

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1671

To establish the United States Public Service Academy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. FARR, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish the United States Public Service Academy.

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 “Public Service Acad-
5 emy Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) National disasters such as the terrorist at-
9 tacks on September 11, 2001, and Hurricane

1 Katrina, along with the United States' struggle
2 against international terrorism, have highlighted the
3 importance of public service and the need for the
4 United States to improve its capacity to effectively
5 handle future catastrophes, as well as the daily chal-
6 lenges of life in a global society.

7 (2) Young people in the United States, particu-
8 larly after the attacks on September 11, 2001, have
9 a strong ethic of public service. According to the
10 Higher Education Research Institute, more than $\frac{2}{3}$
11 of the 2005 freshman class at institutions of higher
12 education in the United States expressed a desire to
13 serve others, the highest rate in a generation. Appli-
14 cations to private programs such as Teach for Amer-
15 ica and City Year, publicly funded public service
16 programs within USA Freedom Corps, and religious
17 mission trips have increased dramatically since
18 2001. Yet with the increase in college tuition caus-
19 ing the average college graduate to owe about
20 \$20,000 in student loan debt, many students can af-
21 ford to pursue public service only for short periods
22 of time, and avoid public service careers in favor of
23 more lucrative fields.

24 (3) The aging of the population of the United
25 States and the subsequent retirement of the Baby

1 Boomer generation will create serious shortages in
2 critically needed public service positions at all levels
3 of our society, as evidenced by the following:

4 (A) A recent study by the Congressional
5 Budget Office highlighted “the graying of the
6 Federal work force,” while the Partnership for
7 Public Service warned of a “Federal brain
8 drain” as 44 percent of all Federal workers be-
9 come eligible to retire in the next 5 years.

10 (B) The National Center for Education
11 Statistics estimates that more than 2,000,000
12 teachers will be needed in the next 10 years due
13 to teacher retirement and increased student en-
14 rollment. The teacher shortages will particularly
15 affect high-need rural and inner-city local edu-
16 cational agencies.

17 (C) More than 80 percent of the Nation’s
18 17,000 law enforcement agencies report that
19 they cannot fill needed positions due to a lack
20 of qualified candidates.

21 (D) In the aftermath of Hurricane
22 Katrina, personnel shortages were “perhaps
23 [the] most difficult challenge” for the Federal
24 Emergency Management Agency, according to a

1 Congressional report on the Federal Govern-
2 ment's response to the disaster.

3 (E) The Bureau of Customs and Border
4 Protection has struggled to recruit and retain
5 college-educated Border Patrol agents who can
6 speak Spanish and navigate the delicate cross-
7 cultural interactions inherent in the job.

8 (4) There is a large pool of untapped potential
9 among young women who want to serve our country.
10 Although the military service academies are only 15
11 percent female, women constitute a majority (57
12 percent) of college students nationwide. In service
13 organizations, women are an even larger majority:
14 58 percent of Peace Corps, 61 percent of City Year,
15 and 71 percent of Teach for America participants
16 are women.

17 (5) College students in the United States lack
18 adequate preparation in fields crucial to public serv-
19 ice, including international education and civic edu-
20 cation, as evidenced by the following:

21 (A) According to the bipartisan Commis-
22 sion on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad
23 Fellowship Program established under section
24 104 of division H of the Consolidated Appro-
25 priations Act, 2004 (Public Law 108–199; 118

1 Stat. 435), students of the United States often
2 graduate from college without knowing a for-
3 eign language or having any experience abroad.
4 In the past 3 decades, the percentage of under-
5 graduate students of the United States study-
6 ing a foreign language has dropped from 16
7 percent to 8.7 percent, and approximately 1
8 percent of such students participate in a study
9 abroad program.

10 (B) Young adults of the United States
11 scored next to last in a recent National Geo-
12 graphic/Roper survey of geographic knowledge.

13 (C) A University of Connecticut survey of
14 14,000 undergraduate students found a wide-
15 spread lack of civic literacy, with seniors barely
16 outscoring freshmen on a test of basic multiple
17 choice questions about the history, foreign pol-
18 icy, economics, and government of the United
19 States.

