

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1623

To select a National Health Museum site.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 1999

Mr. SPECTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To select a National Health Museum site.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. NATIONAL HEALTH MUSEUM PROPERTY.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSE.—

5 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited
6 as the “National Health Museum Site Selection
7 Act”.

8 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is
9 to further section 703 of the National Health Mu-
10 seum Development Act (20 U.S.C. 50 note; Public
11 Law 105–78), which provides that the National
12 Health Museum shall be located on or near the Mall

1 on land owned by the Federal Government or the
2 District of Columbia.

3 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
5 trator” means the Administrator of General Serv-
6 ices.

7 (2) MUSEUM.—The term “Museum” means the
8 National Health Museum, Inc., a District of Colum-
9 bia nonprofit corporation exempt from Federal in-
10 come taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Inter-
11 nal Revenue Code of 1986.

12 (3) PROPERTY.—The term “property” means—

13 (A) a parcel of land identified as Lot 24
14 and a closed interior alley in Square 579 in the
15 District of Columbia, generally bounded by 2nd,
16 3rd, C, and D Streets, S.W.; and

17 (B) all improvements on and appur-
18 tenances to the land and alley.

19 (c) CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall con-
21 vey to the Museum all rights, title, and interest of
22 the United States in and to the property.

23 (2) PURPOSE OF CONVEYANCE.—The purpose
24 of the conveyance is to provide a site for the con-
25 struction and operation of a new building to serve as

1 the National Health Museum, including associated
2 office, educational, conference center, visitor and
3 community services, and other space and facilities
4 appropriate to promote knowledge and under-
5 standing of health issues.

6 (3) DATE OF CONVEYANCE.—

7 (A) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 3
8 years after the date of enactment of this Act,
9 the Museum shall notify the Administrator in
10 writing of the date on which the Museum will
11 accept conveyance of the property.

12 (B) DATE.—The date of conveyance shall
13 be—

14 (i) not less than 270 days and not
15 more than 1 year after the date of the no-
16 tice; but

17 (ii) not earlier than April 1, 2001, un-
18 less the Administrator and the Museum
19 agree to an earlier date.

20 (C) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO NOTIFY.—If
21 the Museum fails to provide the notice to the
22 Administrator by the date described in subpara-
23 graph (A), the Museum shall have no further
24 right to the property.

1 (4) QUITCLAIM DEED.—The property shall be
2 conveyed to the Museum vacant and by quitclaim
3 deed.

4 (5) PURCHASE PRICE.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The purchase price for
6 the property shall be the fair market value of
7 the property as of the date of enactment of this
8 Act.

9 (B) TIMING; APPRAISERS.—The deter-
10 mination of fair market value shall be made not
11 later than 180 days after the date of enactment
12 of this Act by qualified appraisers jointly se-
13 lected by the Administrator and the Museum.

14 (D) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Promptly
15 upon the determination of the purchase price,
16 and in any event at least sixty days in advance
17 of the conveyance of the property, the Adminis-
18 trator shall report to Congress as to the pur-
19 chase price.

20 (E) DEPOSIT OF PURCHASE PRICE.—The
21 Administrator shall deposit the purchase price
22 into the Federal Buildings Fund established by
23 section 210(f) of the Federal Property and Ad-
24 ministrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C.
25 490(f)).

1 (d) REVERSIONARY INTEREST IN THE UNITED
2 STATES.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The property shall revert to
4 the United States if—

5 (A) during the 50-year period beginning on
6 the date of conveyance of the property, the
7 property is used for a purpose not authorized
8 by subsection (c)(2);

9 (B) during the 3-year period beginning on
10 the date of conveyance of the property, the Mu-
11 seum does not commence construction on the
12 property, other than for a reason not within the
13 control of the Museum; or

14 (C) the Museum ceases to be exempt from
15 Federal income taxation as an organization de-
16 scribed in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Rev-
17 enue Code of 1986.

18 (2) REPAYMENT.—If the property reverts to the
19 United States, the United States shall repay the
20 Museum the full purchase price for the property,
21 without interest.

22 (e) AUTHORITY OF MUSEUM OVER PROPERTY.—The
23 Museum may—

24 (1) demolish or renovate any existing or future
25 improvement on the property;

1 (2) build, own, operate, and maintain new im-
2 provements on the property;

3 (3) finance and mortgage the property on cus-
4 tomary terms and conditions; and

5 (4) manage the property in furtherance of this
6 section.

7 (f) LAND USE APPROVALS.—

8 (1) EFFECT ON OTHER AUTHORITY.—Nothing
9 in this section shall be construed to limit the author-
10 ity of the National Capital Planning Commission or
11 the Commission of Fine Arts.

12 (2) COOPERATION CONCERNING ZONING.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The United States
14 shall cooperate with the Museum with respect
15 to any zoning or other matter relating to—

16 (i) the development or improvement of
17 the property; or

18 (ii) the demolition of any improvement
19 on the property as of the date of enact-
20 ment of this Act.

21 (B) ZONING APPLICATIONS.—Cooperation
22 under subparagraph (A) shall include making,
23 joining in, or consenting to any application re-
24 quired to facilitate the zoning of the property.

1 (g) ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS.—Costs of remedi-
2 tion of any environmental hazards existing on the prop-
3 erty, including all asbestos-containing materials, shall be
4 borne by the United States. Environmental remediation
5 shall commence immediately upon the vacancy of the
6 building and shall be completed not later than 270 days
7 from the date of the notice to the Administrator described
8 in subsection (c)(3)(A).

9 (h) REPORTS.—Following the date of enactment of
10 this Act and ending on the date that the National Health
11 Museum opens to the public, the Museum shall submit an-
12 nual reports to the Administrator and Congress, regarding
13 the status of planning, development, and construction of
14 the National Health Museum.

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