

This is to list and summarize both blacks and latinos' legislative effort to get their national museums done (Latinos and Women haven't done yet).

- It took 40 years to have created the National Museum for African American History and Culture (1977-2017). Section A - F
- Took 17 years so far for Latinos to get close to finish it off (see item K for the current status). Section G - J
- AAPI Mengs bills

A. The legislative effort creating the National Museum for African American History and Culture started in the 95th Congress (1977-1978) with four bills preparing the founding of the museum.

3. H.R.10792 — 95th Congress (1977-1978)

A bill to authorize the Smithsonian Institution to acquire the Museum of African Art, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep. Boggs, Corinne C. \(Lindy\) \[D-LA-2\]](#) (Introduced 02/07/1978) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - House Administration

Committee Report: H.Rept 95-1417

Latest Action: House - 09/18/1978 Measure laid on table in House, [S. 2507](#) passed in lieu. ([All Actions](#))

5. S.2507 — 95th Congress (1977-1978)

An Act to authorize the Smithsonian Institution to acquire the Museum of African Art, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen. Anderson, Wendell R. \[D-MN\]](#) (Introduced 02/07/1978) Cosponsors: (31)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration | House - House Administration

Committee Report: S.Rept 95-793

Latest Action: 10/05/1978 Public Law 95-414. ([PDF](#)) ([All Actions](#))

13. S.2102 — 97th Congress (1981-1982)

A bill to authorize the Smithsonian Institution to construct a building for the Museum of African Art and a center for Eastern art together with structures for related educational activities in the area south of the original Smithsonian Institution building adjacent to Independence Avenue at Tenth Street, Southwest, in the city of Washington.

Sponsor: [Sen. Goldwater, Barry \[R-AZ\]](#) (Introduced 02/11/1981) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Committee Report: S.Rept 97-433

Latest Action: Senate - 06/09/1982 Indefinitely postponed by Senate by Unanimous Consent. ([All Actions](#))

17. H.R.5659 — 97th Congress (1981-1982)

An act to authorize the Smithsonian Institution to construct a building for the National Museum of African Art and a center for Eastern art together with structures for related educational activities in the area south of the original Smithsonian Institution Building adjacent to Independence Avenue at Tenth Street, Southwest, in the city of Washington.

Sponsor: [Rep. Boland, Edward P. \[D-MA-2\]](#) (Introduced 03/02/1982) Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: House - Public Works and Transportation

Committee Report: H.Rept 97-534

Latest Action: 06/24/1982 Became Public Law No: 97-203. ([PDF](#)) ([All Actions](#))

B. In the 100th and 101th Congresses (1987-1992), Rep. John Lewis and Senator Paul Simon formally kicked off the campaign.

a. Congress:

- i. Established in the Smithsonian Institution the National African-American Heritage Museum devoted exclusively to the history, art, and culture of African-Americans. Provides for the Museum to be directed by an independent board known as the Trustees of the National African-American Heritage Museum (Board).
 1. Requires the Board to provide for:
 - a. construction of the Museum;
 - b. its administration and maintenance; and
 - c. the acquisition, exhibition, and disposal of materials.
 - d. Requires the Board to establish education and awareness programs, an affiliate program, and a museum management degree program.
- ii. Authorized appropriations for FY 1989, 1990, and succeeding fiscal years to carry out the purposes of this Act.
- iii. Declared the intent of the Congress that the Museum be completed within five years after the date of enactment of this Act.
- iv. Established an Advisory Committee on the Museum to assist the Board in carrying out its duties.

b. Senate:

- i. Title I: National African American Museum - National African American Museum Act - Establishes within the Smithsonian Institution the National African American Museum (the Museum) to be operated as a center for scholarship and museum training and a location for education, research, events, and collection and display of items and materials relating to the life, art, history, and culture of African Americans.
- ii. Authorizes the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (Board of Regents) to plan, design, reconstruct, and renovate the Arts and Industries Building to house the Museum.
- iii. Establishes a Board of Trustees of the Museum (Board of Trustees) in the Smithsonian Institution. Sets forth various duties of the Board of Trustees, including: (1) establishing and supporting cooperative programs with other museums and institutions; and (2) reporting annually to the Board of Regents.
- iv. Directs the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to appoint a Director to manage the Museum.
- v. Authorizes appropriations.
- vi. Title II: Extension of the National Air and Space Museum - Authorizes the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan and design an extension of the National Air and Space Museum at Washington Dulles International Airport. Authorizes appropriations.