20 (D) The most recent National Assessment
21 of Educational Progress assessment of civic
22 knowledge in grade 12 found that only 25 per-
23 cent of high school seniors had an “adequate”
24 knowledge of civics and government and 35 per-

1 cent of high school seniors had little or no
2 knowledge of civics and government.

3 (6) The United States does not have a national
4 undergraduate institution to promote public service
5 and develop well-trained, highly qualified civilian
6 leaders.

7 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

8 The purpose of this Act is to establish a United
9 States Public Service Academy that will—

10 (1) strengthen and protect the United States by
11 providing an annual influx of career-motivated pub-
12 lic servants and future leaders into the Nation’s
13 public institutions;

14 (2) be the first national civilian institution of
15 higher education in the United States; and

16 (3) provide competitive, federally subsidized,
17 public service-focused undergraduate education to
18 students from across the United States and the
19 world.

20 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) **PUBLIC SERVICE.**—The term “public serv-
23 ice” means employment with, or work for, a public
24 entity that is funded primarily by the Federal Gov-
25 ernment or by a State or local government.

1 (2) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
2 the several States of the United States and the Dis-
3 trict of Columbia.

4 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
6 Department of Homeland Security, a United States Public
7 Service Academy (referred to in this Act as the “Acad-
8 emy”), at the location to be determined by an Act of Con-
9 gress, for the instruction in and preparation for public
10 service of selected individuals, who shall be called Academy
11 students.

12 (b) ORGANIZATION.—The Secretary of the Depart-
13 ment of Homeland Security shall prescribe the organiza-
14 tion of the Academy, in accordance with the requirements
15 of this section.

16 (c) KEY POSITIONS.—There shall be at the Academy
17 the following:

18 (1) A Superintendent.

19 (2) A Dean of the Academic Board, who is a
20 permanent professor.

21 (3) A Director of Admissions.

22 (4) A Director of Placement.

23 (d) SUPERINTENDENT.—

24 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The President shall, by
25 and with the advice and consent of the Senate, ap-

1 point the Superintendent of the Academy, who shall
2 serve for a 6-year term.

3 (2) DUTIES.—The Superintendent shall be re-
4 sponsible for the day-to-day operation of the Acad-
5 emy and the welfare of the students, faculty, and
6 staff of the Academy.

7 (e) DEAN OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD.—

8 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The Superintendent shall
9 appoint the Dean of the Academic Board as an addi-
10 tional permanent professor from the permanent pro-
11 fessors who have served as heads of departments of
12 instruction at the Academy, except that for the first
13 year of the Academy the Superintendent shall ap-
14 point the Dean of the Academic Board from quali-
15 fied applicants.

16 (2) DUTIES.—The Dean of the Academic Board
17 shall perform such duties as the Superintendent
18 may, upon approval of the Board of Visitors, pre-
19 scribe.

20 **SEC. 6. FACULTY AND DEPARTMENTS.**

21 (a) NUMBER OF FACULTY.—The Superintendent of
22 the Academy may employ as many professors, instructors,
23 and lecturers at the Academy as the Superintendent con-
24 siders necessary to achieve academic excellence.

1 (b) FACULTY COMPENSATION.—The Superintendent
2 may prescribe the compensation of persons employed
3 under this section. Compensation and benefits for faculty
4 members of the Academy shall be sufficiently competitive
5 to achieve academic excellence, as determined by the Su-
6 perintendent.

7 (c) FACULTY EXPECTATIONS.—Faculty members
8 shall—

9 (1) possess academic expertise and teaching
10 prowess;

11 (2) exemplify high standards of conduct and
12 performance;

13 (3) be expected to participate in the full spec-
14 trum of academy programs, including providing
15 leadership for the curricular and extracurricular ac-
16 tivities of students;

17 (4) comply with the standards of conduct and
18 performance established by the Superintendent; and

19 (5) participate actively in the development of
20 the students through the enforcement of standards
21 of behavior and conduct, to be established in the
22 Academy's rules and regulations.

