

Public Law 87-759

JOINT RESOLUTION

October 9, 1962
[S. J. Res. 60]

To establish the sesquicentennial commission for the celebration of the Battle of New Orleans, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire certain property within Chalmette National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) there is hereby established a commission to be known as the "Battle of New Orleans Sesquicentennial Celebration Commission" (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") which shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:

Battle of New Orleans Sesquicentennial Celebration Commission. Establishment.

(1) Eight members who shall be Members of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate (two each from Louisiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee);

(2) Eight members who shall be Members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives (two each from Louisiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee);

(3) One representative of the Department of the Interior who shall be the Director of the National Park Service, or his designee, and who shall serve as executive officer of the Commission; and

(4) Six members to be appointed by the President.

(b) The President shall, at the time of appointment, designate one of the members appointed by him to serve as Chairman. The members of the Commission shall receive no salary.

SEC. 2. The function of the Commission shall be to develop and to execute plans for the observance in December 1964 and January 1965 of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Chalmette, or New Orleans. In carrying out these functions, the Commission is authorized to cooperate with and to assist such groups as the State of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans may establish to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the Battle of New Orleans.

Function.

SEC. 3. The Commission may employ, without regard to the civil service laws or the Classification Act of 1949, such employees as may be necessary in carrying out its functions: *Provided, however,* That no employee whose position would be subject to the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, if said Act were applicable to such position, shall be paid a salary at a rate in excess of the rate payable under said Act for positions of equivalent difficulty or responsibility. Such rates of compensation may be adopted by the Commission as may be authorized by the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, as of the same date such rates are authorized for positions subject to said Act. The Commission shall make adequate provision for administrative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

Employees, compensation. 63 Stat. 954. 5 USC 1071 note.

SEC. 4. (a) The Commission is authorized to accept donations of money, property, or personal services; to cooperate with patriotic and historical societies and with institutions of learning; and to call upon other Federal departments or agencies for their advice and assistance in carrying out the purposes of this resolution. The Commission, to such extent as it finds to be necessary, may procure supplies, services, and property and make contracts, and may exercise those powers that are necessary to enable it to carry out efficiently and in the public interest the purposes of this resolution: *Provided, however,* That all expenditures of the Commission shall be made from donated funds only.

Acceptance of donations, etc.

(b) Expenditures of the Commission shall be paid by the executive officer of the Commission, who shall keep complete records of such expenditures and who shall account also for all funds received by the

Commission. A report of the activities of the Commission, including an accounting of funds received and expended, shall be furnished by the Commission to the Congress within one year following the celebration as prescribed by this resolution. The Commission shall terminate upon submission of its report to the Congress.

(c) Any property acquired by the Commission remaining upon termination of the celebration may be used by the Secretary of the Interior for purposes of the national park system or may be disposed of as surplus property. The net revenues, after payment of Commission expenses, derived from Commission activities, shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 5. Within the boundaries of Chalmette National Historical Park as designated by the Secretary of the Interior on March 20, 1958, pursuant to the Act of August 10, 1939 (53 Stat. 1342), and depicted on drawing numbered NHP-CHAL-7008, said Secretary, notwithstanding the proviso in section 3 of said Act, is hereby authorized to acquire the following lands and interests in lands with funds heretofore appropriated and otherwise available for such purpose:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the west line of Fazendeville Road with a line 50 feet south of southerly boundary of right-of-way of the Louisiana Southern Railway at coordinate point X—2,425,730.76 and Y—467,506.11; (the bearings and coordinates herein stated are in accord with the Louisiana geodetic survey plane grid system); and running thence south 66 degrees 32 minutes 46 seconds east, parallel to said southerly boundary of right-of-way of Louisiana Southern Railway, a distance of 30 feet to coordinate point X—2,425,758.28 and Y—467,494.17; thence south 23 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds west for a distance of 917.90 feet along the east right-of-way of Fazendeville Road to a point;

