

Calendar No. 602

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 951

To commemorate the service of First Ladies Jacqueline Kennedy and Patricia Nixon to improving and maintaining the Executive Residence of the President and to authorize grants to the White House Endowment Fund in their memory to continue their work.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 21 (legislative day, JUNE 19), 1995

Mrs. HUTCHISON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

Reported by Mr. MURKOWSKI, with an amendment and an amendment to the title

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To commemorate the service of First Ladies Jacqueline Kennedy and Patricia Nixon to improving and maintaining the Executive Residence of the President and to authorize grants to the White House Endowment Fund in their memory to continue their work.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress makes the following findings:

3 (a) First Ladies Jacqueline Kennedy and Patri-
4 cia Nixon devoted much of their service to preserv-
5 ing and improving the White House. They made it
6 a national showplace of American history, fine arts,
7 and decorative arts.

8 (b) The White House historic preservation pro-
9 gram was initiated by Mrs. Kennedy almost thirty-
10 five years ago, in 1961. Mrs. Kennedy initiated a
11 program to restore the historic integrity of the pub-
12 lic rooms of the White House; to establish a fine and
13 decorative arts collection; and to establish the White
14 House Historical Association to publish and distrib-
15 ute educational materials describing the White
16 House and its history.

17 (c) Mrs. Nixon provided leadership in the most
18 extensive acquisition of fine and decorative arts in
19 the history of the White House. Her plan for refur-
20 bishment of the public rooms remains intact after
21 more than twenty years.

22 (d) The fine and decorative arts donated to the
23 White House during the leadership of Mrs. Kennedy
24 and Mrs. Nixon, valued today at tens of millions of
25 dollars, far exceed those received during all other
26 modern Presidential administrations combined.

1 (e) The White House is the only Executive Res-
2 idence in the world that is regularly open to the gener-
3 eral public. With over 1.5 million visitors annually,
4 the Executive Residence's public rooms need con-
5 stant care and complete refurbishing every eight to
6 ten years. To maintain the collection of fine arts,
7 historic pieces must be acquired, loaned works must
8 be acquired, reproductions need to be replaced, and
9 repairs need to be made.

10 (f) First Lady Barbara Bush established the
11 White House Endowment Fund in 1990 to create a
12 permanent endowment of \$25,000,000 to maintain
13 the public rooms and collection of the White House.
14 Although substantial contributions have been re-
15 ceived from the public, additional funds are needed
16 to complete the endowment.

17 (g) In recognition of the service of Mrs. Ken-
18 neddy and Mrs. Nixon in preserving and improving
19 the White House, and in their memory following
20 their recent deaths, it is fitting and proper for the
21 Congress to memorialize their work by making a
22 public contribution to continue preservation activities
23 at the White House.

24 (h) Bestowing this honor on Mrs. Kennedy and
25 Mrs. Nixon would be in accord with the well-estab-

1 lished congressional precedent by which a grateful
2 Nation recognizes noteworthy and enduring con-
3 tributions to the public interest with the appropria-
4 tion of funds to programs, endowments, and founda-
5 tions to memorialize the contributions of the
6 honorees.

7 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO THE WHITE HOUSE ENDOWMENT FUND.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President of the United
9 States shall make grants to the White House Endowment
10 Fund, a nonprofit corporation chartered under the laws
11 of the State of Maryland, to be used for the preservation
12 and conservation of the public rooms of the White House
13 and the acquisition of historical objects for the White
14 House collection of fine and decorative American art.

15 (b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GRANTS.—The
16 purposes, terms, and conditions of grants made under this
17 section shall be prescribed in agreements to be entered
18 into between the President, after consultation with the
19 Committee for the Preservation of the White House, and
20 the White House Endowment Fund.

21 (c) AUTHORITY TO USE INTEREST INCOME.—If
22 funds made available to the Endowment Fund under this
23 section are invested by the Endowment Fund pending the
24 disbursement of those funds, any interest realized from
25 such investment shall not be required to be deposited in

1 the Treasury if it is used for the purposes for which the
2 funds were made available.

3 (d) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this section
4 shall be made from funds appropriated to the President
5 for such purpose.

6 (e) AMOUNT AND DEADLINE FOR MAKING
7 GRANTS.—The President shall make grants under this
8 section, in amounts not to exceed a total of \$10,000,000,
9 not later than September 30, 1996.

10 **SECTION 1.—GRANTS TO THE WHITE HOUSE ENDOWMENT**
11 **FUND.**

12 *Subject to appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior*
13 *is authorized to make grants totaling not more than*
14 *\$10,000,000 to the White House Endowment Fund to sup-*
15 *port the acquisition of objects for, and the preservation of,*
16 *the public rooms of the White House and its collection of*
17 *Fine and Decorative Arts; and to serve as a memorial to*
18 *the Nation's First Ladies, whose interest and dedication*
19 *have done so much to preserve and enhance the historic in-*
20 *tegrity of the White House.*

Amend the title so as to read “A bill to commemo-
rate the service of the Nation’s First Ladies to improving
and maintaining the Executive Residence of the Presi-
dent and to authorize grants to the White House Endow-
ment Fund in their memory to continue their work.”.

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