23 (d) DEPARTMENT TITLES.—The Superintendent
24 may prescribe the titles of each of the departments of in-
25 struction and the faculty of the Academy.

1 **SEC. 7. STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**
2 **FOR ADMISSION.**

3 (a) **STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS.**—A student wishing
4 to be admitted to the Academy shall—

5 (1) be 17 years of age or older;

6 (2) be unmarried; and

7 (3) have no dependents, as defined in section
8 152(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

9 (b) **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS.**—A student wishing
10 to be admitted to the Academy shall fulfill the following
11 requirements:

12 (1) Earn a secondary school diploma.

13 (2) Take the SAT or ACT or an equivalent col-
14 lege-level aptitude test.

15 (3) Sit for a personal interview with a rep-
16 resentative of the Academy.

17 (4) Any further admissions requirements, as de-
18 termined by the Director of Admissions.

19 (c) **HONOR CODE.**—A student wishing to be admitted
20 to the Academy shall sign an honor code developed by the
21 Superintendent of the Academy and approved by the
22 Board of Visitors. A violation of the honor code may con-
23 stitute a basis for dismissal from the Academy.

24 **SEC. 8. APPOINTMENT OF STUDENTS.**

25 (a) **NOMINATION PROCESS.**—Prospective applicants
26 to the Academy for seats described in paragraphs (1) and

1 (3) of subsection (b) shall follow a nomination process es-
2 tablished by the Director of Admissions of the Academy
3 that is similar to the process used for admission to the
4 military academies of the United States Armed Forces.

5 (b) APPOINTMENTS.—

6 (1) NOMINEES FOR CONGRESSIONAL SEATS.—

7 (A) NUMBER OF SEATS.—For each incom-
8 ing first-year class at the Academy, the Direc-
9 tor of Admissions shall reserve a number of
10 congressional seats in such class that is twice
11 the number of electoral votes for all States, ex-
12 cept that such number of seats may be reduced
13 if the Superintendent of the Academy deter-
14 mines that a smaller class size is necessary in
15 order to gradually build the Academy to its full
16 capacity.

17 (B) NOMINEES REQUIRED PER EACH SEN-
18 ATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE.—Each member of
19 the Senate or the House of Representatives
20 shall nominate a minimum of 5 candidates from
21 the State that the member represents for each
22 incoming first-year class of the Academy.

23 (C) COMPETITION.—In selecting students
24 for the congressional seats in a first-year in-

1 coming class, the Director of Admissions
2 shall—

3 (i) proportionally allocate the congress-
4 sional seats reserved under subparagraph
5 (A) among the States based on the number
6 of electoral votes of each State; and

7 (ii) for each congressional seat allo-
8 cated to a State, select a candidate that
9 has been nominated by a member of Con-
10 gress from the State under subparagraph
11 (B).

12 (2) INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.—

13 (A) SEATS.—The Director of Admissions
14 shall reserve, from the total number of seats in
15 each incoming first-year class of the Academy,
16 not less than 5 percent of such total for inter-
17 national students.

18 (B) TUITION; AGREEMENT.—In order for
19 an international student to attend the Academy,
20 the student's home country shall—

21 (i) be responsible for subsidizing the
22 student's tuition, fees, room and board,
23 and other expenses at the Academy; and

24 (ii) enter into an agreement described
25 in section 10(b) with the student.

1 (3) EXECUTIVE BRANCH NOMINEES.—

2 (A) SEATS.—The Director of Admissions
3 shall reserve in each incoming first-year class of
4 the Academy not more than 25 seats for execu-
5 tive branch nominees.

6 (B) NOMINEES.—The President shall
7 nominate a minimum of 75 candidates to com-
8 pete for the executive branch seats.

9 (4) OTHER NOMINEES.—The Director of Ad-
10 missions shall reserve in each incoming first-year
11 class of the Academy not more than 75 seats for at-
12 large selections from the remaining pool of congres-
13 sional nominees described in paragraph (1)(B).