37. H.R.5305 — 100th Congress (1987-1988)

National African-American Heritage Museum and Memorial Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Lewis, John \[D-GA-5\]](#) (Introduced 09/14/1988) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - House Administration; Public Works and Transportation

Latest Action: House - 09/26/1988 Referred to Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds. ([All Actions](#))

52. S.1959 — 101st Congress (1989-1990)

National African-American Heritage Memorial Museum Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Simon, Paul \[D-IL\]](#) (Introduced 11/21/1989) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 11/21/1989 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules. ([All Actions](#))

66. S.523 — 102nd Congress (1991-1992)

National African-American Museum Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Simon, Paul \[D-IL\]](#) (Introduced 02/28/1991) Cosponsors: (9)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration | House - House Administration; Public Works and Transportation

Committee Report: S.Rept 102-306

Latest Action: House - 10/09/1992 Referred jointly to the House Committee on Public Works + Transportation. ([All Actions](#))

C. Continuing work in the 102th and 103th Congresses (1992-1994):

- a. H.R. 1246 reported the House amended
- b. S.277 authorized the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (Board of Regents) to plan, design, reconstruct, and renovate the Arts and Industries Building to house the Museum. Established a Board of Trustees of the Museum (Board of Trustees) in the Smithsonian Institution. Set forth various duties of the Board of Trustees, including: (1) establishing and supporting cooperative programs with other museums and institutions; and (2) reporting annually to the Board of Regents. Directed the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to appoint a Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, and Chief Curator of the Museum and other officers and employees necessary to operate the Museum and carry out the Board's duties. Finally authorized appropriations.

67. H.R.1246 — 102nd Congress (1991-1992)

National African-American Museum Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Lewis, John \[D-GA-5\]](#) (Introduced 03/05/1991) Cosponsors: (50)
Committees: House - House Administration; Public Works and Transportation
Committee Report: H.Rept 102-1009 Part 1
Latest Action: House - 10/04/1992 Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Public Works + Transportation. H. Rept. 102-1009, Part I. ([All Actions](#))

87. S.277 — 103rd Congress (1993-1994)

National African American Museum Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Simon, Paul \[D-IL\]](#) (Introduced 02/02/1993) Cosponsors: (29)
Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration
Latest Action: 10/08/1994 Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S14992-14993) ([All Actions](#))

90. H.R.877 — 103rd Congress (1993-1994)

National African American Museum Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Lewis, John \[D-GA-5\]](#) (Introduced 02/04/1993) Cosponsors: (61)
Committees: House - House Administration; Public Works and Transportation | Senate - Rules and Administration
Committee Reports: H.Rept 103-140 Part 2, S.Rept 103-284, H.Rept 103-140 Part 1
Latest Action: Senate - 06/16/1994 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 468. ([All Actions](#))

D. The preparation became the PLAN of action for

the establishment and maintenance of the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. in the 107th Congress in 2001.

383. H.R.3442 — 107th Congress (2001-2002)

National Museum of African American History and Culture Plan for Action Presidential Commission Act of 2001

Sponsor: [Rep. Lewis, John \[D-GA-5\]](#) (Introduced 12/11/2001) Cosponsors: (2)

461. S.1157 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

National Museum of African American History and Culture Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Brownback, Sam \[R-KS\]](#) (Introduced 05/23/2003) Cosponsors: (55)
Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration | House - House Administration; Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Action: House - 06/24/2003 Referred to House Transportation and Infrastructure ([All Actions](#))
Notes: For further action, see [H.R. 3491](#), which became Public Law 108-184 on 12/16/2003.

