Public Law 85-300

AN ACT

To authorize the construction, maintenance, and operation by the Armory Board of the District of Columbia of a stadium in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

September 7, 1957
[H. R. 1937]

District of Columbia Stadium Act of 1957.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Stadium Act of 1957".

SEC. 2. In order to provide the people of the District of Columbia with a stadium suitable for holding athletic events and other activities and events of a nature requiring such a facility, the Armory Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board"), created by section 2 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a District of Columbia Armory Board, and for other purposes", approved June 4, 1948 (D. C. Code, sec. 2-1702), is hereby authorized to construct, maintain, and operate a stadium (including necessary motor-vehicle parking areas) with a seating capacity of not to exceed fifty thousand, on a site in the District of Columbia determined in accordance with provisions of section 3 of this Act. The cost of constructing such stadium shall not exceed $6,000,000, and such amount shall be deemed to include interest during the construction of the stadium and for 12 months thereafter and all engineering, legal, financial, architectural, and other expenses incident to the construction of the stadium.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to acquire by gift, purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, all real property within the boundaries of the East Capitol Street site, as established in the first paragraph under the heading "(2) East Capitol Street Site" contained in the National Capital Planning Commission report entitled "Preliminary Report on Sites for National Memorial Stadium" dated November 8, 1956, and thereafter, upon the request of the Board, the Secretary of the Interior shall transfer to the Board, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to all real property within the boundaries of such East Capitol Street site.

SEC. 4. (a) The Board is hereby authorized to provide for the payment of the cost of such stadium, including the land upon which said stadium is located, by an issue or issues of negotiable bonds of the Board, bearing interest, payable semiannually, at the rate of not more than to be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, the principal and interest of such bonds shall be payable solely from the funds provided in accordance with this Act, and such payments may be further secured by mortgage of the stadium. All such bonds may be registered as to principal alone or both principal and interest, shall be payable as to principal within not to exceed thirty years from the date thereof, shall be in such denominations, shall be executed in such manner, and shall be payable in such medium and at such place or places as the Board may determine, and the face amount thereof shall be so calculated as to produce, at the price of their sale, the cost of the stadium constructed pursuant to this Act, but such cost shall not exceed $6,000,000. The Board may reserve the right to redeem any or all of the bonds before maturity in such manner and at such price or prices not exceeding 105 per centum of the face value and accrued interest as may be fixed by the Board prior to the issuance of the bonds. The Board when it deems advisable may issue refunding bonds to refinance any outstanding bonds at maturity or before maturity when called for redemption, except that such refunding bonds shall mature within not to exceed thirty years from the date thereof, or not to exceed fifty years from the date of enactment of this Act, whichever shall first occur, and shall not exceed in principal amount the principal amount of outstanding bonds replaced by such refunding bonds.
The Board may enter into an agreement with any bank or trust company in the United States as trustee having the power to make such agreement, setting forth the duties of the Board with respect to acquisition, construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and insurance of the stadium, the conservation and application of all funds, the security for the payment of the bonds, safeguarding of money on hand or on deposit, and the rights and remedies of such trustee and the holders of the bonds, restricting the individual right of action on the bondholders as is customary in trust agreements respecting bonds of corporations. Such trust agreement may contain such provisions for protecting and enforcing the rights and remedies of the trustee and the bondholders as may be reasonable and proper.

(b) The bonds may be sold at not less than par. If the proceeds of the bonds shall exceed the cost, the excess shall be placed in the fund created by section 6 for the payment of the principal and interest of such bonds. Prior to the preparation of definitive bonds the Board may, under like restrictions, issue temporary bonds, or may, under like restrictions, issue temporary bonds or interim certificates without coupons, of any denomination whatsoever, exchangeable for definitive bonds when such bonds that have been executed are available for delivery.

(c) All bonds, or other obligations, issued by the Board under authority of this Act, shall be exempt both as to principal and interest, from all taxation (except estate and inheritance taxes) now or hereafter imposed by the United States, or by the District of Columbia.

Sec. 5. In order to carry out the purposes of this Act, the Board is hereby authorized, without regard to any other provision of law—

(1) to determine all questions concerning the use of the stadium for the purposes of this Act;

(2) to enter into contracts and agreements with the District of Columbia and the Federal departments, bureaus, establishments, and offices, and the Act of March 4, 1915, as amended (31 U. S. C. 686), is hereby made applicable to such contracts;

(3) to acquire by purchase or lease, equipment, appliances, facilities, and property of any kind necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this Act, and to sell or dispose of any such property so acquired when in its judgment it shall be advantageous to do so, except that no contract for more than $3,000 shall be entered into for the purpose of this paragraph without competitive bidding;

(4) to make such structural and other changes in the stadium as it may deem necessary or desirable for carrying out the purposes of this Act;

(5) to prepare, maintain, light, and operate motor-vehicle parking lots on such land as is provided for that purpose by the Secretary of the Interior under section 3 of this Act;

(6) to operate or contract for the operation of such concessions, including the checking of clothing and the sale of beverages and food as the Board may deem appropriate to the purposes for which the stadium may be rented or leased;

(7) to furnish such services to renters, lessees, and other occupants of the stadium as in its judgment are necessary or suitable for carrying out the purposes of this Act;

(8) to rent or lease from time to time for any of the purposes of this Act, all or any part or parts of the stadium including any or all structures, equipment, or facilities of the stadium, at such rental values and for such periods of time as the Board shall determine;
(9) to carry public-liability insurance protecting the Board, and the members, officers, and employees thereof engaged in operating and maintaining the stadium; and to require tenants or lessees of the stadium to carry public-liability insurance protecting the interests of such tenants or lessees;

(10) to accept the gratuitous services of such persons as may volunteer to aid in the conduct of its activities.

