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PUBLIC BUILDINGS ACT OF 1959
[As Amended Through P.L. 108-204, March 2, 2004]



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March 2, 2004

PUBLIC BUILDINGS ACT OF 1959

AN ACT To provide for the construction, alteration, and acquisition of public buildings of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

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

【Sections 1–16 were repealed by section 6 of P.L. 107–217 (116 Stat. 1062).】

SEC. 17. The following provisions of law are repealed except as to their application to any project referred to in section 14:

[(1)-(5) Repealed by section 6 of P.L. 107–217 (116 Stat. 1062).]

(6) Section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to suspend work upon the public buildings”, approved June 23, 1874, as amended (40 U.S.C. 254).

[(7)-(23) Repealed by section 6 of P.L. 107–217 (116 Stat. 1062).]

SEC. 18. 【40 U.S.C. 616】 (a) In order to provide for the District of Columbia facilities for the holding of conventions, exhibitions, meetings, and other social, cultural, and business activities, the Commissioner of the District of Columbia (hereinafter, “Commissioner”) is authorized to provide for the development, construction, operation, and maintenance of the civic center to be designated as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Bicentennial Civic Center on a site in the Northwest section of the District of Columbia within an area bounded by Eighth Street, H Street, Tenth Street, New York Avenue, and K Street.

(b)(1) Such civic center shall be in accordance with a plan, indicating the design and estimated costs, approved by the Commissioner and the District of Columbia Council, and approved by the National Capital Planning Commission pursuant to section 5 of the National Capital Planning Act of 1952 (D.C. Code, sec. 1–1005) and section 16 of the Act approved June 20, 1938 (D.C. Code, sec. 5–428), and reviewed by the Commissioner of Fine Arts to the extent required by section 1 of the Act approved May 16, 1930 (D.C. Code, sec. 5–410).

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of the District of Columbia Redevelopment Act of 1945, as amended (D.C. Code, sec. 5–711), the urban renewal plan, approved pursuant to section 6(b)(2) of such Act (D.C. Code, sec. 5–705(b)(2)), for an urban renewal area in which the civic center is located shall be deemed to be modified by the plan approved pursuant to this subsection and the National Capital Planning Commission shall certify such urban renewal plan, as modified, to the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency.

(3) In the development of the civic center in accordance with the plan approved pursuant to this subsection, the Commissioner,

notwithstanding any other provision of law, may open, extend, widen, or close any street, road, highway, or alley, or part thereof, by the filing of a plat or plats in the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia showing such opening, extension, widening, or closing.

(c) The Commissioner shall acquire by purchase, gift, condemnation, or otherwise, all real property necessary to provide for the civic center.

(d)(1) The Commissioner is authorized to enter into purchase contracts, including negotiated contracts, for the financing, design, construction, and maintenance of the civic center. The Commissioner is further authorized to lease the site described in subsection (a) at a nominal rental for a period of not more than thirty-five years. The payment term of said purchase contracts shall not be more than thirty years from the date of acceptance of the civic center and such purchase contracts shall provide that title to the civic center shall vest in the District of Columbia at or before the expiration of the contract term and upon fulfillment of the terms and conditions stipulated in the purchase contracts. Such terms and conditions shall include provision for the application to the purchase price agreed upon therein of installment payments made thereunder.

(2) Such purchase contracts shall include such provisions as the Commissioner, in his discretion, shall deem to be in the best interest of the District of Columbia and appropriate to secure the performance of the obligations imposed upon the party or parties that shall enter into such agreement with the Commissioner. The purchase contracts shall provide for payments to be made to—

(A) amortize the cost of site acquisition, including relocation payments required by the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, and such other moneys as may be advanced by the contractors to the District of Columbia;

(B) amortize the cost of construction of improvements to be constructed;

(C) provide a reasonable rate of interest on the outstanding principal as determined under subparagraphs (A) and (B) above; and

(D) reimburse the contractors for the cost of any other obligations required of them under the contract, including (but not limited to) payment of taxes, costs of carrying appropriate insurance, and costs of repair and maintenance if so required of the contractors.

(3) For the purpose of the purchase contracts provided by this subsection for the erection of the civic center, the Commissioner is authorized to enter into agreements with any person, copartnership, corporation, or other public or private entity to effectuate any of the purposes of this subsection.

(4) No purchase contract for the construction of such civic center shall be entered into, pursuant to the authority of this section, until thirty legislative days following submittal to and approval by the Senate and House Committees for the District of Columbia, and the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations, of the

design, plans, and specifications, including detailed cost estimates, of such civic center.

(e) The full faith and credit of the Government of the District of Columbia is hereby committed to guarantee, upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Commissioner, the fulfillment of all obligations imposed by the provision of this section.

(f)(1) The Commissioner is authorized to accept and administer gifts, personal services, securities, or other property of whatever character to aid in carrying out the purposes of this section.

(2) The Commissioner is further authorized to provide for the operation of any or all aspects of the civic center by any department or agency of the Government of the District of Columbia, or may provide for the performance of such operations, including the use or rental of the civic center or its equipment, motor vehicle parking facilities, concessions, and other activities, by contract entered into with any person, copartnership, corporation, or other public or private entity, upon such terms and conditions as may be stipulated in the agreements, and for such purposes may utilize or employ the services of personnel of any agency or instrumentality of the United States or the District of Columbia, with the consent of such agency or instrumentality, upon a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis, and may utilize voluntary or uncompensated personnel.

【Sections 19–21 were repealed by section 6 of P.L. 107–217 (116 Stat. 1062).】