

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 12, 1931.

Hon. DON B. COLTON,
Chairman Committee on the Public Lands,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In compliance with your request for a report on H. R. 15877, which is a bill to authorize exchanges of land with owners of private land holdings within the crater of the Moon National Monument, I transmit herewith a report on the subject that has been submitted by Director Albright, of the National Park Service.

After a review of the proposed legislation, I agree with Mr. Albright.

Very truly yours,

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
Washington, January 12, 1931.

Memorandum for the Secretary.

Reference is made to letter dated January 9, 1931, from the chairman Committee on the Public Lands, House of Representatives, inclosing copy of H. R. 15877, entitled "A bill to authorize exchanges of land with owners of private land holdings within the Craters of the Moon National Monument," with request for report thereon.

The Craters of the Moon National Monument contains 49,601.90 acres. Of this amount 320 acres are in private ownership and 1,259.96 acres are owned by the State. The State lands are subject to exchange for lands outside of the monument under the indemnity land laws, but this authority does not extend to the lands in private ownership.

The privately owned lands described in the proposed legislation covered by H. R. 15877 are within the present boundaries of the monument and will be crossed by a Government pipe line to supply water for the administrative needs of the National Park Service under a grant of right of way from the owners. The complete ownership of this land by the United States would be very desirable from the administrative standpoint of the monument, and the owners are agreeable to an exchange of their complete holdings within the monument for other public lands of equal value located outside within the area described in the bill. An exchange of lands on the basis proposed to be authorized by this bill would be very desirable to eliminate these private holdings from the monument and would be considerably to the advantage of the United States for this reason.

I have to recommend that H. R. 15877 be given favorable consideration by the department and Congress.

HORACE M. ALBRIGHT, Director.

Calendar No. 1441

71ST CONGRESS }
3d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 1394

TO AMEND THE ACT OF MAY 23, 1930 (46 STAT. 378)

JANUARY 26 (calendar day, JANUARY 28), 1931.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. ASHURST, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 5557]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 5557) to amend the act of May 23, 1930 (46 Stat. 378), having considered the same, report favorably thereon with a recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

This bill has the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as set forth in the following letters, which are appended hereto and made a part of this report:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 21, 1931.

HON. LYNN J. FRAZIER,
Chairman Committee on Indian Affairs,
United States Senate.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your inquiry of January 9, for an opinion on S. 5557, which is a bill to amend the act of May 23, 1930 (46 Stat. 378), I transmit herewith a memorandum on the subject that has been submitted by Commissioner Rhoads of the Office of Indian Affairs.

After a review of the proposed measure, I agree with Mr. Rhoads.

Very truly yours,

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 19, 1931.

Memorandum for the Secretary.

This is in reference to the request of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs dated January 9, 1931, for a report on S. 5557, a bill to amend the act of May 23, 1930 (46 Stat. 378).

The act of May 23, 1930, supra, provides among other things for the relinquishment of certain alternate sections of privately owned lands for the purpose of adding such lands to the Western Navajo Indian Reservation, and allows lieu selections of vacant land on the public domain in Arizona to be made by the private landowners who relinquish under the terms of the act. All of the privately owned