

1980, Congress provided that the first condition be broadened to allow the property to be used for any public purpose. Today, I seek to complete the transfer process through legislation that would effectively eliminate the conditions attached to the conveyance.

Mr. President, the property is no longer needed for its former purposes, and my bill would set in motion a chain of events that would allow for new uses that would benefit not only the City of Augusta and the State of Maine but our entire country. With the exception of the Kennebec Arsenal, virtually all of the great arsenals of the nineteenth century have been demolished or so completely altered that their original appearance has been lost. The new uses contemplated by Maine would raise money needed for repairs that would maintain what historic preservation experts have described as the most perfectly intact of the nineteenth century arsenals.

To be more specific, the State of Maine and City of Augusta plan to form a nonprofit corporation to oversee the property. That corporation would seek out private parties interested in using the land and buildings for such purposes as a marina, a museum, and a restaurant. Those parties would provide the capital for infrastructure development that would likely include sidewalks, streets, water, sewer and other utility service, and landscaping. In addition, the Arsenal's retaining wall needs repair, and a marina cannot be established without substantial dredging of the river.

The objective of my bill is to open the way for these improvements and new uses by eliminating any reversionary interests of the United States. The existence of such interests is a barrier to the private sector making the long-term commitments required to fund the improvements. In other words, Maine needs clear title for this plan to go forward.

Mr. President, the Kennebec Arsenal occupies an important place in the history of Maine and the nation. It was established in 1827 to deal with the threat of invasion from Great Britain, either from across the sea or from Canada to the north. The possibility of such an invasion was seen as a major threat to American security during the first half of the nineteenth century.

Much of the tension with the British stemmed from our disputed border with Canada, and in the late 1830's that dispute nearly blossomed into a full-scale war. While the so-called bloodless Aroostook War proved to be more talk than action, it caused a flurry of activity at the Kennebec Arsenal, with newly fabricated munitions sent there in anticipation of full-scale fighting. Fortunately, cooler heads and the arrival of the spring planting season brought the parties to the negotiating table.

During the Mexican War, rockets and fixed ammunition were manufactured at the Arsenal and shipped to the front.

During the Civil War, the post became an important depot of military stores. Indeed, a fear that Confederate guerrillas based in Canada would seek to burn the Arsenal led to the stationing of extra guards there, but despite the approach late one dark night of an unidentified boat, nothing came of this concern. During the latter half of the century, the Arsenal's importance declined, and in 1901, the Army posted an order for its abandonment. That process culminated in the legislation signed by President Theodore Roosevelt providing for the transfer of the property to the State for use as a hospital to serve the mentally ill.

Mr. President, I have offered this greatly abbreviated history of the Kennebec Arsenal to demonstrate the value of finding uses for the property that will guarantee its permanent preservation. That is the goal of the State of Maine and the City of Augusta, and this legislation will remove an anachronistic obstacle to the realization of that goal.

I thank you, Mr. President, and I hope to have your support for this very important legislation when it comes before the Committee on Armed Services.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1286

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. FAIRCLOTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1286, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain amounts received as scholarships by an individual under the National Health Corps Scholarship Program.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1360, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, to enhance land border control and enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1649

At the request of Mr. FORD, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1649, a bill to exempt disabled individuals from being required to enroll with a managed care entity under the medicaid program.

S. 1724

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1724, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the information reporting requirement relating to the Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Credits imposed on educational institutions and certain other trades and businesses.

S. 1930

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1930, a bill to provide certainty for, reduce administrative and compliance burdens associated with, and streamline and improve the collection of royalties from Federal and outer continental shelf oil and gas leases, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 188

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 188, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Israeli membership in a United Nations regional group.

SENATE RESOLUTION 201

At the request of Mr. KEMPTHORNE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 201, a resolution to commemorate and acknowledge the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 91—RELATIVE TO A POSTAGE STAMP

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 91

Whereas 1999 marks the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington;

Whereas George Washington's extraordinary virtue commanded the respect of America's early leaders, who called on him to preside over the framing of the Constitution;

Whereas George Washington was an indispensable figure in the founding of our Nation, and served as our country's first commander in chief and President with unparalleled distinction;

Whereas all Americans remain indebted to George Washington for the liberties we enjoy today;

Whereas the death of George Washington on December 14, 1799, marked the first instance of national mourning in this country;

Whereas George Washington's tremendous accomplishments over the course of a remarkable lifetime are studied and admired in this Nation and around the world; and

Whereas issuing a postage stamp to honor the life and contributions of George Washington, "The Father of Our Country", is proper and fitting; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring).* That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a postage stamp should be issued by the United States Postal Service to commemorate the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation; and

(2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a postage stamp be issued.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to submit legislation to honor one of the greatest men in American history. Many of my esteemed colleagues have joined me in a resolution paying tribute to the life of George Washington. However, I believe the