

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6872

To amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence.

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 “Presidential Historical
5 Records Preservation Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 Section 2504 of title 44, United States Code, is
8 amended by—

9 (1) redesignating subsection (f) as subsection
10 (g);

1 (2) amending subsection (g)(1) (as so redesignated by paragraph (1))—

2 (A) in subparagraph (R), by striking
3 “and”;

4 (B) in subparagraph (S), by striking the
5 period and inserting “; and”; and
6 (C) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(T) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.”;

8 and
9 (3) inserting after subsection (e), the following:

10 “(f) GRANTS FOR PRESIDENTIAL CENTERS OF HIS-
11 TORICAL EXCELLENCE.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall
13 make grants, on a competitive basis and in accord-
14 ance with this subsection, to eligible entities to pro-
15 mote the historical preservation of, and public access
16 to, historical records and documents relating to any
17 President who does not have a Presidential archival
18 depository currently managed and maintained by the
19 Federal Government pursuant to section 2112 (com-
20 monly known as the ‘Presidential Libraries Act of
21 1955’).

22 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this
23 subsection, an eligible entity is—
24

1 “(A) an organization described under sec-
2 tion 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of
3 1986 and exempt from taxation under section
4 501(a) of that Code; or

5 “(B) a State or local government of the
6 United States.

7 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received by an
8 eligible entity under paragraph (1) shall be used to
9 promote the historical preservation of, and public ac-
10 cess to, historical records or historical documents re-
11 lating to any President covered under paragraph (1).

12 “(4) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—
13 Amounts received by an eligible entity under para-
14 graph (1) may not be used for the maintenance, op-
15 erating costs, or construction of any facility to house
16 the historical records or historical documents relat-
17 ing to any President covered under paragraph (1).

18 “(5) APPLICATION.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity
20 seeking a grant under this subsection shall sub-
21 mit to the Commission an application at such
22 time, in such manner, and containing or accom-
23 panied by such information as the Commission
24 may require, including a description of the ac-

1 activities for which a grant under this subsection
2 is sought.

3 “(B) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION.—The
4 Commission shall not approve a grant applica-
5 tion submitted under subparagraph (A) unless
6 an eligible entity establishes that such entity—

7 “(i) possesses, with respect to any
8 President covered under paragraph (1),
9 historical works and collections of histor-
10 ical sources that the Commission considers
11 appropriate for preserving, publishing, or
12 otherwise recording at the public expense;

13 “(ii) has appropriate facilities and
14 space for preservation of, and public access
15 to, the historical works and collections of
16 historical sources;

17 “(iii) shall ensure preservation of, and
18 public access to, such historical works and
19 collections of historical sources at no
20 charge to the public;

21 “(iv) has educational programs that
22 make the use of such documents part of
23 the mission of such entity;

24 “(v) has raised funds from non-Fed-
25 eral sources in support of the efforts of the

1 entity to promote the historical preserva-
2 tion of, and public access to, such histor-
3 ical works and collections of historical
4 sources in an amount equal to the amount
5 of the grant the entity seeks under this
6 subsection;

7 “ (vi) shall coordinate with any rel-
8 evant Federal program or activity, includ-
9 ing programs and activities relating to
10 Presidential archival depositories;

11 “ (vii) shall coordinate with any rel-
12 evant non-Federal program or activity, in-
13 cluding programs and activities conducted
14 by State and local governments and private
15 educational historical entities; and

16 “ (viii) has a workable plan for pre-
17 serving and providing public access to such
18 historical works and collections of histor-
19 ical sources.”.

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