

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3210

To establish the Centennial Historic District in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 26, 2008

Mr. CASEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the Centennial Historic District in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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 “Centennial District Au-  
5       thorization Act of 2008”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8               (1) the Centennial District in the Common-  
9       wealth of Pennsylvania was the site of an inter-

1 national exhibition to celebrate the Centennial of the  
2 United States in 1876;

3 (2) held only 11 years after the end of the Civil  
4 War, the Centennial Exhibition was both a national  
5 celebration of unity and a recognition by the world  
6 community that the United States was emerging as  
7 the leading country in the world;

8 (3) the Centennial Exhibition displayed 60,000  
9 exhibits from more than 28 countries around the  
10 world in 240 buildings and hosted nearly 10,000,000  
11 visitors, which is estimated to be nearly 25 percent  
12 of the population of the United States at the time  
13 of the Exhibition;

14 (4) the Centennial Exhibition became the center  
15 of cultural, technological, economic, and geopolitical  
16 development in the United States by demonstrating  
17 groundbreaking innovations, including root beer, the  
18 telephone, kindergarten, the typewriter, the phono-  
19 graph, and the monorail;

20 (5) there are more than 100 United States  
21 companies that displayed at the Centennial Exhi-  
22 bition that are still in business today, including  
23 Bausch and Lomb, John Deere, Campbell's, Heinz,  
24 and Wyeth;

1           (6) the Centennial District is located in Fair-  
2           mount Park, which is listed on the National Register  
3           of Historic Places;

4           (7) Memorial Hall, a centerpiece of the Centen-  
5           nial celebration is—

6                   (A) listed on the National Register of His-  
7                   toric Places; and

8                   (B) being renovated to join other cultural  
9                   institutions as an anchor for the Centennial  
10                  District; and

11           (8) the Centennial District would commemorate  
12           the historic significance of the Centennial celebration  
13           in the history of the United States.

14           (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

15                   (1) to preserve and interpret for the educational  
16                   and inspirational benefit of the public the contribu-  
17                   tion to the heritage of the United States of certain  
18                   historic and cultural land in the Centennial Historic  
19                   District, with an emphasis on harnessing the unique  
20                   urban environment of the District for the edu-  
21                   cational and recreational values offered by the Dis-  
22                   trict; and

23                   (2) to enhance economic and cultural redevelop-  
24                   ment in the District by preserving the history of the  
25                   United States Centennial Celebration.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) CITY.—The term “City” means the City of  
4 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

5 (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”  
6 means the Fairmount Park Commission.

7 (3) DISTRICT.—The term “District” means the  
8 Centennial Historic District established by section  
9 4(a).

10 (4) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “manage-  
11 ment plan” means the plan prepared under section  
12 5(b).

13 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
14 means—

15 (A) the Secretary of the Interior; or

16 (B) the head of any Federal agency to  
17 which funds are appropriated to carry out this  
18 Act.

19 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTENNIAL HISTORIC DIS-**  
20 **TRICT.**

21 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
22 City the Centennial Historic District.

23 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The District shall be comprised  
24 of land in the City under the jurisdiction of the Commis-  
25 sion, the boundaries of which are depicted on map “A”

1 of the maps entitled “Fairmount Park’s Proposed Centen-  
 2 nial Authorization Boundary” and dated December 2007.

3 **SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION OF CENTENNIAL HISTORIC DIS-**  
 4 **TRICT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants  
 6 to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, any State  
 7 or local government agencies, any nonprofit entities des-  
 8 ignated by the Secretary to operate the District, and any  
 9 leaseholders for—

10 (1) the preparation of the management plan;

11 and

12 (2) the implementation of projects approved by  
 13 the Secretary under the management plan.

14 (b) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prepare  
 16 a plan for the development of historic, architectural,  
 17 natural, cultural, recreational, and interpretive re-  
 18 sources within the District.

19 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The management plan  
 20 shall include—

21 (A) an evaluation of—

22 (i) the condition of historic and archi-  
 23 tectural resources in the District; and

24 (ii) the environmental conditions in  
 25 the District; and

1 (B) recommendations for—

2 (i) rehabilitating, reconstructing, and  
 3 adaptively reusing the historic and archi-  
 4 tectural resources evaluated under sub-  
 5 paragraph (A)(i);

6 (ii) preserving viewsheds, focal points,  
 7 and streetscapes in the District;

8 (iii) establishing gateways to the Dis-  
 9 trict;

10 (iv) establishing and maintaining  
 11 parks and public spaces in the District;

12 (v) developing public parking areas in  
 13 the District;

14 (vi) improving pedestrian and vehic-  
 15 ular circulation in the District; and

16 (vii) improving security in the Dis-  
 17 trict.

18 (c) RESTORATION, MAINTENANCE, AND INTERPRE-  
 19 TATION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter  
 21 into cooperative agreements with the City, any  
 22 agents of the City, and designated partners within  
 23 the District under which the Secretary may mark,  
 24 interpret, improve, restore, and provide technical as-  
 25 sistance with respect to the preservation and inter-

pretation of any property of historical or cultural significance in the District, as identified in the management plan.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A cooperative agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall contain provisions requiring that—

(A) the Secretary have the right of access at reasonable times to public portions of the property for interpretive and other purposes; and

(B) no changes or alterations be made to the property unless the changes or alterations are approved by all parties to the cooperative agreement.

(d) CAPITAL PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide financial assistance to projects for capital improvements in the District in accordance with this subsection.

(2) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for financial assistance under paragraph (1), an entity shall submit to the Secretary an application that includes a description of the manner in which the proposed project would further the purposes of the District.

1           (3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making amounts  
2       available under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

3           (A) consider which proposed projects pro-  
4       vide the greatest leverage of Federal funds; and

5           (B) give priority consideration to projects  
6       relating to—

7           (i) providing gateways to, and signage  
8       for, the District;

9           (ii) improving historical monuments in  
10      the District;

11          (iii) maintaining public parks and  
12      spaces in the District;

13          (iv) establishing a trail in the District;

14          (v) maintaining and improving the  
15      lake in the District;

16          (vi) providing streetscape and lighting  
17      for the Girard Gateway;

18          (vii) improving pedestrian and vehic-  
19      ular traffic circulation and parking at the  
20      western end of the Centennial Exhibition  
21      grounds; and

22          (viii) restoring Memorial Hall.

23          (C) CONDITIONS.—Any amounts provided  
24      under this subsection shall be subject to an  
25      agreement between the Secretary and the re-



1            recipient of the financial assistance providing that  
 2            if the project assisted is converted or disposed  
 3            of for purposes contrary to the purposes of this  
 4            Act, as determined by the Secretary, the United  
 5            States shall be entitled to compensation from  
 6            the recipient of the financial assistance in an  
 7            amount that is equal to the greater of—

8                    (i) the amount of any funds made  
 9                    available to the project under this Act; or

10                   (ii) the amount of the increased value  
 11                   of the project attributable to the funds  
 12                   made available to the project under this  
 13                   Act, as determined at the time of the con-  
 14                   version or disposal.

15 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16            (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-  
 17            priated to the Secretary—

18                    (1) \$39,500,000 for capital projects under sec-  
 19                    tion 5(d); and

20                    (2) \$5,500,000 for planning and technical as-  
 21                    sistance.

22            (b) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS.—Amounts  
 23            made available for projects under subsection (a)(1) shall  
 24            not exceed 80 percent of the total cost of the project pro-  
 25            vided financial assistance.

1       (c) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to  
2   expend amounts made available under this Act shall expire  
3   5 years after the date on which the amounts are appro-  
4   priated.

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