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## Museum Services Act (1973): Report 01

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93<sup>d</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 796

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 1973

Mr. PELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare

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## A BILL

To improve museum services.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3 That this Act may be cited as the "Museum Services Act".

4 PURPOSE

5 SEC. 2. It is the purpose of this Act to encourage and  
6 assist museums in their educational role, in conjunction  
7 with formal systems of elementary, secondary, and post-  
8 secondary education and with programs of nonformal edu-  
9 cation for all age groups; to assist museums in modernizing  
10 their methods and facilities so that they may better be able  
11 to conserve our cultural, historic, and scientific heritage;

1 and to ease the financial burden borne by museums as a  
2 result of their increasing use by the public.

3 INSTITUTE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MUSEUM SERVICES

4 SEC. 3. There is hereby established, within the Depart-  
5 ment of Health, Education, and Welfare, an Institute for  
6 the Improvement of Museum Services (hereinafter referred  
7 to as the "Institute"). The Institute shall consist of a Na-  
8 tional Museum Services Board (hereinafter referred to as  
9 the "Board") and a Director of the Institute (hereinafter  
10 referred to as the "Director").

11 NATIONAL MUSEUM SERVICES BOARD

12 SEC. 4. (a) The Board shall consist of fifteen members  
13 appointed by the President, by and with the advice and  
14 consent of the Senate, and the following ex officio members:

- 15 (1) the Director;
- 16 (2) the Librarian of Congress;
- 17 (3) the Archivist of the United States;
- 18 (4) the Commissioner of Education;
- 19 (5) the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution;
- 20 (6) the Director of the National Gallery of Art;
- 21 (7) the Chairman of the National Endowment for  
22 the Arts; and
- 23 (8) the Chairman of the National Endowment for  
24 the Humanities.

25 The appointed members of the Board shall be broadly repre-

1 representative of the curatorial, educational, and cultural resources  
2 of the United States and of the general public.

3 (b) The term of office of appointed members of the  
4 Board shall be five years, except that—

5 (1) any such member appointed to fill a vacancy  
6 shall serve only such portion of a term as shall not have  
7 been expired at the time of such appointment; and

8 (2) in the case of initial members, three shall serve  
9 for terms of four years, three shall serve terms of three  
10 years, three shall serve terms of two years, and three  
11 shall serve terms of one year.

12 Any appointed member who has been a member of the  
13 Board for more than seven consecutive years shall thereafter  
14 be ineligible for reappointment to the Board during the three-  
15 year period following the expiration of the last such consecu-  
16 tive year.

17 (c) The Chairman of the Board shall be designated by  
18 the President from among the appointed members of the  
19 Board. Eight appointed members of the Board shall constitute  
20 a quorum.

21 (d) The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman,  
22 except that—

23 (1) it shall meet not less than four times each year;

24 and

25 (2) in cases where the Director determines that a

1 meeting of the Board is necessary, it shall meet when-  
2 ever one-third of the total number of members request  
3 a meeting in writing, in which event one-half of the  
4 total number of members shall constitute a quorum; and

5 (3) whenever one-third of the appointed members  
6 request a meeting in writing, it shall meet, in which  
7 event one-third of the appointed members shall constitute  
8 a quorum.

9 Ex officio members of the Board shall not have a vote on  
10 the Board.

11 (e) Members of the Board who are not in the regular  
12 full-time employ of the United States shall receive, while  
13 engaged in the business of the Board, compensation for serv-  
14 ice at a rate to be fixed by the President, except that such  
15 rate shall not exceed the rate specified at the time of such  
16 service for grade GS-18 in section 5332 of title 5, United  
17 States Code, including traveltime, and, while so serving  
18 away from their homes or regular places of business, they  
19 may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of  
20 subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United  
21 States Code, for persons employed in Government service.

22 (f) The Board shall have the responsibility for the gen-  
23 eral policies with respect to the powers, duties, and authori-  
24 ties vested in the Institute under this Act. The Director shall  
25 make available to the Board such information and assistance

1 as may be necessary to enable the Board to carry out its  
2 functions.