Sec. 6. (a) The Board shall place into a fund all receipts derived from the exercise by the Board of the powers granted by this Act. This fund shall be used for operating, maintaining, and repairing the stadium and to pay the principal and interest of bonds issued under authority of section 4 of this Act as they fall due and the redemption or repurchase price of all or any thereof redeemed or repurchased before maturity as provided in section 4 of this Act. All revenues and receipts from the rental or lease of the stadium are hereby pledged to such uses and to the application thereof as hereinafter in this section required. After payment or provision for payment therefrom of all cost of maintenance, repair, and operation and the reservation of an amount of money estimated to be sufficient for the same purpose during the ensuing period of not more than six months, the remainder of receipts received from rental or lease of the stadium shall be placed in a fund to be used to pay the principal and interest of the bonds. An accurate record of the cost of the stadium, the expenditure for maintaining and operating it, and of rentals and lease receipts shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all interested persons.

(b) Within a reasonable time after the construction of the stadium, the Board shall file with Congress and the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia a sworn itemized statement showing the cost of constructing the stadium, and the amount of bonds, debentures, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in connection with the construction of such stadium.

Sec. 7. After payment of the bonds and interest or after a sinking fund sufficient for such purpose shall have been provided and shall be held solely for that purpose, but in any event not later than fifty years from the date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall deliver deeds or other suitable instruments of conveyance of the interest of the Board in and to the stadium to the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, for the District of Columbia, and the stadium shall thereafter be properly operated, maintained, and repaired by the District of Columbia.

Sec. 8. (a) The Board is authorized to employ and fix compensation of such personnel as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, without regard to the provisions of the civil-service laws and the Classification Act of 1949, as amended.

(b) Under the direction of the Board and with the written authorization signed by the members thereof, an employee of the Board may exercise such of the powers vested in the Board by section 5 of this Act as the Board shall determine.

Sec. 9. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to authorize or permit the Board or any member thereof to create any obligation or incur any liability other than such obligations and liabilities as are dischargeable solely from funds contemplated to be provided by this Act. No obligation created or liability incurred pursuant to this Act shall be a personal obligation or liability of any member or members of the Board but shall be chargeable solely to the funds contemplated to be provided by this Act. No indebtedness created pursuant to this Act shall be an indebtedness of the District of Columbia or the United States.
Sec. 10. The Board shall file with the Congress in January of each year a financial statement certified as to the accuracy by the auditor of the District of Columbia, a report of the activities and business at the stadium during the preceding fiscal year and recommendations to Congress as to future control and use of the stadium.

Approved September 7, 1957.

Public Law 85-301

AN ACT

To provide additional office space in home districts of Congressmen, Delegates, and Resident Commissioners.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the eighteenth paragraph under the subheading “Contingent Expenses of the House” under the heading “HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES” in the Legislative Appropriation Act, 1955 (2 U.S.C., 122; 68 Stat. 396), is amended to read as follows:

“Each Member shall be entitled to office space suitable for his use in the district he represents, at not more than two places designated by him in such district. The Sergeant at Arms shall secure office space satisfactory to the Member in post offices or other Federal buildings if such space is available. Office space to which a Member is entitled under this paragraph which is not secured by the Sergeant at Arms, may be secured by the Member, and the Clerk shall approve for payment from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives vouchers covering bona fide statements of amounts due for such office space not exceeding $1,200 per annum. As used in this paragraph the term ‘Member’ means each Member of the House of Representatives, the Delegate from Alaska, the Delegate from Hawaii, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico; the term ‘district’ means each congressional district, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and, in the case of a Representative at Large, a State; and the term ‘Clerk’ means the Clerk of the House of Representatives.”

Sec. 2. The amendment made by the first section of this Act shall take effect as of August 1, 1957.

Approved September 7, 1957.

Public Law 85-302

AN ACT

To remove the limitation on the use of certain real property heretofore conveyed to the city of Austin, Texas, by the United States

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of General Services shall convey to the board of trustees of the Austin Independent School District, Travis County, Texas, without consideration therefor, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property conveyed to the city of Austin, Texas, under authority of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize the Secretary of War to convey to the city of Austin, Texas, a tract of land in said city for educational purposes”, approved March 5, 1888 (25 Stat. 44).

Approved September 7, 1957.