

Public Law 91-269

AN ACT

To provide for Federal Government recognition of and participation in international expositions proposed to be held in the United States, and for other purposes.

May 27, 1970
[S. 856]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress finds that—

International
expositions.
U.S. recognition
and participation.

(a) international expositions, when properly organized, financed, and executed, have a significant impact on the economic growth of the region surrounding the exposition and, under appropriate international sanction, are important instruments of national policy, particularly in the exchange of ideas and the demonstration of cultural achievements between peoples;

(b) in view of the widely varying circumstances under which international expositions have developed in the United States, the different degrees to which the Federal Government has assisted and participated in such expositions, and the increasing number of proposals for future expositions, the national interest requires that Federal action concerning such expositions be given orderly consideration; and

(c) such orderly consideration is best achieved by the development of uniform standards, criteria, and procedures to establish the conditions under which the Government hereafter will (A) recognize international expositions proposed to be held in the United States, and (B) take part in such expositions.

Uniform
standards.

FEDERAL RECOGNITION

SEC. 2. (a) Any international exposition proposed to be held in the United States shall be eligible on application from its sponsors to receive the recognition of the Federal Government upon a finding of the President that recognition will be in the national interest. In making such a finding the President shall consider—

(1) a report by the Secretary of Commerce which shall include (A) an evaluation of purposes and reasons for the exposition, and (B) a determination that guaranteed financial and other support has been secured by the exposition from affected State and local governments and from business and civic leadership of the region and others, in amounts sufficient in his judgment to assure the successful development and progress of the exposition;

(2) a report by the Secretary of State that the proposed exposition qualifies for consideration of registration by the Bureau of International Expositions (hereafter referred to as BIE); and

(3) such other evidence as the President may consider to be appropriate.

(b) Upon a finding by the President that an international exposition is eligible for Federal recognition, the President may take such measures recognizing the exposition as he deems proper, including, but not limited to—

(1) presenting of an official request by the United States for registration of the exposition by the BIE;

(2) providing for fulfillment of the requirements of the Convention of November 22, 1928, as amended, relating to international expositions; and

19 UST 5927.

(3) extending invitations, by proclamation or by such other manner he deems proper, to the several States of the Union and to foreign governments to take part in the exposition, provided that he shall not extend such an invitation until he has been notified officially of BIE registration for the exposition.

(c) The President shall report his actions under this section promptly to the Congress.

FEDERAL PARTICIPATION

SEC. 3. The Federal Government may participate in an international exposition proposed to be held in the United States only upon the authorization of the Congress. If the President finds that Federal participation is in the national interest, he shall transmit to the Congress his proposal for such participation, which proposal shall include—

(a) evidence that the international exposition has met the criteria for Federal recognition and, pursuant to section 2 of this Act, it has been so recognized;

(b) a statement that the international exposition has been registered by the BIE; and

(c) a plan prepared by the Secretary of Commerce in cooperation with other interested departments and agencies of the Federal Government for Federal participation in the exposition. In developing such a plan, the Secretary shall give due consideration to whether or not the plan should include the construction of a Federal pavilion and, if so, whether or not the Government would have need for a permanent structure in the area of the exposition. In the event such need is established, the Secretary may include in his plan a recommendation that, as a condition of participation, the Government should be deeded a satisfactory site for the Federal pavilion, in fee simple and free of liens or other encumbrances. The Secretary shall seek the advice of the Administrator of the General Services Administration to the extent necessary in carrying out the provisions of this subsection.

ESTABLISHMENT AND PUBLICATION OF STANDARDS AND CRITERIA

SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary of Commerce is hereby authorized and directed to establish and maintain standards, definitions, and criteria which are adequate to carry out the purposes of section 2(a)(1) and section 3(a) of this Act; and

(b) Standards, definitions, and criteria established by the Secretary and such revisions in them as he may make from time to time shall be published in the Federal Register.

SEC. 5. The President may withdraw Federal recognition or participation whenever he finds that continuing recognition or participation would be inconsistent with the national interest and with the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 6. Nothing in this Act shall affect or limit the authority of Federal departments and agencies to participate in international expositions or events otherwise authorized by law.

SEC. 7. Section 8 of Public Law 89-685 is hereby repealed.

SEC. 8. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums, not to exceed \$200,000 in any fiscal year, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Approved May 27, 1970.

Report to
Congress.

Congressional
authorization.

Publication in
Federal Register.

Repeal.
80 Stat. 974.
22 USC 2451a.
Appropriation.