E. Now it was the Latons' turn in the 108th Congress

495. H.R.3292 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

Commission to Establish the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2003

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 10/15/2003) Cosponsors: (48)

Committees: House - Resources; House Administration

Latest Action: House - 10/17/2003 Executive Comment Requested from Interior. ([All Actions](#))

F. John Lewis had been improving the plan for the National Museum of African American

499. H.R.3491 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

National Museum of African American History and Culture Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Lewis, John \[D-GA-5\]](#) (Introduced 11/17/2003) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - House Administration; Transportation and Infrastructure; Resources

Latest Action: 12/16/2003 Became Public Law No: 108-184. ([TXT](#) | [PDF](#)) ([All Actions](#))

G. Rep. Becerra had been on the latinos' interests

25. H.R.3292 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

Commission to Establish the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2003

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 10/15/2003) Cosponsors: (48)

Committees: House - Resources; House Administration

Latest Action: House - 10/17/2003 Executive Comment Requested from Interior. ([All Actions](#))

26. S.2434 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino Community Act of 2004

Sponsor: [Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. \[R-UT\]](#) (Introduced 05/18/2004) Cosponsors: (10)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 05/18/2004 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. ([All Actions](#))

27. H.R.4854 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

Commission to Establish the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2004

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 07/19/2004) Cosponsors: (19)

Committees: House - House Administration

Latest Action: House - 07/19/2004 Referred to the House Committee on House Administration. ([All Actions](#))

28. H.R.4863 — 108th Congress (2003-2004)

Commission to Establish the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2004

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 07/20/2004) Cosponsors: (37)

Committees: House - House Administration

Latest Action: House - 07/20/2004 Referred to the House Committee on House Administration. ([All Actions](#))

31. H.R.2134 — 109th Congress (2005-2006)

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of American Latino Heritage Act of 2006

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 05/05/2005) Cosponsors: ([113](#))
Committees: House - Resources; House Administration
Committee Reports: [H. Rept. 109-584,Part 2](#), [H. Rept. 109-584,Part 1](#)
Latest Action: Senate - 09/28/2006 Received in the Senate. ([All Actions](#))

33. S.2475 — 109th Congress (2005-2006)

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino Community Act of 2006

Sponsor: [Sen. Salazar, Ken \[D-CO\]](#) (Introduced 03/29/2006) Cosponsors: ([23](#))
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 03/29/2006 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. ([All Actions](#))

7. H.R.512 — 110th Congress (2007-2008)

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2007

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 01/17/2007) Cosponsors: ([108](#))
Committees: House - Natural Resources; House Administration | Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Committee Report: [S. Rept. 110-104](#)
Latest Action: Senate - 06/11/2008 Indefinitely postponed by Senate by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR [S5530](#)) ([All Actions](#))
Notes: For further action, see S.2739, which became Public Law 110-229 on 5/8/2008.

H. Senators joined Rep. Becerra

38. S.500 — 110th Congress (2007-2008)

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2007

Sponsor: [Sen. Salazar, Ken \[D-CO\]](#) (Introduced 02/06/2007) Cosponsors: ([24](#))
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 03/20/2007 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Senate Subcommittee on National Parks. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: [S.Hrg. 110-73](#). ([All Actions](#))
Notes: For further action, see S.2739, which became Public Law 110-229 on 5/8/2008.

54. S.1868 — 112th Congress (2011-2012)

Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Menendez, Robert \[D-NJ\]](#) (Introduced 11/15/2011) Cosponsors: ([18](#))
Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration
Latest Action: Senate - 11/15/2011 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. ([All Actions](#))

I. Latinos continued working hard in next 10 years

55. H.R.3459 — 112th Congress (2011-2012)

Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-31\]](#) (Introduced 11/17/2011) Cosponsors: ([1](#))
Committees: House - House Administration; Transportation and Infrastructure; Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/29/2011 Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. ([All Actions](#))

56. S.568 — 113th Congress (2013-2014)

Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Menendez, Robert \[D-NJ\]](#) (Introduced 03/14/2013) Cosponsors: [\(14\)](#)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 03/14/2013 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. ([All Actions](#))

57. H.R.1217 — 113th Congress (2013-2014)

Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-34\]](#) (Introduced 03/15/2013) Cosponsors: [\(15\)](#)

Committees: House - House Administration; Transportation and Infrastructure; Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 03/27/2013 Referred to the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation. ([All Actions](#))

