

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1292

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2004

Referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## AN ACT

To establish a servitude and emancipation archival research clearinghouse in the National Archives.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Servitude and Emanci-  
5 pation Archival Research ClearingHouse Act of 2004” or  
6 the “SEARCH Act of 2004”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF DATABASE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Archivist of the United  
3 States shall establish, as a part of the National Archives,  
4 a national database consisting of historic records of ser-  
5 vitude and emancipation in the United States to assist Af-  
6 rican Americans in researching their genealogy.

7 (b) MAINTENANCE.—The database established by  
8 this Act shall be maintained by the National Historical  
9 Publications and Records Commission.

10 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There are authorized to be appropriated—

12 (1) \$5,000,000 to establish the national data-  
13 base authorized by this Act;

14 (2) such sums as are necessary to operate and  
15 maintain the national database authorized by this  
16 Act; and

17 (3) \$5,000,000 to provide grants to States, col-  
18 leges and universities, libraries, and museums to  
19 preserve local records of servitude and emancipation.

Passed the Senate June 25, 2004.

Attest: EMILY J. REYNOLDS,  
*Secretary.*