

Comparative Print: Changes in Existing Law for Bill number:

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Summary

- (1) 3 amendments.
- (2) 0 automated notifications.

Current Law(s) being amended

[1. Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021](#)

Comparative Print: Changes in Existing Law

1. Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021

[As Amended Through P.L. 119–60, Enacted December 18,
2025]

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DIVISION T—SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S HISTORY MUSEUM ACT AND

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO

TITLE I—SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S HISTORY MUSEUM ACT

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Sec. 104. COUNCIL.

(a) Establishment.— There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a council to carry out the duties set forth under subsection (b) and other provisions of this Act (referred to in this section as the “Council”).

(b) Duties.—

(1) In general.— The Council established under this section shall—

(A) make recommendations to the Board of Regents concerning the planning, design, and construction of the Museum;

(B) advise and assist the Board of Regents on all matters relating to the administration, operation, maintenance, and preservation of the Museum;

(C) recommend annual operating budgets for the Museum to the Board of Regents;

(D) report annually to the Board of Regents on the acquisition, disposition, and display of objects relating to women’s art, history, and culture; and

(E) adopt bylaws for the operation of the Council.

(2) Principal responsibilities.— The Council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have sole authority to—

(A) purchase, accept, borrow, and otherwise acquire artifacts for addition to the collections of the Museum;

(B) loan, exchange, sell, and otherwise dispose of any part of the collections of the Museum, but only if the funds generated by that disposition are used for additions to the collections of the Museum; or

(C) specify criteria with respect to the use of the collections and resources of the Museum, including policies on programming, education, exhibitions, and research with respect to—

(i) the life, art, history, and culture of women;

(ii) the role of women in the history of the United States; and

(iii) the contributions of women to society.

(3) Other responsibilities.— The Council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have authority—

(A) to provide for preservation, restoration, and maintenance of the collections of the Museum; and

(B) to solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, and devises of personal property for the purpose of aiding and facilitating the work of the Museum.

(4) Ensuring diversity of political viewpoints in exhibits and programs.— In carrying out its duties, the Council shall ensure that the exhibits and programs of the Museum reflect, to the extent practicable, an equal representation of the diversity of the political viewpoints held by women of the United States on the events and issues relating to the history of women in the United States.

(4) ENSURING DIVERSITY OF POLITICAL VIEWPOINTS AND AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES.—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*— *The Council shall ensure that the exhibits and programs of the Museum accurately and comprehensively represent the varied cultures, histories, events, and values held by women in the United States.*

(B) *SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.*— *In carrying out its duties, the Council shall ensure that it seeks and utilizes to its maximum ability guidance from a broad array of knowledgeable and respected sources reflecting the diversity of the political viewpoints and authentic experiences held by women in the United States, and shall seek such guidance for both the creation and substantial revision of exhibits and programs.*

(C) *DEFINITIONS.*— *In this subparagraph—*

(i) *the term “broad array” means a range of experts and publications that represent the broad spectrum of communities of women, to include varied viewpoints, political ideologies, cultures, and lived experiences in the United States; and*

(ii) *the term “knowledgeable and respected source” means an individual who has gained through education, publication, or witnessing an important or historical event, the ability to advise on at least one unique viewpoint or experience of a particular community of women in the United States, and whose knowledge has been relied upon by a notable segment of that community for education, heritage preservation, or historical purposes, and includes the work of such an individual which reflects such ability and knowledge.*

(c) Composition and Appointment.—

(1) **In general.**— The Council shall be composed of 25 voting members as provided under paragraph (2).

(2) **Voting members.**— The Council shall include the following voting members:

(A) One member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate.

(B) One member appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

(C) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(D) One member appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(E) The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

(F) One member of the Board of Regents, appointed by the Board of Regents.

(G) Nineteen individuals appointed by the Board of Regents. In appointing members under this subparagraph, the Board of Regents should give special consideration to appointing—

- (i) members of the Congressional Commission;
- (ii) board members of the National Women's History Museum, a nonprofit, educational organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that was incorporated in 1996 in the District of Columbia and that is dedicated for the purpose of establishing a women's history museum; and
- (iii) scholars and representatives of organizations that are committed to the study of women's history.

(3) Initial appointments.— The Board of Regents shall make initial appointments to the Council under paragraph (2) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) Terms.—

(1) In general.— Except as provided in this subsection, each appointed member of the Council shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(2) Initial appointees.— As designated by the Board of Regents at the time of appointment, of the voting members first appointed under subparagraph (G) of subsection (c)(2)

- (A) 7 members shall be appointed for a term of 1 year;
- (B) 6 members shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and
- (C) 6 members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(3) Reappointment.— A member of the Council may be reappointed, except that no individual may serve on the Council for a total of more than 2 terms. For purposes of this paragraph, the number of terms an individual serves on the Council shall not include any portion of a term for which an individual is appointed to fill a vacancy under paragraph (4)(B).