63. H.R.6001 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Becerra, Xavier \[D-CA-34\]](#) (Introduced 09/13/2016) Cosponsors: [\(5\)](#)

Committees: House - House Administration; Transportation and Infrastructure; Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 09/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. ([All Actions](#))

64. S.3314 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Menendez, Robert \[D-NJ\]](#) (Introduced 09/13/2016) Cosponsors: [\(3\)](#)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 09/13/2016 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. ([All Actions](#))

65. H.R.2911 — 115th Congress (2017-2018)

National Museum of the American Latino Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana \[R-FL-27\]](#) (Introduced 06/15/2017) Cosponsors: [\(51\)](#)

Committees: House - House Administration; Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 06/23/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. ([All Actions](#))

66. S.1364 — 115th Congress (2017-2018)

National Museum of the American Latino Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Menendez, Robert \[D-NJ\]](#) (Introduced 06/15/2017) Cosponsors: [\(14\)](#)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 06/15/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. ([All Actions](#))

J. Finally it beared some fruits

69. H.R.2420 — 116th Congress (2019-2020)

National Museum of the American Latino Act

Sponsor: [Rep. Serrano, Jose E. \[D-NY-15\]](#) (Introduced 04/30/2019) Cosponsors: [\(295\)](#)

Committees: House - House Administration; Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure | Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 12/03/2020 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 600. ([All Actions](#))

Reported to Senate (12/03/2020)

National Museum of the American Latino Act

(Sec. 4) This bill establishes the National Museum of the American Latino in the Smithsonian Institution.

- The purposes of the museum are to (1) illuminate Latino contributions to the story of the United States; (2) provide for the collection, study, research, publication, and establishment of exhibitions and programs related to Latino life, art, history, and culture; and (3) provide for collaboration with Smithsonian Institution museums and research centers and other museums and educational institutions in the United States and abroad to promote the study and appreciation of Latino life, art, history, culture, and their impact on society in the United States.
- (Sec. 5) The bill establishes a Board of Trustees for the museum to advise and assist the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian on all matters related to the administration and preservation of the museum.
- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the exhibits and programs of the museum reflect the diversity of the political viewpoints held by Latinos on the events and issues related to Latino history in the United States.
- (Sec. 6) The Director of the museum shall manage the museum and may carry out educational and liaison programs in support of its goals.
- (Sec. 7) The Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services shall establish and carry out specified grant programs and a scholarship program, including a grant program to promote the understanding of the Latin American diaspora in the United States.
- (Sec. 8) The Board of Regents shall designate a site for the museum and is authorized to design and construct it.

70. S.1267 — 116th Congress (2019-2020)

National Museum of the American Latino Act

Sponsor: [Sen. Menendez, Robert \[D-NJ\]](#) (Introduced 05/01/2019) Cosponsors: [\(48\)](#)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 11/17/2020 Committee on Rules and Administration. Hearings held. ([All Actions](#))

Introduced in Senate (05/01/2019)

- National Museum of the American Latino Act
- This bill establishes the National Museum of the American Latino in the Smithsonian Institution.
- The purposes of the museum are to (1) illuminate Latino contributions to the story of the United States; (2) provide for the collection, study, research, publication, and establishment of exhibitions and programs related to Latino life, art, history, and culture; and (3) provide for collaboration with Smithsonian Institution museums and research centers and other museums and educational institutions in the United States and abroad to promote the study and appreciation of Latino life, art, history, culture, and its impact on society in the United States.
- The bill establishes a Board of Trustees for the museum to advise and assist the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian on all matters related to the administration and preservation of the museum.
- The Director of the museum shall manage the museum and may carry out educational and liaison programs in support of its goals.
- The Board of Regents shall designate a site for the museum and is authorized to design and construct it.

Legislation passed Dec. 27, 2020, calls for two new museums to be established at the Smithsonian. It took 17 years so far for Latinos to get close to finishing it off. Women's Museum is the next in line to complete. Congress has not yet allocated money for these museums; funding will be included in future appropriations. This is to list and summarize legislative efforts for establishment of National Museum of the American Latino and Smithsonian American Women's History Museum.

