

ENROLLED HOUSE
JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 1057

By: Beutler and Bryant of
the House

and

Kerr of the Senate

A Joint Resolution declaring legislative consent for the acquisition of certain land by the United States National Park Service; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Oklahoma possesses a rich and varied history; and

WHEREAS, a very important event in Oklahoma and United States history which occurred within the borders of Oklahoma is the conflict which occurred on the banks of the Washita River, known as the Battle of the Washita, a significant event in the Plains Indian wars; and

WHEREAS, the conflict, which occurred on November 27, 1868, involved a band of the Cheyenne Indians led by Chief Black Kettle who were attacked by the United States Cavalry led by General George A. Custer under the command of General Phil Sheridan, and represents one of only three significant sites of the Plains Indian wars in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the site of the Battle of the Washita became a National Park site in the state when House Resolution No. 4236 was enacted by the 104th Congress of the United States, declaring that in order to provide for the preservation and interpretation of this important event in history, the site would be established as the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site in the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of House Bill No. 1883 of the 1st Session of the 46th Oklahoma Legislature, approximately three hundred twenty-six (326) acres were transferred to the United States of America for the use and benefit of the National Park Service for the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Historical Society holds title to approximately three (3) acres commonly known as the overlook site which is adjacent to the tract of land the National Park Service is developing and operating as the Washita Site; and

WHEREAS, the three-acre tract of land owned by the Oklahoma Historical Society is an integral part of the Washita Site and can best be managed by the National Park Service as a part of the Historic Site; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Historical Society, in order to preserve the site, wishes to transfer the three-acre tract of land to the United States government for consideration of economic, historic and other benefits that the transfer will confer on the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of Title 80 of the Oklahoma Statutes, legislative consent is required before the

United States government may acquire title to land in the State of Oklahoma.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature declares its consent for the transfer of title from the Oklahoma Historical Society to the United States of the three-acre tract of land in Roger Mills County adjacent to the National Historical Site known as the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site to be developed and operated as a part of the site as provided for in House Resolution No. 4236 of the 2nd Session of the 104th Congress.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed by the Secretary of State to the Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Superintendent of the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, and the Director of the National Park Service.

Passed the House of Representatives the 22nd day of April, 1998.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the 7th day of April, 1998.

President of the Senate