

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5287

To establish the National Museum of Jewish Heritage and the National  
Museum of Jewish Heritage Board of Directors.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. POMBO,  
and Mr. DOOLITTLE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to  
the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the National Museum of Jewish Heritage and  
the National Museum of Jewish Heritage Board of Directors.

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 “Jewish Heritage Mu-  
5       seum Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       The Congress finds the following:

8               (1) The Jewish people have made remarkable  
9       artistic, scientific, intellectual, and cultural contribu-  
10      tions to the United States and the world.

1           (2) There is no major museum in the District  
2 of Columbia that is dedicated to recording and cele-  
3 brating these contributions and educating the public  
4 about the heritage of the Jewish people.

5           (3) Such a museum would educate the public on  
6 the artistic, scientific, intellectual, and cultural con-  
7 tributions that the Jewish people have made to the  
8 United States and the world and would record these  
9 contributions for posterity.

10          (4) Such a museum would be operated and  
11 maintained by private citizens.

12 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE.**

13          The Congress recognizes the National Museum of  
14 Jewish Heritage established by the Board under section  
15 4 as a national museum.

16 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE BOARD**  
17 **OF DIRECTORS.**

18          (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a board  
19 of directors to be known as the National Museum of Jew-  
20 ish Heritage Board of Directors.

21          (b) DUTIES.—The Board shall—

22           (1) identify a site in the District of Columbia  
23 for a National Museum of Jewish Heritage;

24           (2) establish and construct the Museum;

25           (3) operate and maintain the Museum;

1 (4) establish annual budgets for the Museum;

2 (5) adopt bylaws to carry out the functions of  
3 the Board; and

4 (6) establish policy on the utilization of the col-  
5 lections of the Museum, including policy on pro-  
6 gramming, education, exhibitions, and research re-  
7 garding the life and culture of the Jewish people and  
8 the contributions of the Jewish people to the United  
9 States and the world.

10 (c) APPROVAL.—The siting of the Museum shall be  
11 subject to the approval of the Director of the National  
12 Park Service.

13 (d) MEMBERS.—

14 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Board shall be com-  
15 posed of 25 voting members and 10 ex officio non-  
16 voting members, as follows:

17 (A) 5 members appointed by the President.

18 (B) The Chair of the Board of Directors of  
19 the Corporation.

20 (C) 19 members appointed by the Chair of  
21 the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

22 (D) 5 ex officio nonvoting members ap-  
23 pointed by the Speaker of the House of Rep-  
24 resentatives.

1           (E) 5 ex officio nonvoting members ap-  
2           pointed by the President pro tempore of the  
3           Senate, on recommendation of the majority  
4           leader and the minority leader of the Senate.

5           (2) TERMS.—Each member of the Board ap-  
6           pointed under paragraph (1) shall serve for a term  
7           of 2 years and may be reappointed.

8           (3) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Board shall  
9           be filled in the manner in which the original appoint-  
10          ment was made. Any member appointed to fill a va-  
11          cancy occurring before the expiration of the term for  
12          which the member's predecessor was appointed shall  
13          be appointed only for the remainder of that term.

14          (4) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Board  
15          shall serve without pay.

16          (5) QUORUM.—8 of the voting members of the  
17          Board shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number  
18          may hold hearings.

19          (6) CHAIR.—

20                (A) INITIAL CHAIR.—During the 2-year  
21                period beginning on the date of the enactment  
22                of this Act, the Chair of the Board of Directors  
23                of the Corporation shall serve as the Chair of  
24                the Board of the Museum.

1           (B) SUBSEQUENT CHAIRS.—The Chair of  
2           the Board of the Museum after such period  
3           shall be elected by the Board from among its  
4           members.

5           (e) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—The Board may appoint  
6           and fix the pay of a Director to manage the Museum, and  
7           any additional personnel as the Board considers appro-  
8           priate.

9           (f) POWERS.—

10           (1) HEARINGS.—The Board may, for the pur-  
11           pose of carrying out this Act, hold hearings and sit  
12           and act at such times and places as the Board con-  
13           siders appropriate.

14           (2) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any  
15           member or agent of the Board may, if authorized by  
16           the Board, take any action which the Board is au-  
17           thorized to take by this section.

18           (3) OPERATION OF MUSEUM.—The Board  
19           may—

20           (A) loan, exchange, sell, or otherwise dis-  
21           pose of any part of the collections of the Mu-  
22           seum;

23           (B) purchase, accept, borrow, or otherwise  
24           acquire other property for the collections of the  
25           Museum; and

1           (C) provide for restoration, preservation,  
2           and maintenance of the collections of the Mu-  
3           seum.

4           (4) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—The  
5           Board may request the Administrator of General  
6           Services to provide to the Board, on a reimbursable  
7           basis, the administrative support services necessary  
8           for the Board to carry out its responsibilities. Upon  
9           the request of the Board, the Administrator of Gen-  
10          eral Services shall provide such services to the Board  
11          on a reimbursable basis.

12          (5) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—The Board may  
13          contract with and compensate government and pri-  
14          vate agencies or persons for supplies and services.

15          (6) FUNDING.—

16                (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
17                subparagraph (B), the Board shall fund the  
18                Museum solely through private contributions.

19                (B) FEDERALLY OWNED OR LEASED PROP-  
20                ERTY.—In consultation with the Director of the  
21                National Park Service, the Board may accept  
22                any contribution of Federally owned or leased  
23                property in the District of Columbia for the  
24                purpose of carrying out this Act.

1           (C) FEES.—The Board may collect and  
2 use fees for purposes of establishing, con-  
3 structing, operating, and maintaining the Mu-  
4 seum.

5           (D) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.—  
6 The Board shall solicit, accept, administer, in-  
7 vest, and use gifts, bequests, and devises of  
8 services and property, both real and personal,  
9 to aid or facilitate the establishment, construc-  
10 tion, maintenance, and operation, of the Mu-  
11 seum.

12           (E) NOT APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Funds  
13 collected or accepted by the Board under this  
14 paragraph shall not be considered appropriated  
15 funds and are not subject to any requirements  
16 or restrictions applicable to appropriated funds.

17 **SEC. 5. COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.**

18       The Museum is not a commemorative work for pur-  
19 poses of the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001  
20 et seq.).

21 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

22       For purposes of this Act:

23           (1) BOARD.—The term “Board” means the Na-  
24 tional Museum of Jewish Heritage Board of Direc-  
25 tors established by section 4.

1           (2) CORPORATION.—The term “Corporation”  
2           means National Museum of Jewish Heritage, Incor-  
3           porated (a nonprofit corporation established under  
4           the laws of the State of Maryland).

5           (3) MUSEUM.—The term “Museum” means the  
6           National Museum of Jewish Heritage established  
7           under section 4 by the Board.

8           **SEC. 7. NO AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9           Nothing in this Act shall be construed as an author-  
10          ization of appropriations.

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