AAPI

H.R.3525 117th Congress (2021-2022) |- Commission To Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act [Rep. Meng, Grace \[D-NY-6\]](#) (Introduced 05/25/2021) cosponsors (33)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 25, 2021

Ms. Meng (for herself, Mr. Pascrell, Mr. Takano, Ms. Norton, Mr. Danny K. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Lieu, Mrs. Carolyn B. Maloney of New York, Mr. Case, Mr. Carson, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Lowenthal, Ms. DelBene, Mr. Suozzi, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Khanna, Ms. Jayapal, Mr. Torres of New York, Ms. Eshoo, Ms. Lee of California, Mr. Nadler, Ms. Clark of Massachusetts, Ms. Williams of Georgia, Ms. Strickland, Mr. Pocan, Ms. Chu, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Kahele, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Jacobs of California, and Mr. Soto) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

To establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Commission To Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act”.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

(a) In General.—There is established the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) Membership.—The Commission shall be composed of 8 members, of whom—

(1) 2 members shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(2) 2 members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of

Representatives;

(3) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

(4) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(c) Qualifications.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed to the Commission from among individuals, or representatives of institutions or entities, who possess—

(1)_(A) a demonstrated commitment to the research, study, or promotion of Asian Pacific American history, art, political or economic status, or culture; and

(B)_(i) expertise in museum administration;

(ii) expertise in fundraising for nonprofit or cultural institutions;

(iii) experience in the study and teaching of Asian Pacific American history;

(iv) experience in studying the issue of the representation of Asian Pacific Americans in art, life, history, and culture at the Smithsonian Institution; or

(v) extensive experience in public or elected service;

(2) experience in the administration of, or the planning for, the establishment of, museums; or

(3) experience in the planning, design, or construction of museum facilities.

(d) Deadline For Initial Appointment.—The initial members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) Vacancies.—A vacancy in the Commission—

(1) shall not affect the powers of the Commission; and

(2) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(f) Chairperson.—The Commission shall, by majority vote of all of the members, select 1 member of the Commission to serve as the Chairperson of the Commission.

SEC. 3. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) Reports.—

(1) PLAN OF ACTION.—The Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a report containing the recommendations of the Commission with respect to a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture in Washington, DC (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Museum”).

(2) REPORT ON ISSUES.—The Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a report that addresses the following issues:

(A) The availability and cost of collections to be acquired and housed in the Museum.

(B) The impact of the Museum on regional Asian Pacific American history-related museums.

(C) Potential locations for the Museum in Washington, DC, and its environs.

(D) Whether the Museum should be part of the Smithsonian Institution.

(E) The governance and organizational structure from which the Museum should operate.

(F) Best practices for engaging Asian Pacific Americans in the development and design of the Museum.

(G) The cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Museum.

(3) DEADLINE.—The reports required under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be submitted not later than the date that is 18 months after the date of the first meeting of the Commission.

(b) Fundraising Plan.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall develop a fundraising plan to support the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the Museum through contributions from the public.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the fundraising plan under paragraph (1), the Commission shall consider issues relating to funding the operations and maintenance of the Museum in perpetuity without reliance on appropriations of Federal funds.

(3) INDEPENDENT REVIEW.—The Commission shall obtain an independent review of the viability of the plan developed under paragraph (1) and such review shall include an analysis as to whether the plan is likely to achieve the level of resources necessary to fund the construction of the Museum and the operations and maintenance of the Museum in perpetuity without reliance on appropriations of Federal funds.

(4) SUBMISSION.—The Commission shall submit the plan developed under paragraph (1) and the review conducted under paragraph (3) to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, House Administration, Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Rules and Administration, Energy and Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the Senate.

(c) Legislation To Carry Out Plan Of Action.—Based on the recommendations contained in the report submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), the Commission shall submit for consideration to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, House Administration, Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Rules and Administration, Energy and Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the Senate recommendations for a legislative plan of action to establish and construct the Museum.

(d) National Conference.—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the initial members of the Commission are appointed under section 2, the Commission

may, in carrying out the duties of the Commission under this section, convene a national conference relating to the Museum, to be comprised of individuals committed to the advancement of the life, art, history, and culture of Asian Pacific Americans.

