreement between the two governments to be implemented through coordination with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in order to avoid oversight by the National Congress of Brazil;

Whereas the Government of Cuba stated that implementing the agreement through

the United States headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization would present risks for potential violations of United States sanctions;

Whereas, in July 2013, the Government of Cuba, acting through the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (Comercializadora de Servicios Medicos Cubanos, Sociedad Anónima, or CMS), signed an agreement with the Brazilian Ministry of Health to formalize a commercial arrangement for Cuban doctors to provide medical services in Brazil;

Whereas the agreement between the Government of Cuba and the Government of Brazil established—

(1) that the administration of former Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff would pay the Pan American Health Organization a monthly fee, which would then pay the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (CMS) for the medical services provided by each Cuban doctor serving in Brazil;

(2) that the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (CMS) would pay each Cuban doctor approximately 25 percent of the monthly payment received from the Pan American Health Organization;

(3) that the Government of Cuba, acting through the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (CMS), would retain approximately 75 percent of the monthly payment received from the Pan American Health Organization; and

(4) restrictions preventing participating Cuban doctors from seeking employment in Brazil outside of the formal structure of the program;

Whereas, in July 2013, the Government of Brazil announced the creation of the Mais Medicos program, which included the participation of Cuban doctors and doctors of other nationalities;

Whereas the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (CMS) commenced contracting Cuban doctors for the Mais Medicos program, and the first Cuban medical professionals arrived in Brazil in August 2013;

Whereas Cuban doctors were the only medical professionals participating in the Mais Medicos program to have their salaries directly garnished by their government, and doctors of other nationalities serving in Brazil received the full amount of their salary;

Whereas Cuban doctors participating in the Mais Medicos program faced severe limitations on their ability to travel inside Brazil and a prohibition on travel to neighboring countries;

Whereas Cuban doctors participating in the Mais Medicos program were prohibited from having their families accompany them while stationed in Brazil;

Whereas the Cuban doctors frequently had their passports taken by Government of Cuba officials present in Brazil in order to limit their ability to travel;

Whereas the Department of State's 2018 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report documented how the Government of Cuba also confiscated Cuban doctors' passports in other countries, and stated that "the Cuban government acknowledges that it withholds passports of overseas medical personnel in Venezuela";

Whereas the Pan American Health Organization's external auditor, the Spanish Court of Audit—

(1) stated in its January 2018 report that 198 Cuban doctors have presented 159 legal challenges in the Brazilian court system since the start of the program in July 2013 demanding extra free time in their contracts and equal working conditions as doctors of other nationalities participating in the Mais Medicos program; and

(2) stated in its April 2014 report, in recognition of the legal risks associated with the Mais Medicos program, that it would be "prudent that PAHO set a contingency plan to face possible negative statements of [the] lawsuits";

Whereas the Government of Cuba has stated that Cuban doctors unwilling to return to the country after their participation in foreign medical missions will not be permitted to return to their homeland for eight years;

Whereas the Government of Cuba directly profits from exporting the services of Cuban professionals, having earned more than \$8,000,000,000 from their work in 2016, of which foreign medical missions represent the majority of the income; and

Whereas the term "severe forms of trafficking in persons" is defined under section 103(9)(B) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B)) as "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of Cuba subjected Cuban doctors and medical professional participating in the Mais Medicos program to state-sponsored human trafficking;

(2) Cuban doctors participating in the Mais Medicos program should have been permitted to work under the same conditions as all other foreign doctors participating in the program;

(3) the Government of Cuba should compensate Cuban doctors that participated in the Mais Medicos programs for the full amount of wages that were garnished by the Government of Cuba;

(4) foreign governments that sign agreements with the Government of Cuba or the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (CMS) or other companies affiliated with the Government of Cuba to procure the services of Cuban professionals directly assume risks related to participation in forced labor arrangements;

(5) the Pan American Health Organization must immediately provide greater transparency about its participation in the Mais Medicos program and its agreement with the Government of Cuba and the for-profit Cuban Medical Services Trading Corporation (CMS);

(6) the United States Department of State must downgrade Cuba to Tier 3 in its annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report, given new evidence on Cuba's foreign medical missions and the Government of Cuba's long-standing failure to criminalize most forms of forced labor; and

(7) the Department of State must reestablish the Cuban Medical Professionals Parole (CMPP) program.

SENATE RESOLUTION 16—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF JOHN CHESTER CULVER, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF IOWA

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. JONES, Mr. Kaine, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. McCONNELL, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms.

SENATE RESOLUTION 15—COMMENDING THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY TIGERS FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2019 COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 15

Whereas, on Monday, January 7, 2019, the Clemson University Tigers football team won the 2019 College Football Playoff National Championship (in this preamble re-

ferred to as the "championship game") by defeating the University of Alabama by a score of 44 to 16 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California;

Whereas the Tigers finished the championship game with 482 yards of total offense on 63 plays;

Whereas the victory by the Tigers in the championship game—

(1) made Clemson the first Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS)-level team to finish a season 15-0 since the University of Pennsylvania in 1897; and

(2) marked the second time in 3 years that Clemson won a National Championship game;

Whereas the head coach of Clemson, Dabo Swinney, has been an outstanding role model to the Clemson players and the Clemson community;

Whereas Trevor Lawrence, the first true freshman starter to win a national title since 1985, gave an outstanding performance by throwing for 347 yards and 3 touchdowns;

Whereas Travis Etienne had 14 carries for 86 yards including 2 rushing touchdowns and a passing touchdown;

Whereas the Clemson University football team displayed outstanding dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the 2018 collegiate football season in achieving the highest honor in college football; and

Whereas the Tigers have brought pride and honor to the State of South Carolina: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Clemson University Tigers for winning the 2019 College Football Playoff National Championship;

(2) recognizes the on-field and off-field achievements of the players, coaches, and staff of the Clemson football team; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of Clemson University, James P. Clements; and

(B) the head coach of the Clemson University football team, Dabo Swinney.