

So, Madam President, I hope that something can be worked out rather than having the resolution amended to add other names; the resolution be amended to take care of the IRS, the resolution be amended to do a lot of other things.

So let's look at the ownership of this property for a moment, if we may.

Originally it was owned by the Alexandria family, for which the city of Alexandria is named. That is who owned this property.

The property was later owned by the Custis family. John Parke Custis acquired the land from the Alexandria family. John Parke Custis was the son of Martha Washington, and the stepson of George Washington.

George Washington was close to John Custis, and following John's death adopted his two children. The children then lived at Mount Vernon. And the airport was designed after Mount Vernon.

The Abington Plantation was returned later to the Alexandria family.

In the 1920's, the land was owned by Lewis Smoot, and later sold to the Richmond, Fredricksburg, and Potomac Railroad.

Two airports were located near the Virginia side of the 14th Street Bridge; one the Hoover Field. That was after a President, which opened in 1926, and Washington Airport opened in 1927. The airports merged because of the Depression.

The decision to build Washington National Airport did not occur until 1938 when Franklin Delano Roosevelt effectively bypassed this body and began construction.

Following a series of disputes over who actually owned the land, the District of Columbia and Virginia claimed title. The Federal Government asserted jurisdiction in 1946.

So not only has the George Washington family—the first—of these United States been involved in this property in this area for the lifetime of this country but I think that leaving the name as it is, or changing the name to whatever should be, as President Reagan insisted that we do back in the 1986 when he wrote his Federal Executive order, I think it would be much better to honor his wife since his name is already etched in the second-largest building in this area, second only to the Pentagon. I hope that a way can be found rather than to make it look partisan, and some will take my position because they think it is right. Others will take an opposite view because of the political arena. Some will take the same view I have because of politics. I have taken the view because of what President Reagan said in his papers, Executive Order 16612, that said that communities and the States and in their judgment should be respected. And I think we ought to do what the former President asked us to do.

I see no one wanting the floor. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SESSIONS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF THE BUDGET OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 88

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, to the Committee on Appropriations, and to the Committee on the Budget.

To the Congress of the United States:

The 1999 Budget, which I am submitting to you with this message, is a balanced Federal budget, marking the first such budget in 30 years and bringing an era of exploding deficits to an end.

By reaching balance, my budget represents a remarkable turnaround in our fiscal policy over the last five years. It brings to an end three decades of fiscal chaos, a period in which Americans had lost confidence in their Government and the ability of their leaders to do the people's business.

This budget is not just balanced, it is balanced the right way. It not only ends the deficit, it reflects the values that Americans hold dear—the values of opportunity, responsibility, and community. The budget reflects my commitment to continue helping working families with their basic needs—to raise their children, send them to college, and pay for health care.

The budget invests in education and training and in research to raise the standard of living for average Americans. It invests in the environment and in law enforcement to raise the quality of life across our Nation. It invests in our communities at home while providing the resources to maintain a strong defense and conduct the international relations that have become so important to our future.

In the public and private sectors, prospects for a budget surplus are spurring a wide array of ideas about how to spend it. At this point, the Government has not yet reached the surplus milestone, and I continue to believe strongly that we should not spend a surplus that we don't yet have.

More specifically, I believe that the Administration and Congress should not spend a budget surplus for any reason until we have a solution to the long-term financing challenge facing Social Security. With that in mind, my budget proposes a reserve for the projected surpluses for 1999 and beyond.

PREPARING THE NATION FOR A NEW AMERICAN CENTURY

Five years ago, my Administration took office determined to restore the American Dream for every American. We were determined to turn the economy around, to rein in a budget that was out of control, and to create a Government that once again would focus on its customers, the American people.

Five years later, we have made enormous progress. Our economy is strong, our budget is headed toward balance, and our Government is making noticeable progress in providing better service to Americans.

We are beginning to bring Americans together again, to repair the social fabric that has frayed so badly in recent decades. All across America, crime is down, poverty is down, and welfare is down. Incomes are rising at all levels, and a new spirit of optimism is sweeping through many of our urban and rural communities that are rebounding from decades of lost jobs and lost hope.

Now that we have turned the economy around, our task is to spread the benefits of our economic well-being to more Americans, to ensure that every American has the chance to live out his or her dreams. As we move confidently ahead as a Nation, we want to ensure that nobody is left behind.

A century ago, the economy shifted from agriculture to manufacturing, changing the way that Americans lived, the way they worked, the way they related to one another. Today, the economy is shifting once more, this time from manufacturing to services, information, technology, and global commerce.

We can ensure that every American fully enjoys the benefits of this exciting new age, but only if we continue to give people the tools they need and create the conditions in which they can prosper. That is what my budget is designed to do.

CREATING A BRIGHT ECONOMIC FUTURE

When my Administration took office, the Nation was mired in economic problems. The economy had barely grown over four years, creating few jobs. Interest rates were high. Incomes remained stagnant for all but the most well-off. The budget deficit, which had exploded in size in the early 1980s, had reached a record \$290 billion and was headed higher. Clearly, the Nation needed a new course.