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) Compensation.—Each member of the Commission who is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government may receive compensation for each day on which the member is engaged in the work of the Commission, at a daily rate to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) Facilities And Support Of Department Of The Interior.—The Department of the Interior shall provide from funds appropriated for this purpose administrative services, facilities, and funds necessary for the performance of the Commission's functions. These funds shall be made available prior to any meetings of the Commission.

(c) Travel Expenses.—A member of the Commission shall be allowed a per diem allowance for travel expenses, at rates consistent with those authorized under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) Federal Advisory Committee Act.—The Commission shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

SEC. 5. TERMINATION.

The Commission shall terminate on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the final versions of the reports required under section 3 are submitted.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) In General.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

(b) Availability.—Amounts made available under subsection (a) shall remain available until expended, or until the termination of the Commission, whichever comes first.

H.R.868 - National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act 115th Congress (2017-2018) [Rep. Meng, Grace \[D-NY-6\]](#) (Introduced 02/03/2017) cosponsors (8)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 3, 2017

Ms. Meng (for herself, Ms. Judy Chu of California, Mr. Ted Lieu of California, Mr. Meeks, Ms. Velázquez, and Mr. Swalwell of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

To establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **BOARD OF REGENTS.**—The term “Board of Regents” means the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

(2) **COUNCIL.**—The term “Council” means the National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Council established by section 4.

(3) **MUSEUM.**—The term “Museum” means the National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture established by section 3.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF MUSEUM.

(a) **Establishment.**—There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a museum to be known as the “National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture”.

(b) **Purpose.**—The purpose of the Museum shall be to provide for—

(1) the collection, study, and establishment of programs relating to Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture;

(2) the creation and maintenance of permanent and temporary exhibits documenting the history of Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture;

(3) the collection and study of artifacts and documents relating to Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture; and

(4) collaboration between the Museum and other museums, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions, historical societies, educational institutions, and other organizations that promote the study or appreciation of Asian Pacific American life, art, history, or culture, including collaboration concerning—

(A) development of cooperative programs and exhibitions;

(B) identification, management, and care of collections; and

(C) training of museum professionals.

SEC. 4. COUNCIL.

(a) **Establishment.**—There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a council to be known as the “National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Council”.

(b) **Duties.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Council shall—

(A) make recommendations to the Board of Regents concerning the planning, design, and construction of the Museum;

(B) advise and assist the Board of Regents on all matters relating to the administration, operation, maintenance, and preservation of the Museum;

(C) recommend annual operating budgets for the Museum to the Board of Regents;

(D) report annually to the Board of Regents on the acquisition, disposition, and display of objects relating to Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture; and

(E) adopt bylaws for the operation of the Council.

(2) **PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The Council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have sole authority to—

(A) purchase, accept, borrow, and otherwise acquire artifacts for addition to the collections of the Museum;

(B) loan, exchange, sell, and otherwise dispose of any part of the collections of the Museum, but only if the funds generated by that disposition are used for additions to the collections of the Museum; or

(C) specify criteria with respect to the use of the collections and resources of the Museum, including policies on programming, education, exhibitions, and research.

(3) **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The Council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have authority—

(A) to provide for preservation, restoration, and maintenance of the collections of the Museum; and

(B) to solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, and devises of personal property for the purpose of aiding and facilitating the work of the Museum.

(c) **Composition And Appointment.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Council shall be composed of 19 voting members as provided under paragraph (2).

(2) **VOTING MEMBERS.**—The Council shall include the following voting members:

(A) The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

(B) One member of the Board of Regents, appointed by the Board of Regents.

(C) Seventeen individuals appointed by the Board of Regents—

(i) taking into consideration individuals recommended by organizations and entities that are committed to the advancement of knowledge of Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture; and

(ii) taking into consideration individuals recommended by the members of the Council.

