

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 1999

To establish the Lower East Side Tenement Museum National Historic Site.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 22), 1994

Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself and Mr. D'AMATO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Lower East Side Tenement Museum
National Historic Site.

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 “Lower East Side Tene-
5 ment Museum National Historic Site Act of 1994”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 As used in this Act:

8 (1) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
9 of the Interior.

1 (2) The term “historic site” means the Lower
2 East Side Tenement Museum designated as a na-
3 tional historic site by section 4.

4 (3) The term “Museum” means the Lower East
5 Side Tenement Museum at 97 Orchard Street, New
6 York City, in the State of New York, and related fa-
7 cilities owned or operated by the Museum.

8 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

9 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

10 (1) the Lower East Side Tenement Museum at
11 97 Orchard Street is an outstanding survivor of the
12 vast number of humble buildings that housed immi-
13 grants to New York City during the greatest wave
14 of immigration in American history;

15 (2) the Museum is well suited to represent a
16 profound social movement involving great numbers
17 of unexceptional but courageous people;

18 (3) no single identifiable neighborhood in the
19 United States absorbed a comparable number of im-
20 migrants;

21 (4) the Lower East Side Tenement Museum is
22 dedicated to interpreting immigrant life on the
23 Lower East Side and its importance to United
24 States history, within a neighborhood long associ-
25 ated with the immigrant experience in America; and

1 (5) the National Park Service found the Lower
2 East Side Tenement Museum to be nationally sig-
3 nificant, suitable, and feasible for inclusion in the
4 National Park System.

5 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

6 (1) to assure the preservation, maintenance,
7 and interpretation of this site and to interpret in the
8 site and in the surrounding neighborhood, the
9 themes of early tenement life, the housing reform
10 movement, and tenement architecture in the United
11 States;

12 (2) to assure the continuation of the Museum
13 at this site, the preservation of which is necessary
14 for the continued interpretation of the nationally sig-
15 nificant immigrant phenomenon associated with the
16 New York City's Lower East Side, and its role in
17 the history of immigration to the United States; and

18 (3) to enhance the interpretation of the Castle
19 Clinton National Historic Monument and Ellis Is-
20 land National Historic Monument through coopera-
21 tion with the Museum.

22 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF HISTORIC SITE.**

23 In order to further the purposes of this Act and the
24 Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461–7), the Lower
25 East Side Tenement Museum at 97 Orchard Street, in the

1 city of New York, State of New York, is hereby designated
2 as a national historic site.

3 **SEC. 5. ACQUISITION OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—In furtherance of the purposes of
5 this Act and the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461–
6 7), the Secretary may either acquire the historic site with
7 donated or appropriated funds or enter into cooperative
8 agreements with the Lower East Side Tenement Museum
9 designed to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

10 (b) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Such
11 agreements may include provisions by which the Secretary
12 will provide technical assistance to mark, restore, inter-
13 pret, operate, and maintain the historic site and may also
14 include provisions by which the Secretary will provide fi-
15 nancial assistance to the Museum to acquire ownership of
16 and to maintain the historic site, or to mark, interpret,
17 and restore the historic site, including the making of pres-
18 ervation-related capital improvements and repairs.

19 (c) ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.—Such agreement may
20 also contain provisions that—

21 (1) the Secretary, acting through the National
22 Park Service, shall have the right of access at all
23 reasonable times to all public portions of the prop-
24 erty covered by such agreement for the purpose of

1 conducting visitors through such properties and in-
2 terpreting them to the public; and

3 (2) no changes or alterations shall be made in
4 such properties except by mutual agreement between
5 the Secretary and the other parties to such agree-
6 ments.

7 **SEC. 6. LAND ACQUISITION.**

8 The Secretary is authorized to acquire properties
9 owned or occupied or required by the Museum or to assist
10 the Museum in the acquisition of properties which it occu-
11 pies or requires through the use of appropriated funds or
12 by donation or purchase with donated funds.

13 **SEC. 7. APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such
15 sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of
16 this Act.

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