14 **SEC. 9. ACADEMIC FOCUS OF THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC**
15 **SERVICE ACADEMY.**

16 (a) CURRICULUM; LEADERSHIP.—

17 (1) CURRICULUM.—Each Academy student
18 shall follow a structured curriculum that empha-
19 sizes—

20 (A) the leadership development system de-
21 scribed under paragraph (2); and

22 (B) public service.

23 (2) LEADERSHIP.—The leadership development
24 system required under paragraph (1) shall be a sys-
25 tem that is designed to motivate Academy students

1 to seek leadership responsibilities upon graduation
2 and enable Academy students to think clearly, decide
3 wisely, and act decisively under pressure and in a
4 variety of leadership situations. Such system shall
5 include concurrent and relevant coursework to create
6 an interplay between learning the science of leader-
7 ship in the classroom and learning the art of leader-
8 ship outside the classroom.

9 (b) DEGREE.—

10 (1) DEGREE CONFERRED UPON GRADUATION.—

11 Under such conditions as the Board of Visitors may
12 prescribe, the Superintendent of the Academy may
13 confer a baccalaureate of science or baccalaureate of
14 arts degree upon a graduate of the Academy.

15 (2) MAJORS.—Each Academy student shall
16 pursue a program of study for a baccalaureate of
17 sciences or a baccalaureate of arts degree in tradi-
18 tional liberal arts subjects.

19 (c) BREADTH OF REQUIRED SUBJECT AREAS STUD-

20 IED.—Each Academy student shall take courses in a
21 broad array of subject areas as part of the student's pro-
22 gram of study.

23 (d) PUBLIC SERVICE CONCENTRATION.—Not later
24 than the completion of the fourth semester at the Acad-
25 emy, each Academy student shall choose a public service

1 concentration, which shall be the field in which the student
2 ultimately will serve upon graduation.

3 (e) PUBLIC SERVICE REQUIREMENTS BEFORE
4 GRADUATION.—

5 (1) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMMING.—Each
6 Academy student shall participate in regular pro-
7 gramming related to public service, as determined by
8 the Dean of the Academic Board.

9 (2) PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECT.—Each Academy
10 student shall plan and implement a 1-year public
11 service project during the student's final year at the
12 Academy.

13 (f) STUDY ABROAD REQUIREMENTS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each Academy student shall
15 spend not less than 6 weeks engaged in a study
16 abroad program approved by the Dean of the Aca-
17 demic Board.

18 (2) CLASSES IN PREPARATION FOR STUDY
19 ABROAD.—In preparation for the study abroad pro-
20 gram, each Academy student shall take courses in
21 foreign languages and international relations.

22 (g) SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM REQUIRE-
23 MENTS.—For each year of attendance at the Academy,
24 each Academy student shall spend an 8-week period dur-
25 ing the summer participating in a structured learning pro-

1 gram established by the Superintendent and the Dean of
2 the Academic Board.

3 **SEC. 10. PUBLIC SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING**
4 **GRADUATION.**

5 (a) PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT.—Each Academy
6 student from the United States shall sign an agreement
7 with respect to the student’s length of public service to
8 the United States. The agreement shall provide that the
9 student agrees to the following:

10 (1) The student will complete the course of in-
11 struction at the Academy, culminating in graduation
12 from the Academy.

13 (2) Unless the student pursues graduate edu-
14 cation under subsection (h), upon graduation from
15 the Academy, the student—

16 (A) will accept a public service assignment
17 under subsection (g), if tendered, at the as-
18 signed location; and

19 (B) will serve in the public service assign-
20 ment for not less than the 5 years immediately
21 following the first day of the assignment.

22 (b) INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AGREEMENT.—Each
23 international Academy student who was selected for the
24 Academy under section 8(b)(2) shall sign an agreement
25 with the student’s home country regarding employment in

1 the national or local government of such country that
2 meets the same conditions set forth in subsection (a).

