

established within the individual areas administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service as a means of informing the public concerning the areas and preserving valuable objects and relics relating thereto. The Secretary of the Interior, notwithstanding other provisions or limitations of law, may perform the following functions in such manner as he shall consider to be in the public interest:

(a) Accept donations and bequests of money or other personal property, and hold, use, expend, and administer the same for purposes of this Act;

(b) Purchase from such donations and bequests of money museum objects, museum collections, and other personal properties at prices he considers to be reasonable;

(c) Make exchanges by accepting museum objects, museum collections, and other personal properties, and by granting in exchange therefor museum property under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary which is no longer needed or which may be held in duplicate among the museum properties administered by the Secretary, such exchanges to be consummated on a basis which the Secretary considers to be equitable and in the public interest;

(d) Accept the loan of museum objects, museum collections, and other personal properties and pay transportation costs incidental thereto, such loans to be accepted upon terms and conditions which he shall consider necessary; and

(e) Loan to responsible public or private organizations, institutions, or agencies, without cost to the United States, such museum objects, museum collections, and other personal property as he shall consider advisable, such loans to be made upon terms and conditions which he shall consider necessary to protect the public interest in such properties.

Approved July 1, 1955.

Public Law 128

CHAPTER 260

AN ACT

Creating a Federal commission to formulate plans for the construction in the District of Columbia of a civic auditorium, including an Inaugural Hall of Presidents and a music, fine arts, and mass communications center.

July 1, 1955
[H. R. 1825]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) there is hereby established a commission to be known as the "District of Columbia Auditorium Commission" (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") for the purpose of formulating plans for the design, location, financing, and construction in the District of Columbia of a civic auditorium, including an Inaugural Hall of Presidents and a music, fine arts, and mass communications center.

D. C. Auditorium
Commission.

Inaugural Hall
of Presidents.

(b) The Commission shall be composed of twenty-one members appointed as follows:

- (1) Seven persons appointed by the President of the United States;
- (2) Seven persons appointed by the President of the Senate; and
- (3) Seven persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Commission shall—

- (1) consider a suitable site for the civic auditorium referred to in subsection (a);
- (2) procure such plans and designs and make such surveys and estimates of the cost thereof as it deems advisable;

- (3) endeavor particularly to formulate a method of financing the project on a self-liquidating basis; and
- (4) make a report to the President and to the Congress, together with its recommendations, by February 1, 1956.
- Contributions.** (d) The Commission is authorized to accept in its discretion from any source, public or private, money and property to be used in carrying out its functions under this Act.
- Assistance and advice.** (e) The Commission is authorized to avail itself of the assistance and advice of the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Planning Commission, the National Capital Regional Planning Council, the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Recreation Board, and the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency, which shall upon request render such assistance and advice.
- Pay; expenses.** SEC. 2. (a) The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation; but travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in connection with the work of the Commission may be paid from any funds available for expenditure by the Commission.
- Expenditures.** (b) The Commission is authorized, within the limits of funds available to it, to employ and fix the compensation of such officers, experts, and other employees as may be necessary to carry out its functions, and to make such other expenditures as it may deem advisable in carrying out its functions.
- Appropriation.** SEC. 3. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums, not to exceed \$25,000, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.
- Approved July 1, 1955.

Public Law 129

CHAPTER 261

AN ACT

July 1, 1955
[H. R. 5923]

To authorize certain sums to be appropriated immediately for the completion of the construction of the Inter-American Highway.

Inter-American
Highway.
Appropriation.
68 Stat. 73.
Post, p. 452.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum authorized in section 7 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1954 (68 Stat. 70) for the Inter-American Highway for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1957, 1958, and 1959, is hereby authorized for appropriation immediately, to be available until expended, and the additional sum of \$25,730,000 is hereby authorized for appropriation immediately, to be available until expended, for the purposes of and in accordance with the provisions of said section 7.

Approved July 1, 1955.

Public Law 130

CHAPTER 271

AN ACT

July 4, 1955
[H. R. 103]

To provide for the construction of distribution systems on authorized Federal reclamation projects by irrigation districts and other public agencies.

Irrigation distribution systems.
43 USC 371.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That irrigation distribution systems authorized to be constructed under the Federal reclamation laws may, in lieu of construction by the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary"), be constructed by irrigation districts or other public agencies according to plans and specifications approved by the Secretary as provided in this Act.