Thence south 66 degrees 14 minutes 39 seconds east for a distance of 161.83 feet to a point; thence south 23 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds west on a line parallel to Fazendeville Road for a distance of 1,406.51 feet to a point; thence north 64 degrees 19 minutes 9 seconds west for a distance of 161.92 feet to a point on the east right-of-way of Fazendeville Road; thence south 23 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds west along the east right-of-way of Fazendeville Road for a distance of 19.41 feet to a point;

Thence south 64 degrees 19 minutes 9 seconds east for a distance of 95.70 feet to a point; thence south 23 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds west on a line parallel to Fazendeville Road for a distance of 54.90 feet to a point; thence north 64 degrees 19 minutes 9 seconds west for a distance of 95.70 feet to a point on the east right-of-way of Fazendeville Road; thence south 23 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds along the east right-of-way of Fazendeville Road for a distance of 279.44 feet to a point;

Thence crossing Fazendeville Road on a line running north 49 degrees 02 minutes 49 seconds west for a distance of 31.40 feet to a point on the west right-of-way of Fazendeville Road; thence north 23 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds east along the west right-of-way of Fazendeville Road for a distance of 2,663.28 feet to a point which is the point of beginning; containing 7.02 acres more or less, including 1.83 acres more or less within the right-of-way of the Fazendeville Road; and excluding lot 15, as shown on a map of survey by F. C. Gandolfo, Junior, dated January 9, 1953, and being in section 10 of township 13 south, range 12 east, parish of Saint Bernard, State of Louisiana, and known locally as Fazendeville.

Report to Congress.

Property, use.

Lands, acquisition.

16 USC 231-231d.

SEC. 6. The joint resolution of July 14, 1960 (Public Law 86-650), is amended to read as follows:

U. S. Constitution,
anniversary.
74 Stat. 508.

“DECLARATION OF POLICY

“SECTION 1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to authorize appropriate activities on the part of the Federal Government in celebration of the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the formation of the Constitution of the United States and to provide a means whereby similar activities by the States and by the people may be encouraged and coordinated in a comprehensive national observance to the end that our citizens may gain a deeper appreciation of the priceless national heritage represented by the Constitution as a living document and a renewed zeal for the perpetuation and advancement of the ideals of government of which it is the embodiment.

“ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 2. (a) For the purpose of carrying out the policy set forth in section 1 of this Act, there is hereby established a commission, to be known as the ‘United States Constitution One Hundred and Seventy-fifth Anniversary Commission’ (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Commission’) for the celebration of the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the existence of the Constitution, and to be composed of twelve Commissioners, as follows: The President of the United States; the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, ex officio; three persons to be appointed by the President of the United States; three Senators to be appointed by the President of the Senate; and three Representatives by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

United States
Constitution One
Hundred and Sev-
enty-fifth Anniver-
sary Commission.

“(b) Service of an individual as a member of the Commission or employment of an individual by the Commission as an attorney, or expert in any business or professional field, on a part-time or full-time basis, with or without compensation, shall not be considered as service or employment bringing such individual within the provisions of sections 281, 283, 284, 434, or 1914 of title 18 of the United States Code, or section 190 of the Revised Statutes (5 U.S.C. 99).

Conflict of in-
terest.

“(c) Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

“(d) A person appointed to the Commission in the status of a Member of Congress, but who thereafter ceases to have such status, shall nevertheless continue as a member of the Commission.

“COMPENSATION OF THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 3. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, but they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in the Commission.

“ORGANIZATION AND STAFF OF THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 4. (a) The Commission shall select a Chairman from among its members.

“(b) The Chairman may appoint an Executive Director, to serve at his pleasure, whose compensation shall be fixed by the Commission.

“(c) The Executive Director, with the approval of the Chairman, may appoint and fix the compensation of such assistants and subordinates as he deems necessary.

“(d) The Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized by section 15 of the Act of

60 Stat. 810.

August 2, 1946 (5 U.S.C. 55a), but at rates not to exceed \$50 per diem for individuals.

