

NATIONAL GREAT BLACK AMERICANS COMMEMORATION
ACT OF 2003

NOVEMBER 17, 2003.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. POMBO, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 1233]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1233) to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 1233 is to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland, a nonprofit organization, was founded in 1983 by Drs. Elmer and Joanne Martin, two Baltimore educators who used their personal savings to purchase wax figures, which they displayed in schools, churches, shopping malls, and festivals in the mid-Atlantic region. It is the Nation's first wax museum presenting the history of great Black Americans, including those who have served in Congress, in senior executive branch positions, in the law, the judiciary and other fields, as well as others who have made significant contributions to benefit the Nation. The museum has been the subject of feature stories by CNN, the Wall Street Journal, the Baltimore Sun, the Washington Post, the New York Times, the Chicago Sun Times, the Dallas Morning News, the Los Angeles Times, USA Today, the Afro American Newspaper, Crisis, Essence Magazine, and has been recognized by the State of Maryland and the City of

Baltimore as a preeminent facility for presenting and interpreting Black history using the wax medium in its highest artistic form. Currently, more than 300,000 people from across the Nation visit the museum annually.

The existing museum plans to expand its existing facilities to establish a 120,000 square foot National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center, which is intended to serve as a national museum and center for presentation of wax figures and related interactive educational exhibits portraying the history of great Black Americans. The bill would authorize \$15 million to be made available until expended, via a grant from the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice, to pay the "Federal share," which cannot exceed 25 percent of the total cost for expanding and creating the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center. Such funds may only be used for design, planning, furnishing, and equipping.

COMMITTEE ACTION

S. 1233 was introduced by Senator Barbara Mikulski (D–MD) on June 11, 2003. The bill passed the Senate on July 14, 2003, by unanimous consent. The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources, and additionally to the Committee on the Judiciary. Within the Committee on Resources, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands. On October 29, 2003, the Full Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands was discharged from further consideration of the bill by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8, of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not

contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 31, 2003.

Hon. RICHARD W. POMBO,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1233, the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2003.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Mark Grabowicz.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS HOLTZ-EAKIN,
Director.

Enclosure.

S. 1233—National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2003

Summary: S. 1233 would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million to the Department of Justice for a grant to expand the Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1233 would cost \$15 million over the 2004–2007 period. This legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1233 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: For this estimate, CBO assumes that the funds authorized in S. 1233 will be appropriated this fall and that outlays will follow the historical spending rates for similar grant programs. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1233 is shown in the following table, and the costs of the act fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level	15	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	3	6	5	1	0

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: S. 1233 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

Previous CBO estimate: On July 14, 2003, CBO prepared a cost estimate for S. 1233 as reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on June 19, 2003. The two versions of the legislation are identical, as are the cost estimates.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Mark Grabowicz; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell; and Impact on the Private Sector: Paige Piper/Bach.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.