(3) **INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.**—The Board of Regents shall make initial appointments to the Council under paragraph (2) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) **Terms.**—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, each appointed member of the Council shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(2) INITIAL APPOINTEES.—As designated by the Board of Regents at the time of appointment, of the voting members first appointed under subsection (c)(2)(C)—

(A) six members shall be appointed for a term of 1 year;

(B) six members shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and

(C) five members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member of the Council may be reappointed, except that no individual may serve on the Council for a total of more than 2 terms. For purposes of this paragraph, the number of terms an individual serves on the Council shall not include any portion of a term for which an individual is appointed to fill a vacancy under paragraph (4)(B).

(4) VACANCIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy on the Council—

(i) shall not affect the powers of the Council; and

(ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(B) TERM.—Any member of the Council appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

(e) Compensation.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a member of the Council shall serve without pay.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Council shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of [chapter 57](#) of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Council.

(f) Chairperson.—By a majority vote of its voting members, the Council shall elect a chairperson from its members.

(g) Meetings.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall meet at the call of the chairperson or on the written request of a majority of the voting members of the Council, but not fewer than twice each year.

(2) INITIAL MEETINGS.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the first meeting of the Council, the Council shall meet not fewer than 4 times for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the Council under this Act.

(h) Quorum.—A majority of the voting members of the Council holding office shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business, but a lesser number may receive information on behalf of the Council.

SEC. 5. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF THE MUSEUM.

(a) Director.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Museum shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary, taking into consideration individuals recommended by the Council.

(2) DUTIES.—The Director shall manage the Museum subject to the policies of the Board of Regents.

(b) Staff.—The Secretary may appoint two additional employees to serve under the Director, except that such additional employees may be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service.

(c) Pay.—The employees appointed by the Secretary under subsection (b) may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of [chapter 53](#) of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

SEC. 6. EDUCATIONAL AND LIAISON PROGRAMS.

(a) In General.—

(1) PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.—The Director of the Museum may carry out educational and liaison programs in support of the goals of the Museum.

(2) SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—In carrying out this section, the Director shall—

(A) carry out educational programs relating to Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture, including—

(i) programs using digital, electronic, and interactive technologies; and

(ii) programs carried out in collaboration with elementary schools, secondary schools, and postsecondary schools; and

(B) consult with the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services concerning the grant and scholarship programs carried out under subsection (b).

(b) Grant And Scholarship Programs.—In consultation with the Council and the Director of the Museum, the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services shall establish—

(1) a grant program with the purpose of improving operations, care of collections, and development of professional management at Asian Pacific American museums;

(2) a grant program with the purpose of providing internship and fellowship opportunities at Asian Pacific American museums; and

(3) a scholarship program with the purpose of assisting individuals who are pursuing careers or carrying out studies in the arts, humanities, and sciences in the study of Asian Pacific American life, art, history, and culture.

SEC. 7. BUILDING FOR THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE.

(a) In General.—

(1) LOCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Planning Commission, and other Federal and local agencies, shall designate a site for the Museum.

(B) TRANSFER TO SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—If the site designated for the Museum is in an area that is under the administrative jurisdiction of a Federal agency, as soon as practicable after the date on which the designation is made, the head of the Federal agency shall transfer to the Smithsonian Institution administrative jurisdiction over the area.

(C) CONSULTATION.—The Board of Regents shall carry out its duties under this paragraph in consultation with the following:

- (i) The Chair of the National Capital Planning Commission.
- (ii) The Chair of the Commission on Fine Arts.
- (iii) The Chair of the Presidential Commission referred to in section 8.
- (iv) The Chair and Ranking Member of each of the following

committees:

- (I) The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.
- (II) The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.
- (III) The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.
- (IV) The Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.
- (V) The Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING.—The Board of Regents, in consultation with the Council, may plan, design, and construct a building for the Museum, which shall be located at the site designated by the Board of Regents under this paragraph.

(3) NONAPPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO MONUMENTS AND COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—[Chapter 89](#) of title 40, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to the Museum.

(b) Cost Sharing.—The Board of Regents shall pay—

- (1) 50 percent of the costs of carrying out this section from Federal funds; and
- (2) 50 percent of the costs of carrying out this section from non-Federal sources.

SEC. 8. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION.

In carrying out their duties under this Act, the Council and the Board of Regents shall take into consideration the reports and plans submitted by the National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Plan for Action Presidential Commission.