3 DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE

4 SEC. 5. (a) The Director of the Institute shall be ap-  
5 pointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent  
6 of the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the President.  
7 The Director shall be compensated at the rate provided for  
8 level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of  
9 title V, United States Code, and shall perform such duties  
10 and exercise such powers as the Board may prescribe.

11 (b) There shall be a Deputy Director of the Insti-  
12 tute who shall be appointed by the President and shall  
13 serve at the pleasure of the President. The Deputy Direc-  
14 tor shall be compensated at the rate provided for grade  
15 18 of the General Schedule set forth in section 5332 of  
16 title 5, United States Code. The Deputy Director shall  
17 exercise such powers as the Director may prescribe, and  
18 the Deputy Director shall serve as Director during the  
19 absence or disability of the Director, or in the event of a  
20 vacancy in the Office of Director. The position created by  
21 this paragraph shall be in addition to the number of posi-  
22 tions placed in grade 18 of the General Schedule under  
23 section 5108 of title 5, United States Code.

24 ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

25 SEC. 6. (a) The Director, subject to the management

1 of the Board, is authorized to make grants to museums to  
2 increase and improve museum services, through such activ-  
3 ities as—

*Displays*

4 (1) projects to enable museums to construct or  
5 install displays, interpretations, and exhibitions in order  
6 to improve their services to the public;

*Training*

7 (2) assisting them in developing and maintaining  
8 professionally trained or otherwise experienced staff to  
9 meet their needs;

*administrative costs in preservation*

10 (3) assisting them to meet their administrative costs  
11 in preserving and maintaining their collections, exhibit-  
12 ing them to the public, and providing educational pro-  
13 grams to the public through the use of their collections;

*Traveling exhibits*

14 (4) assisting museums in cooperation with each  
15 other in the development of traveling exhibitions, meet-  
16 ing transportation costs, and identifying and locating  
17 collections available for loan;

*Conservation*

18 (5) assisting them in conservation of artifacts and  
19 art objects; and

*Special Programs*

20 (6) developing and carrying out specialized pro-  
21 grams for specific segments of the public such as pro-  
22 grams for urban neighborhoods, rural areas, Indian res-  
23 ervations, penal and other State institutions.

*75% Fed grants*

24 (b) Grants under this section may not exceed 75 per

1 centum of the cost of the program for which the grant is  
2 made.

3 CONTRIBUTIONS

4 SEC. 7. The Institute shall have authority to accept in  
5 the name of the United States grants, gifts, or bequests of  
6 money for immediate disbursement in furtherance of the  
7 functions of the Institute. Such grants, gifts, or bequests,  
8 after acceptance by the Institute, shall be paid by the donor  
9 or his representative to the Treasurer of the United States  
10 whose receipts shall be their acquittance. The Treasurer of  
11 the United States shall enter them in a special account to  
12 the credit of the Institute for the purposes in each case  
13 specified.

14 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

15 SEC. 8. (a) For the purpose of making grants under  
16 section 6 (a), there are hereby authorized to be appropriated  
17 \$25,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, and  
18 \$30,000,000 for each of the succeeding fiscal years ending  
19 prior to July 1, 1977.

20 (b) For the purpose of enabling the Institute to carry  
21 out its functions under this Act, during the period beginning  
22 on the date of enactment of this Act and ending July 1, 1977,  
23 there is authorized to be appropriated an amount equal to the



1 amount contributed during such period to the Institute under  
2 section 7.

3

## DEFINITION

4 SEC. 9. For purposes of this Act, the term "museum"  
5 means a public or private nonprofit agency or institution  
6 organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational  
7 or esthetic purposes, which, utilizing a professional staff,  
8 owns and utilizes tangible objects, cares for them, and ex-  
9 hibits them to the public on a regular basis.

93D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

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**A BILL**

To improve museum services.

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By Mr. PELL

FEBRUARY 7, 1973

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor  
and Public Welfare