

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1303

To permit the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum to be located within the Reserve of the National Mall, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 3, 2025

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To permit the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum to be located within the Reserve of 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 “Smithsonian American
5 Women’s History Museum Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SITE OF SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S HIS-**
7 **TORY MUSEUM.**

8 (a) AUTHORIZING SITE WITHIN RESERVE OF NA-
9 TIONAL MALL.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
 2 provision of law or regulation, including section
 3 8908(c) of title 40, United States Code, the Smith-
 4 sonian American Women’s History Museum may be
 5 located within the Reserve (as defined in section
 6 8902(a) of title 40, United States Code).

7 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
 8 107(d) of division T of the Consolidated Appropria-
 9 tions Act, 2021 (20 U.S.C. 80t–5(d)) is amended by
 10 striking “, except that” and all that follows and in-
 11 serting a period.

12 (b) USE OF SITE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF AN-
 13 OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY.—Section 107(b) of division T
 14 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (20 U.S.C.
 15 80t–5(b) is amended to read as follows:

16 “(b) SITE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ANOTHER
 17 FEDERAL AGENCY.—

18 “(1) NOTIFICATION TO OTHER AGENCY OR EN-
 19 TITY.—The Board of Regents shall not designate a
 20 site for the Museum that is under the administrative
 21 jurisdiction of another Federal agency or entity
 22 without first notifying the head of the Federal agen-
 23 cy or entity.

24 “(2) NOTIFICATION TO COMMITTEES.—Once
 25 notified under paragraph (1), the head of the Fed-

1 eral agency or entity shall promptly submit written
2 notification to the Chair and ranking minority mem-
3 bers of the Committee on Rules and Administration,
4 the Committee on Appropriations, and the Com-
5 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
6 ate, and the Committee on House Administration,
7 the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee
8 on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Com-
9 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Represent-
10 atives, stating that the Federal agency or entity was
11 notified by the Board of Regents that a site under
12 its jurisdiction was designated and that a transfer
13 will be initiated as soon as practicable.

14 “(3) TRANSFER.—As soon as practicable after
15 the date on which the individuals described in para-
16 graph (2) receive the written notification described
17 in such subparagraph, the head of the Federal agen-
18 cy or entity shall transfer to the Smithsonian Insti-
19 tution its administrative jurisdiction over the land or
20 structure that has been designated as the site for
21 the Museum.”.

22 (c) ENSURING DIVERSITY OF POLITICAL VIEW-
23 POINTS AND AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES.—Section
24 104(b)(4) of division T of the Consolidated Appropriations

1 Act, 2021 (20 U.S.C. 80t–2(b)(4) is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 “(4) ENSURING DIVERSITY OF POLITICAL VIEW-
4 POINTS AND AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall en-
6 sure that the exhibits and programs of the Mu-
7 seum accurately and comprehensively represent
8 the varied cultures, histories, events, and values
9 held by women in the United States.

10 “(B) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.—In car-
11 rying out its duties, the Council shall ensure
12 that it seeks and utilizes to its maximum ability
13 guidance from a broad array of knowledgeable
14 and respected sources reflecting the diversity of
15 the political viewpoints and authentic experi-
16 ences held by women in the United States, and
17 shall seek such guidance for both the creation
18 and substantial revision of exhibits and pro-
19 grams.

20 “(C) DEFINITIONS.—In this subpara-
21 graph—

22 “(i) the term ‘broad array’ means a
23 range of experts and publications that rep-
24 resent the broad spectrum of communities
25 of women, to include varied viewpoints, po-

1 litical ideologies, cultures, and lived experi-
 2 ences in the United States; and

3 “(ii) the term ‘knowledgeable and re-
 4 spected source’ means an individual who
 5 has gained through education, publication,
 6 or witnessing an important or historical
 7 event, the ability to advise on at least one
 8 unique viewpoint or experience of a par-
 9 ticular community of women in the United
 10 States, and whose knowledge has been re-
 11 lied upon by a notable segment of that
 12 community for education, heritage preser-
 13 vation, or historical purposes, and includes
 14 the work of such an individual which re-
 15 flects such ability and knowledge.”.

16 (d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 120
 17 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every
 18 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of the Smithsonian shall
 19 submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the
 20 House of Representatives, the Committee on Energy and
 21 Natural Resources of the Senate, the Committee on House
 22 Administration of the House of Representatives, the Com-
 23 mittee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, the
 24 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
 25 House of Representatives, the Committee on Appropria-

1 tions of the House of Representatives, and the Committee
2 on Appropriations of the Senate, a report on actions taken
3 by the Director of the Smithsonian American Women's
4 History Museum and the Council of the Museum to com-
5 ply with the requirements of the amendments made by
6 subsection (c), including a description of actions taken
7 with respect to substantial revisions of current exhibits
8 and programs as well the planning of future exhibits and
9 programs.

10 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amend-
11 ments made by this section shall take effect as if included
12 in the enactment of title I of division T of the Consolidated
13 Appropriations Act, 2021 (20 U.S.C. 80t et seq.).

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