H. R. 960

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 9, 1997

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

AN ACT

To validate certain conveyances in the City of Tulare, Tulare County, California, and for other purposes.

- 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. FINDINGS.
- 4 The Congress finds that:

- 1 (1) It is in the Federal Government's interest 2 to facilitate local development of jobs in areas of 3 high unemployment.
 - (2) Railroad interests in rights-of-way prevent local communities from obtaining clear title to property for development unless the city also obtains the Federal reversionary interest in those rights-of-way.
- 8 (3) For development purposes, in order to se-9 cure needed financing, the City of Tulare Redevelop-10 ment Agency requires clear title to certain parcels of 11 land within the city's business corridor that are part 12 of a railroad right-of-way.

13 SEC. 2. TULARE CONVEYANCE.

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- (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (c) and (d),
- 15 all conveyances to the Redevelopment Agency of the City
- 16 of Tulare, California, of lands described in subsection (b),
- 17 heretofore or hereafter, made directly by the Southern Pa-
- 18 cific Transportation Company, or its successors, are here-
- 19 by validated to the extent that the conveyances would be
- 20 legal or valid if all right, title, and interest of the United
- 21 States, except minerals, were held by the Southern Pacific
- 22 Transportation Company.
- (b) Lands Described.—The lands referred to in
- 24 subsection (a) are the parcels shown on the map entitled
- 25 "Tulare Redevelopment Agency-Railroad Parcels Pro-

- 1 posed to be Acquired", dated 5/29/97, that formed part
- 2 of a railroad right-of-way granted to the Southern Pacific
- 3 Railroad Company, or its successors, agents, or assigns,
- 4 by the Federal Government (including the right-of-way ap-
- 5 proved by an Act of Congress on July 27, 1866). The map
- 6 referred to in this subsection shall be on file and available
- 7 for public inspection in the offices of the Director of the
- 8 Bureau of Land Management.
- 9 (c) Preservation of Existing Rights of Ac-
- 10 cess.—Nothing in this section shall impair any existing
- 11 rights of access in favor of the public or any owner of
- 12 adjacent lands over, under or across the lands which are
- 13 referred to in subsection (a).
- 14 (d) MINERALS.—The United States disclaims any
- 15 and all right of surface entry to the mineral estate of lands
- 16 described in subsection (b).

Passed the House of Representatives July 8, 1997.

Attest:

ROBIN H. CARLE,

Clerk.