(4) Vacancies.—

(A) In general.— A vacancy on the Council—

- (i) shall not affect the powers of the Council; and
- (ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(B) Term.— Any member of the Council appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

(e) Compensation.—

(1) In general.— Except as provided in paragraph (2), a member of the Council shall serve without pay.

(2) Travel expenses.— A member of the Council shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Council.

(f) Chairperson.— By a majority vote of its voting members, the Council shall elect a chairperson from its members.

(g) Meetings.—

(1) In general.— The Council shall meet at the call of the chairperson or on the written request of a majority of the voting members of the Council, but not fewer than twice each year.

(2) Initial meetings.— During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the first meeting of the Council, the Council shall meet not fewer than 4 times for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the Council under this Act.

(h) Quorum.— A majority of the voting members of the Council holding office shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business, but a lesser number may receive information on behalf of the Council.

Sec. 107. BUILDING.

(a) Location.—

(1) In general.— Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Regents shall designate a site for the Museum.

(2) Sites for consideration.— In designating a site under paragraph (1), the Board of Regents shall—

(A) select a site in the District of Columbia; and

(B) include the consideration of the following sites:

(i) The site known as the “South Monument site”, located on the National Mall and bordered by 14th Street Northwest, Jefferson Drive Southwest, Raoul Wallenberg Place Southwest, and Independence Ave Southwest.

(ii) The Northwest United States Capitol site, bordered by 3rd Street Northwest, Constitution Avenue Northwest, 1st Street Northwest, and Pennsylvania Ave Northwest.

(3) Factors considered.— In designating a site under paragraph (1), the Board of Regents shall take into consideration each of the following factors:

(A) An estimate of the costs associated with each potential site.

(B) An assessment of the suitability of the space of each potential site, including size, proximity to other buildings and transportation, and other external environmental conditions, as appropriate.

(C) The recommendations of the Congressional Commission.

(4) Consultation.— The Board of Regents shall carry out its duties under this subsection in consultation with each of the following:

(A) The Chair of the National Capital Planning Commission.

(B) The Director of the National Park Service.

(C) The Chair of the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission.

(D) The Chair of the Commission on Fine Arts.

(E) The Chair of the Congressional Commission.

(F) The Architect of the Capitol.

(G) The chair and ranking member of each of the following committees:

(i) The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(ii) The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

- (iii) The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.
- (iv) The Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.
- (v) The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.
- (vi) The Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.
- (vii) The Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(5) Intent of congress.— It is the intent of Congress that the Museum be located on or near the National Mall, to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with this section.

(b) Site Under the Jurisdiction of Another Federal Agency.

(1) Written notification of agreement.— The Board of Regents shall not designate a site for the Museum that is under the administrative jurisdiction of another Federal agency or entity unless the head of the Federal agency or entity submits to each of the committees described in subsection (a)(4)(G) written notification stating that the head of the Federal agency or entity concurs with locating the Museum on the land or in the structure that is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Federal agency or entity.

(2) Transfer.— As soon as practicable after the date on which Congress receives the written notification described in paragraph (1), the head of the Federal agency or entity shall transfer to the Smithsonian Institution its administrative jurisdiction over the land or structure that has been designated as the site for the Museum.

(b) SITE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ANOTHER FEDERAL AGENCY.

(1) NOTIFICATION TO OTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY.— *The Board of Regents shall not designate a site for the Museum that is under the administrative jurisdiction of another Federal agency or entity without first notifying the head of the Federal agency or entity.*

(2) NOTIFICATION TO COMMITTEES.— *Once notified under paragraph (1), the head of the Federal agency or entity shall promptly submit written notification to the Chair and ranking minority members of the Committee on Rules and Administration, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, and the Committee on House Administration, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, stating that the Federal agency or entity was notified by the Board of Regents that a site under its jurisdiction was designated and that a transfer will be initiated as soon as practicable.*

(3) TRANSFER.— *As soon as practicable after the date on which the individuals described in paragraph (2) receive the written notification described in such subparagraph, the head of the Federal agency or entity shall transfer to the Smithsonian Institution its administrative jurisdiction over the land or structure that has been designated as the site for the Museum.*

(c) Construction of Building.— The Board of Regents, in consultation with the council established under section 104, may plan, design, and construct a building for the Museum, which shall be located at the site designated by the Board of Regents under subsection (a), in accordance with this section.

(d) Commemorative Works Act.— Chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to the Museum, ~~except that the Museum shall not be located in the Reserve (as defined in section 8902(a) of that title).~~

(e) Cost Sharing.— The Board of Regents shall pay—

(1) 50 percent of the costs of carrying out this section from Federal funds; and

(2) 50 percent of the costs of carrying out this section from non-Federal sources.

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Summary

- (1) 3 amendments.
- (2) 0 automated notifications.

About this report

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