Public Law 96-610
96th Congress

An Act

Dec. 28, 1980
[S. 2729]

To authorize certain emergency repairs at the National Visitor Center in the District of Columbia.

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 "National Visitor Center Emergency Repair Act of 1980".

National Visitor Center Emergency Repair Act of 1980.
40 USC 801 note.

SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981, the sum of $11,000,000 for the purpose of making emergency repairs to the primary structure and roofs of the National Visitor Center in the District of Columbia and for the purpose of providing protection of the structural elements of the unfinished parking facility and southeast ramp at such Center. Such sum shall remain available until expended.

Appropriation authorization.
40 USC 802 note.

(b) Prior to entering into any contract for the repairs or protection authorized by subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Secretary of Transportation regarding the planning for such repairs or protection.

Repairs, liability.
40 USC 802 note.

SEC. 3. (a) The Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice shall prepare an opinion on the question of whether the United States or the Terminal Realty Baltimore Co. and the Terminal Realty Penn Co. are legally liable for the repairs anticipated by the provisions of this Act. If the Office of Legal Counsel determines that there is a reasonable cause to believe a party other than the United States is legally obligated to bear all or a portion of the costs of that repair authorized by this Act, the Attorney General shall institute an action to recover expenditures that were incurred by the Secretary pursuant to this Act.

(b) None of the actions taken pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to limit or affect in any way the rights of the United States under the lease for real property between Terminal Realty Baltimore Co. and Terminal Realty Penn Co. and the United States of America, dated March 1, 1972, or any additions or modifications thereto.

Contract.
40 USC 809.

SEC. 4. The Architect of the Capitol may enter into a contract or other agreement with the Secretary of the Interior providing for the Architect of the Capitol to furnish steam from the Capitol Power Plant to the Union Station-National Visitor Center complex. Under

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

such contract, the Secretary of the Interior shall pay for such steam at rates, not less than cost, and shall connect the Union Station-National Visitor Center complex with the Capitol Power Plant steam lines without expenses to the Congress.

Approved December 28, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 96-902 accompanying H.R. 6674 (Comm. on Public Works and Transportation).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-775 (Comm. on Environment and Public Works).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):
Dec. 13, considered and passed Senate and House.