

## Public Law 85-874

September 2, 1958  
[S. 3335]

## AN ACT

To provide for a National Cultural Center which will be constructed, with funds raised by voluntary contributions, on a site made available in the District of Columbia.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

National Cultural Center Act.

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the "National Cultural Center Act".

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby established in the Smithsonian Institution a bureau, which shall be directed by a board to be known as the Trustees of the National Cultural Center (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Board"), whose duty it shall be to maintain and administer the National Cultural Center and site thereof and to execute such other functions as are vested in the Board by this Act. The Board shall be composed as follows: The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Librarian of Congress, the Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, the President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, the Chairman of the District of Columbia Recreation Board, the Director of the National Park Service, the Commissioner of the United States Office of Education, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, three Members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, and three Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives ex officio; and fifteen general trustees who shall be citizens of the United States, to be chosen as hereinafter provided.

(b) The general trustees shall be appointed by the President of the United States and the members of the first Board shall have terms expiring three at the end of two years, three at the end of four years, three at the end of six years, three at the end of eight years, and three at the end of ten years, after the date of enactment of this Act. The term of office of each member of the Board subsequently appointed shall be ten years except that a successor appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of such term shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term.

(c) There shall be an Advisory Committee on the Arts composed of such members as the President may designate, to serve at the pleasure of the President. Persons appointed to the Advisory Committee on the Arts, including officers or employees of the United States, shall be persons who are recognized for their knowledge of, or experience or interest in, one or more of the arts in the fields covered by the National Cultural Center. The President shall designate the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Arts. In making such appointments the President shall give consideration to such recommendations as may from time to time be submitted to him by leading national organizations in the appropriate art fields. The Advisory Committee on the Arts shall advise and consult with the Board and make recommendations to the Board regarding existing and prospective cultural activities to be carried on in the National Cultural Center. The Advisory Committee on the Arts shall assist the Board in carrying out section 5 (a) of this Act. Members of the Advisory Committee on the Arts shall serve without compensation, but each member of such Committee shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by him in connection with the work of such Committee.

## NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER

SEC. 3. The Board shall construct for the Smithsonian Institution, with funds raised by voluntary contributions, a building to be designated as the National Cultural Center on a site in the District of Columbia bounded by the Inner Loop Freeway on the east, the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge approaches on the south, Rock Creek Parkway on the west, New Hampshire Avenue and F Street on the north, which shall be selected for such purpose by the National Capital Planning Commission. The National Capital Planning Commission shall acquire by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, lands necessary to provide for the National Cultural Center and related facilities. Such building shall be in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Commission of Fine Arts.

## DUTIES OF THE BOARD

SEC. 4. The Board shall—

- (1) present classical and contemporary music, opera, drama, dance, and poetry from this and other countries,
- (2) present lectures and other programs,
- (3) develop programs for children and youth and the elderly (and for other age groups as well) in such arts designed specifically for their participation, education, and recreation, and
- (4) provide facilities for other civic activities at the Cultural Center.

## POWERS OF THE BOARD

SEC. 5. (a) The Board is authorized to solicit and accept for the Smithsonian Institution and to hold and administer gifts, bequests, or devises of money, securities, or other property of whatsoever character for the benefit of the National Cultural Center. Unless otherwise restricted by the terms of the gift, bequest, or devise, the Board is authorized to sell or exchange and to invest or reinvest in such investments as it may determine from time to time the moneys, securities, or other property composing trust funds given, bequeathed, or devised to or for the benefit of the National Cultural Center. The income as and when collected shall be placed in such depositories as the Board shall determine and shall be subject to expenditure by the Board.

(b) The Board shall appoint and fix the compensation and duties of a director, an assistant director, and a secretary of the National Cultural Center and of such other officers and employees of the National Cultural Center as may be necessary for the efficient administration of the functions of the Board. The director, assistant director, and secretary shall be well qualified by experience and training to perform the duties of their office.

(c) The actions of the Board, including any payment made or directed to be made by it from any trust funds, shall not be subject to review by any officer or agency other than a court of law.

## ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 6. (a) The Board is authorized to adopt an official seal which shall be judicially noticed and to make such bylaws, rules, and regulations, as it deems necessary for the administration of its functions under this Act, including, among other matters, bylaws, rules, and regulations relating to the administration of its trust funds and the organization and procedure of the Board. The Board may function

notwithstanding vacancies and eight members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(b) The Board shall have all the usual powers and obligations of a trustee in respect of all trust funds administered by it.

(c) The Board shall submit to the Smithsonian Institution an annual report of its operations under this Act, including a detailed statement of all public and private moneys received and disbursed by it.

#### TERMINATION

SEC. 7. (a) This Act shall cease to be effective, and all offices created by this Act and all appointments made under this Act shall terminate, if the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution does not find that sufficient funds to construct the National Cultural Center have been received by the Trustees of the National Cultural Center within five years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) If the offices of Trustees of the National Cultural Center terminate under the provisions of subsection (a), all funds and property (real and personal) accepted by the Trustees of the National Cultural Center under section 5 (a), and income therefrom, shall vest in the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution and shall be used by the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out the purposes of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the transfer of the Civil Service Commission Building in the District of Columbia to the Smithsonian Institution to house certain art collections of the Smithsonian Institution," approved March 28, 1958, and for the acquisition of works of art to be housed in the building referred to in such Act.

Approved September 2, 1958.

*Ante*, p. 68.

#### Public Law 85-875

#### AN ACT

September 2, 1958  
[H. R. 13191]

To require the Commissioner of Education to encourage, foster, and assist in the establishment of clubs for boys and girls especially interested in science.

Science clubs.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That in order to strengthen future scientific accomplishment in our Nation by assisting in the development of a body of boys and girls with a special interest in science, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959, and for each fiscal year thereafter, such sums, not in excess of \$50,000, as may be necessary to enable the Commissioner of Education to encourage, foster, and assist in the establishment in localities throughout the Nation of clubs which are composed of boys and girls who have an especial interest in science.

SEC. 2. (a) The Commissioner of Education shall carry out his duties under the first section with a view to the ultimate chartering by the Congress of a corporation, similar to the Future Farmers of America, which will seek to—

(1) develop an interest in science on the part of the young people of America,

(2) provide an opportunity for the exchange of scientific information and ideas among members of the clubs,

(3) encourage the promotion of science fairs at which members of the clubs may display their scientific works and projects, and

(4) develop an awareness of the satisfactions to be derived through a career devoted to science.

(b) The Commissioner of Education may utilize any of the personnel and facilities of the Office of Education in carrying out this Act.

Approved September 2, 1958.