

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD OF DALE E. MCDANIEL, ACTING ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR POLICY, PLANNING, AND INTERNATIONAL AVIATION, FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION, BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF LAND TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM. JULY 29, 1993.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

I welcome the opportunity to provide a statement for the record concerning H.R. 2144, which is pending before the Subcommittee.

H.R. 2144 provides for the transfer of 3,200 acres of Federal land in Guam to the Government of Guam. The transfer is conditional upon a determination by the head of each Federal agency, which controls the land, that it is in excess of the needs of the United States Government.

The Department of Defense oversees the vast majority of land described in H.R. 2144, with the FAA-owned parcel named in H.R. 2144 comprised of only about 37 acres. These 37 acres were used by the FAA for an HH-Homer Facility, which is a long-range, non-directional beacon for guiding airplanes. That use was discontinued several years ago, and the FAA anticipates no future aviation uses of this parcel. Although FAA personnel continue to be stationed on Guam and play an important aviation role there, the FAA's activities are concentrated on DOD-owned land, which is not considered for transfer in the bill.

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At the present time, the FAA parcel is currently used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA's Soil Conservation Service, pursuant to a memorandum of agreement with the FAA, is working with the Government of Guam to train farmers farming techniques on the type of soil found on the FAA-parcel.

Since FAA has no expected future use for this property, we anticipate no significant issues in a potential transfer of this land. Thus, the FAA has no objection to the general thrust of H.R. 2144, which would contemplate such a transfer. We would, however, defer to the views of the Departments of Interior and Defense and the General Services Administration on the specifics of the legislation, as their missions and authorities are more directly affected or associated with the proposed bill. I can assure you that we plan to continue to play a role in this process as it evolves, working in conjunction with other Federal agencies, this Committee, and the Government of Guam to achieve the best approach on this issue.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide the FAA's views for the record of this hearing.