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An Act

Relating to the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

Whereas the museums of the Nation constitute cultural and educational institutions of great importance to the Nation's progress; and

Whereas national recognition is necessary to insure that museum resources for preserving and interpreting the Nation's heritage may be more fully utilized in the enrichment of public life in the individual community: Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "National Museum Act of 1966".

Sec. 2. (a) The Director of the National Museum under the direction of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution shall—

(1) cooperate with museums and their professional organizations in a continuing study of museum problems and opportunities, both in the United States and abroad;

(2) prepare and carry out programs for training career employees in museum practices in cooperation with museums and their professional organizations, wheresoever these may best be conducted;

(3) prepare and distribute significant museum publications;

(4) perform research on, and otherwise contribute to, the development of museum techniques;

(5) cooperate with departments and agencies of the Government of the United States operating, assisting, or otherwise concerned with museums; and

(6) report annually to the Congress on progress in these activities.

(b) There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act, not to exceed, $200,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968, $250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969, $250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and $300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971, and in each subsequent fiscal year, only such sums may be appropriated as the Congress may hereafter authorize by law.

Sec. 3. The first paragraph under the heading "National Museum" contained in the Act of July 7, 1884 (23 Stat. 214; 20 U.S.C. 65), is amended by deleting the following sentence: "And the Director of the National Museum is hereby directed to report annually to the Congress the progress of the museum during the year and its present condition."

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 1599 accompanying H.R. 7315 (Comm. on House Administration) and No. 2176 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORT No. 704 (Comm. on Rules & Administration).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Oct. 5, House agreed to conference report.
Oct. 11, Senate agreed to conference report.