63 Stat. 954.
5 USC 1071 note.

“(e) Neither the civil service laws nor the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, shall apply to any exercise of the authority conferred by subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section: *Provided, however,* That no employee whose position would be subject to the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, if said Act were applicable to such position, shall be paid a salary at a rate in excess of the rate payable under said Act for positions of equivalent difficulty or responsibility. Such rates of compensation may be adopted by the Commission as may be authorized by the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, as of the same date such rates are authorized for positions subject to said Act. The Commission shall make adequate provision for administrative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

74 Stat. 661.

“(f) Mail matter sent by the Commission as penalty mail or franked mail shall be accepted for mail subject to Section 4156 of title 39, United States Code, as amended.

“OFFICE SPACE FOR THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the Commission, shall make available to it such office space in a building or buildings in the Independence National Historical Park as, in the judgment of the Secretary, it may require for performance of its functions.

“DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 6. (a) The Commission shall request the cooperation of appropriate officials in all branches, departments, and agencies of the United States in planning ceremonies or other activities in their respective components of the Federal Government in observance of the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the formation of the Constitution, and all such officials are authorized and requested to consult with the Commission.

“(b) The Commission shall request the appointment by the Governors of each of the fifty States of individuals or committees to consult with the Commission and to assist in coordinating the activities of the Federal Government, the governments of the States, and private individuals and organizations in carrying out the purposes of this Act.

“(c) The Commission shall take appropriate action to encourage, assist, and coordinate activities by municipal, county, and other local governmental units in carrying out the purposes of this Act.

“(d) The Commission shall make its assistance available to public and private schools in planning programs, ceremonies, and other activities, and obtaining written and audiovisual materials for use in such activities in connection with the anniversary.

“(e) The Commission shall solicit the cooperation of colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education in encouraging the study and understanding of the Constitution by suitable recognition through scholarships or otherwise of promising students who display an interest in it.

“(f) The Commission shall solicit the cooperation of, and make its assistance available to, civic, patriotic, and religious organizations undertaking any activities in connection with the anniversary.

“(g) The Commission shall endeavor to promote worldwide understanding of the United States Constitution by encouraging, and if practicable assisting in, student exchange programs and any other means by which citizens of foreign countries may be afforded opportunities to learn about our constitutional processes.

“(h) The Commission is authorized to accept on behalf of the United States such gifts of money or other property as in its judgment may be appropriate to carry out the purposes of this Act, but shall be accountable therefor in the same manner as for appropriated funds or property purchased with appropriated funds.

“PROCLAMATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT

“SEC. 7. The President is hereby authorized and requested to issue proclamations—

“(1) designating September 17, 1962, as Constitution Day and calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with special ceremonies and other activities in celebration of the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the formation of the Constitution;

Constitution Day.

“(2) designating December 15, 1962, as Bill of Rights Day and calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

Bill of Rights Day.

“(3) designating the period from September 17, 1962, to July 4, 1963, inclusive, as a period dedicated to a renewal of national awareness of the priceless heritage which the Constitution represents, and calling upon the people of the United States to engage in such educational and inspirational activities as will deepen their understanding of the Constitution and strengthen their devotion to it.

“DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES OF THE CONSTITUTION

“SEC. 8. The Attorney General, acting through the Immigration and Naturalization Service, is hereby authorized and directed to make available a suitable copy of the Constitution of the United States and the amendments thereto to each person entering the United States during the one-year period which begins on September 17, 1962.

“DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY OF THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 9. (a) After the Commission has discharged all its functions pursuant to this Act except for those under this section and section 10, it shall transfer to the Secretary of the Interior such of its records and other property as in his judgment are appropriate for permanent preservation or display in the Independence National Historical Park.

“(b) The Commission shall transfer the remainder of its records and property to the Administrator of General Services, who shall hold and dispose of such records and property in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949.

63 Stat. 377.
40 USC 471
note.

“FINAL REPORT OF COMMISSION

“SEC. 10. The Commission shall make a final report of its activities to the Congress on or before the first day of the second session of the Eighty-eighth Congress, and upon the filing of such report, the Commission shall cease to exist.

“EXPENDITURES OF THE COMMISSION

“SEC. 11. All expenditures of the Commission shall be made from donated funds only.”

SEC. 7. Nothing contained in this joint resolution shall affect the validity of actions heretofore lawfully taken under authority of the joint resolution of July 14, 1960 (Public Law 86-650).

74 Stat. 508.

Approved October 9, 1962.