3 (c) FAILURE TO GRADUATE.—An Academy student
4 who has completed a minimum of 4 semesters at the Acad-
5 emy but fails to fulfill the Academy’s requirements for
6 graduation within 4 years shall be—

7 (1) dishonorably discharged from the Academy;

8 and

9 (2) obligated to repay the Academy for the
10 costs of the student’s education incurred during each
11 semester that the student was enrolled in the Acad-
12 emy.

13 (d) FAILURE TO ACCEPT OR COMPLETE ASSIGNED
14 PUBLIC SERVICE.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—A delinquent graduate shall
16 be—

17 (A) designated a dishonorable graduate of
18 the Academy; and

19 (B) obligated to repay the Academy for the
20 costs of the delinquent graduate’s education (in-
21 cluding the costs of any graduate education
22 paid for under this Act), except that the
23 amount of financial responsibility under this
24 subparagraph shall be reduced by 10 percent

1 for each year of public service under subsection
2 (a)(2) completed by the delinquent graduate.

3 (2) DEFINITION OF DELINQUENT GRADUATE.—

4 In this subsection, the term “delinquent graduate”
5 means a graduate of the Academy who violates the
6 agreement entered into under subsection (a) by—

7 (A) not accepting the graduate’s public
8 service assignment upon graduation from the
9 Academy; or

10 (B) not completing the required years of
11 public service in the assignment due to—

12 (i) voluntarily quitting the assign-
13 ment; or

14 (ii) being fired from the assignment.

15 (e) EXCEPTIONS.—The Superintendent may provide
16 for the partial or total waiver or suspension of any public
17 service or payment obligation by an individual under this
18 section whenever compliance by the individual with the ob-
19 ligation is impossible or deemed to involve extreme hard-
20 ship to the individual, or if enforcement of such obligation
21 with respect to the individual would be unconscionable.

22 (f) STUDENT SALARIES AND BENEFITS.—The Acad-
23 emy shall not be responsible for the salaries and benefits
24 of graduates of the Academy while the graduates are ful-
25 filling the public service assignment under this section. All

1 salaries and benefits shall be paid by the employer with
2 whom the Academy graduate is placed.

3 (g) DETERMINING STUDENT PUBLIC SERVICE AS-
4 SIGNMENTS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Superintendent, acting
6 through the Director of Placement, shall place each
7 graduating student in a public service assignment,
8 which shall consist of—

9 (A) civil service employment at the Fed-
10 eral, State, or local level; or

11 (B) civilian service in the United States
12 Armed Forces.

13 (2) FACTORS.—In making an assignment under
14 paragraph (1), the Director of Placement shall as-
15 sess the following factors:

16 (A) National security needs.

17 (B) State and local community needs.

18 (C) The student's experience.

19 (D) The student's academic performance.

20 (3) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF STUDENT AS-
21 SIGNMENTS.—The Superintendent shall review and
22 approve each graduating Academy student's public
23 service assignment.

1 (h) GRADUATE EDUCATION.—An Academy student
2 and the Superintendent may modify the agreement under
3 subsection (a) to provide that—

4 (1) the Academy shall—

5 (A) subsidize an Academy student’s grad-
6 uate education at a public institution; and

7 (B) postpone the public service assignment
8 required under subsection (a)(2); and

9 (2) the student shall—

10 (A) accept a public service assignment
11 under subsection (g) upon the student’s comple-
12 tion of the graduate program; and

13 (B) add 2 additional years to the student’s
14 public service commitment required under the
15 agreement described in subsection (a) for every
16 year of subsidized graduate education.

17 **SEC. 11. REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT.**

18 (a) BOARD OF VISITORS.—

19 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be estab-
20 lished a Board of Visitors for the Academy (referred
21 to in this Act as the “Board of Visitors”) to oversee
22 the Academy and to inquire into the efficiency and
23 effectiveness of the operations of the Academy.

24 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Board of Visitors shall
25 consist of not more than 15 members, including the

1 Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.
2 The remaining members of the Board of Visitors
3 shall be appointed by the President, by and with the
4 advice and consent of the Senate.

