

103D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4157

To transfer the lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management
to the State in which the lands are located.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 1994

Mr. THOMAS of Wyoming (for himself, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DELAY, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EMERSON, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. MCCANDLESS, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. POMBO, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SCHAEFER, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. STUMP, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mrs. VUCANOVICH, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To transfer the lands administered by the Bureau of Land
Management to the State in which the lands are located.

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. TRANSFER OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

4 **LANDS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights
6 and except as otherwise provided in this section, the Sec-
7 retary of the Interior shall offer to transfer in accordance

1 with this section all right, title, and interest (including the
2 surface and subsurface estates), as well as related water
3 rights, of the United States in and to all lands adminis-
4 tered by the Bureau of Land Management to the State
5 in which such lands are located. A State may only accept
6 the total offer of all such lands or reject such offer. Any
7 transfer under this section shall be effective on September
8 30, 1998.

9 (b) VALID LEASES AND MINING CLAIMS.—Each
10 State receiving lands under subsection (a) shall honor
11 valid existing leases, permits, and mining claims on such
12 lands for the term of such lease or permit, or until such
13 mining claims are patented or otherwise extinguished.

14 (c) RESTRICTIVE COVENANT.—Lands transferred
15 under this section that are not encumbered by a lease or
16 permit may only be used for public purposes. Such lands
17 shall revert to the United States if a State does not use
18 them for public purposes.

19 (d) EXEMPTED LANDS.—Lands administered by the
20 Bureau of Land Management are exempt from transfer
21 under this Act if such lands are—

- 22 (1) wilderness;
- 23 (2) wilderness study areas;
- 24 (3) areas of critical environmental concern; or

1 (4) determined by the Secretary to be too costly
2 for the United States to decontaminate.

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