

October 19, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 7954 - Release of reversionary and mineral interests, New York State which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States conditions in a deed conveying certain lands to the State of New York and to provide for the conveyance of certain interests in such lands so as to permit New York, subject to certain conditions, to sell the land.

Under provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, in 1961 the Secretary of Agriculture conveyed a 0.42 acre tract of land in New Hudson, New York, to the State of New York which was to be managed by the State as a part of the Hanging Bog Game Management Area. The conveyance was subject to a reversionary clause in the deed which requires that the land be managed for public purposes. In addition, the United States has a 75 percent interest in the minerals in the land.

H. R. 7954 will authorize and direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release, on behalf of the United States, the reversionary interest in the 0.42 acre tract of land described above. This release would be conditioned on the State of New York agreeing to convey the land to the Bellville Cemetery Association for a fair and equitable consideration.

The bill will also direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey, at fair market value, all the undivided mineral interests of the United States in this 0.42 acre tract. In this regard, the Secretary would be required to receive payment for all administrative costs associated with the conveyance.

#