5 (3) VISITS; REPORTS.—

6 (A) ANNUAL VISITS.—In order to ensure
7 the efficiency and effectiveness of the Academy,
8 the Board of Visitors shall annually visit the
9 Academy. A majority of the members of the
10 Board of Visitors shall be present for such an-
11 nual visit.

12 (B) ADDITIONAL VISITS.—The Board, or
13 any member of the Board, may visit the Acad-
14 emy in addition to the annual visit described in
15 subparagraph (A) with the approval of the Su-
16 perintendent.

17 (C) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 60
18 days after an annual visit described in subpara-
19 graph (A), the Board of Visitors shall prepare
20 and submit an annual report regarding the op-
21 erations of the Academy to the President and
22 Congress.

23 (b) SUPERINTENDENT.—Not later than November 30
24 of each year, using data as of September 30 of such year,
25 the Superintendent shall provide to the President and

1 Congress a report assessing the progress of, and changes
2 at, the Academy in the following areas:

3 (1) Recruitment and admissions.

4 (2) Faculty compensation.

5 (3) Curriculum.

6 (4) Resources and facilities.

7 (5) Attrition and graduation.

8 (6) Public service placement.

9 **SEC. 12. FUNDING THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC SERVICE**

10 **ACADEMY.**

11 (a) FULLY SUBSIDIZED EDUCATION.—Each Acad-
12 emy student’s tuition at the Academy shall be fully sub-
13 sidized.

14 (b) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP.—The Academy
15 will be a public-private partnership, funded as follows:

16 (1) PUBLIC FUNDS.—Federal funds shall pro-
17 vide not more than 80 percent of the costs of the
18 Academy for a fiscal year.

19 (2) PRIVATE FUNDS.—The non-Federal share
20 of the costs of the Academy for a fiscal year shall
21 be raised by Academy officials, and may be in cash
22 or in kind, including services, supplies, or equip-
23 ment.

24 (c) USES OF FUNDS.—

1 (1) OPENING THE ACADEMY.—For each of the
2 first 2 fiscal years for which funds are appropriated
3 under section 14, the Superintendent shall use funds
4 available to carry out this Act, including private
5 funds described in subsection (b)(2), to acquire land,
6 construct facilities, recruit faculty and students, hire
7 employees, and develop curricula in preparation for
8 the opening of the Academy.

9 (2) CONTINUING OPERATIONS.—For each of
10 the 4 subsequent fiscal years following the second
11 fiscal year described in subsection (c) for which
12 funds are appropriated under section 14, the Super-
13 intendent shall use funds available to carry out this
14 Act, including private funds described in subsection
15 (b)(2), to fund the Academy as it grows one class
16 at a time into a 4-year institution.

17 **SEC. 13. USE OF CERTAIN GIFTS TO THE ACADEMY.**

18 (a) GIFTS NOT EXCEEDING \$20,000.—Under regula-
19 tions prescribed by the Secretary of the Department of
20 Homeland Security, the Superintendent may accept, hold,
21 administer, invest, and spend any gift, devise, or bequest
22 of personal property of a value of \$20,000 or less made
23 to the United States on the condition that such gift, de-
24 vise, or bequest be used for the benefit of the Academy
25 or any entity thereof. The Superintendent may pay or au-

1 thorize the payment of all reasonable and necessary ex-
2 penses in connection with the conveyance or transfer of
3 a gift, devise, or bequest under this section.

4 (b) GIFTS EXCEEDING \$20,000.—The Board of Visi-
5 tors may accept, hold, administer, invest, and spend any
6 gift, devise, or bequest of personal property of a value of
7 more than \$20,000 made to the United States on the con-
8 dition that such gift, devise, or bequest be used for the
9 benefit of the Academy or any entity thereof. The Board
10 of Visitors may pay or authorize the payment of all rea-
11 sonable and necessary expenses in connection with the
12 conveyance or transfer of a gift, devise, or bequest under
13 this section.

14 **SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
16 this Act \$164,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and such sums
17 as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal
18 years.

○