



VETERANS AND
PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date 2-28-2021

Name: MAJOR DONALD GRANT CHIEF OF STAFF
3RD MILITARY DISTRICT

Address: 215 W. ALLEN ST

LANCASTER, OHIO 43130

Telephone: 740-407-0002

Organization Representing: SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE

Testifying on Bill Number: SB 59

Testimony: Verbal Written Both

Testifying As: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist? Yes No

Special Requests: _____

Chairman Frank Hoagland, Vice Chairman Terry Johnson and all members of the Public Safety Committee, as well as all Veterans:

My name is Major Donald L Grant Sr., Chief of Staff, 3rd Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve. Several years ago, I approached Senator Tim Schaffer regarding the need to protect our country's history, not only in writing, but also in retired artillery pieces that have been in the possession of many Ohioans. My concern was initially the Civil War era pieces, such as cannons, but after meeting with Mr. Schaffer several times, the need to protect all war memorials from all wars in our country's history was apparent. Initially, this was to prevent the sale of items used in the Civil War, which is prohibited in the Deed of Conveyance of Property: GAR to SUVCW (attached).

While in recent years there has been a push to remove items from our country in an attempt to, in my opinion, rewrite history, we need to teach our history to everyone; not just today's younger generations, but to those in the future. We need to learn from our historical events, mistakes and all, not erase them, as we would inevitably be bound to repeat them.

Today's children tend to be taught only as far back as World War II from what I have seen in recent texts in our schools.

Our country has had many trials in our 245 years, and we need to learn from these, respect them, and continue to teach them. My children and grandchildren are being taught as much as I can teach them, and some may say I am obsessed with this task.

In closing, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to express my support of this legislature. As a blood relative (6th Cousin) to General US Grant, my family knows how important these memorials and artifacts are to our State, our people and to retain our heritage.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Major Donald L. Grant Sr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' at the end.

Major Donald L Grant, Sr.

Past Ohio Department Commander, Sons of Union of the Civil War

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

A DEED OF CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY: GAR TO SUVCW

THE INDENTURE made this 13th day of February, 1954 by and between the GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, a Corporation organized by an act of the Congress of the United States approved June 3, 1924, by Albert Woolson, sole surviving member of said Grand Army of the Republic, and the COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, a Corporation organized and existing under and pursuant to the laws of the State of Illinois;

WHEREAS, because of the age and infirmity of the last surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and being desirous of carrying out the objects and purposes for which said Grand Army of the Republic was organized and believing that the Sons of Union Veterans is the natural heir of the Grand Army of the Republic;

THEREFORE, pursuant to the provisions of Sections six and seven of said act incorporating the Grand Army of the Republic, I, ALBERT WOOLSON, as sole surviving member thereof do hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey to said Commander[y]-in-Chief, sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War all property of any and every kind and nature owned by said Grand Army of the Republic, and wheresoever situate, and all the records and archives thereof; except such property and records as are specifically mentioned and described in a resolution adopted by the Grand Army of the Republic at its 83rd and final Encampment held at Indianapolis, Indiana August 28th to September 1st, 1949.

The meaning and intent of this conveyance is to convey to said Commandery-in-Chief, sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, all post and department records of the Grand Army of the Republic and it is my express wish and desire that said Grantee shall use its best endeavors to return said records to the Communities where grand Army posts were located, so far as possible, for the use and benefit of the Communities where such posts were located.

This conveyance shall become effective upon compliance with Section seven of the said act incorporating the Grand Army of the Republic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the said Albert Woolson, as sole surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal at the City of Duluth in the County of St. Louis and State of Minnesota the day and year first above written.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
By: /s/ Albert Woolson (seal)

WITNESS:
[Illegible]
J. W. Kobus
Dewey B. Meade

out the true intent and purpose of the original deed of February 13, 1954, it is this fifteenth day of June, A..1956, by the Court,

ORDERED, Adjudged and decreed that the title and ownership of the property covered by said deeds of February 13, 1954 and February 25, 1956, be and hereby is vested in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a corporation created by Act of Congress approved August 20, 1954.

/s/ Alexander Holtzoff
Judge

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

In re)
)
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,)
) No. 3966-54
Petitioner)
)

JUDGEMENT

Upon consideration of the motion filed herein by counsel for the petitioner for transfer of the remaining property of the Grand Army of the Republic to the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the petition filed herein, the copy of the conveyance of property of the Grand Army of the Republic to the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War also filed herein, and the duly authenticated original of such copy of the conveyance, it is this 22 day of December, 1954 by the Court,

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED That the title and ownership of the property provided for in the indenture of the 13th day of February, 1954, by and between the Grand Army of the Republic and the Commandery-in-Chief, sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, pursuant to the Act of June 3, 1924, 43 Stat. 358, 76th Cong. 1st Sess., Sec. 7, be and hereby is vested in the Commandery-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

/s/ Alexander Holtzoff
Judge

Note: Copies are attested by Harry M. Hull, Clerk