

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8810

To establish a commission to study potential uses of the Arts and Industries Building on the National Mall, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2026

Mr. CAREY (for himself and Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a commission to study potential uses of the Arts and Industries Building on the National Mall, and for other purposes.

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 “No Wasted Space
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established the Commis-
8 sion to Study Potential Uses of the Arts and Industries

1 Building on the National Mall (hereafter in this Act re-
2 ferred to as the “Commission”).

3 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be com-
4 posed of 9 members, of whom—

5 (1) 2 voting members shall be appointed by the
6 majority leader of the Senate;

7 (2) 2 voting members shall be appointed by the
8 Speaker of the House of Representatives;

9 (3) 2 voting members shall be appointed by the
10 minority leader of the Senate;

11 (4) 2 voting members shall be appointed by the
12 minority leader of the House of Representatives; and

13 (5) 1 voting member, who may not be a sitting
14 member of the House of Representatives, Senate, or
15 Supreme Court, shall be appointed by the Chair of
16 the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institu-
17 tion.

18 (c) QUALIFICATIONS.—Members of the Commission
19 shall be appointed to the Commission from among individ-
20 uals, or representatives of institutions or entities, who pos-
21 sess experience and familiarity with professional museum
22 associations, tourism for families, urban planning, and
23 educational institutions in the Washington, DC area.

24 (d) DEADLINE FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT.—The
25 initial members of the Commission shall be appointed not

1 later than the date that is 45 days after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act.

3 (e) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission—

4 (1) shall not affect the powers of the Commis-
5 sion; and

6 (2) shall be filled in the same manner as the
7 original appointment was made.

8 (f) CHAIRPERSON.—The Commission shall, by major-
9 ity vote of all of the voting members, select 1 member of
10 the Commission to serve as the Chairperson of the Com-
11 mission.

12 (g) PROHIBITION.—No employee of the Federal Gov-
13 ernment may serve as a member of the Commission.

14 **SEC. 3. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.**

15 (a) SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS TO PRESIDENT AND
16 CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the
17 first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall
18 submit to the President and to Congress the report, plan,
19 and recommendations described in subsections (b) through
20 (d).

21 (b) REPORT ON ISSUES.—The Commission shall pre-
22 pare a report that addresses the following issues relating
23 to the potential uses of the Arts and Industries Building
24 on the National Mall, and its environs (hereafter in this
25 Act referred to as the “Building”):

1 (1) Educational institutions currently serving
2 families visiting Washington, DC with high levels of
3 success.

4 (2) Museums and other cultural institutions not
5 currently located near the National Mall.

6 (3) Washington, DC based museums not cur-
7 rently housed in Smithsonian buildings.

8 (4) Tenants in Federally owned buildings im-
9 pacted by Federal office relocations.

10 (5) The cost of converting the Smithsonian In-
11 stitution's Arts and Industries Building into a mod-
12 ern museum.

13 (c) FUND-RAISING PLAN.—The Commission shall
14 prepare a fund-raising plan that addresses the following
15 topics:

16 (1) The ability to support the operation and
17 maintenance of the Building through contributions
18 from the public, including potential charges for ad-
19 mission.

20 (2) Any potential issues with funding the oper-
21 ations and maintenance of the Building in perpetuity
22 without reliance on appropriations of Federal funds.

23 (d) LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Com-
24 mission shall prepare a report containing recommenda-
25 tions regarding a legislative plan for the operations and

1 maintenance of the Building, which shall include each of
2 the following:

3 (1) Proposals regarding the time frame, one-
4 time appropriations level, and continuing appropria-
5 tions levels that might be included in such legisla-
6 tion.

7 (2) Recommendations for the future name of
8 the Building.

9 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

10 (a) COMPENSATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Commis-
12 sion—

13 (A) shall not be considered to be a Federal
14 employee for any purpose by reason of service
15 on the Commission; and

16 (B) shall serve without pay.

17 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the
18 Commission shall be allowed a per diem allowance
19 for travel expenses, at rates consistent with those
20 authorized under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title
21 5, United States Code.

22 (3) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.—The
23 Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of
24 gifts, bequests, or devises of money, services, or real
25 or personal property for the purpose of aiding or fa-

1 cilitating the work of the Commission. Such gifts,
2 bequests, or devises may be from the Building.

3 (b) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate
4 on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the
5 final versions of the report, plan, and recommendations
6 required under section 3 are submitted.

7 (c) FUNDING.—The Commission shall be solely re-
8 sponsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment
9 of the expenses of, the Commission.

10 (d) DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF COMMISSION.—

11 (1) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may
13 employ and compensate an executive director
14 and any other additional personnel that are
15 necessary to enable the Commission to perform
16 the duties of the Commission.

17 (B) RATES OF PAY.—Rates of pay for per-
18 sons employed under subparagraph (A) shall be
19 consistent with the rates of pay allowed for em-
20 ployees of a temporary organization under sec-
21 tion 3161 of title 5, United States Code.

22 (2) NOT FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT.—Any indi-
23 vidual employed under this subsection shall not be
24 considered a Federal employee for the purpose of
25 any law governing Federal employment.

1 (3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
3 graph (B), on request of the Commission, the
4 head of a Federal agency shall provide technical
5 assistance to the Commission.

6 (B) PROHIBITION.—No Federal employees
7 may be detailed to the Commission.

8 (4) VOLUNTEER SERVICES.—Notwithstanding
9 section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the
10 Commission may accept and use voluntary and un-
11 compensated services as the Commission determines
12 necessary.

13 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon re-
14 quest of the Commission, the Administrator of the General
15 Services Administration shall provide to the Commission,
16 on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support serv-
17 ices necessary for the Commission to carry out its respon-
18 sibilities under this Act. The involvement of the General
19 Services Administration shall be limited to providing ad-
20 ministrative support to the Commission, and such involve-
21 ment shall terminate upon termination of the Commission.

22 (f) MEETING LOCATION.—The Commission may
23 meet virtually or in person.

24 (g) APPOINTMENT DELAYS.—The Commission may
25 begin to meet and carry out activities under this Act be-

1 fore all members of the Commission have been appointed
2 if—

3 (1) 90 days have passed since the date of the
4 enactment of this Act; and

5 (2) a majority of the members of the Commis-
6 sion have been appointed.

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