

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1537

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to accept from the Board of Directors of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc., the donation of title to The National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2011

Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to accept from the Board of Directors of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc., the donation of title to The National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center, and for other purposes.

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 “National September
5 11 Memorial and Museum Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

3 (1) on September 11, 2001, the United States
4 was attacked and our world was changed forever
5 when terrorists murdered nearly 3,000 innocent peo-
6 ple at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and
7 in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, in the largest
8 terrorist attack ever committed in the United States;

9 (2) millions of people from every State and
10 every country have visited Ground Zero to pay their
11 respects;

12 (3) established in 2003, the National September
13 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Cen-
14 ter Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit organization de-
15 scribed in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
16 Code of 1986, has been dedicated to raising funds
17 for and overseeing the design, construction, and op-
18 eration of the Memorial and Museum at the World
19 Trade Center site;

20 (4) the Memorial will ensure that future gen-
21 erations never forget the thousands of people who
22 were killed by the terrorist attack on September
23 11th, 2001, in New York, Pennsylvania, and Vir-
24 ginia as well as those who died in the terrorist
25 bombing at the World Trade Center on February
26 26, 1993;

1 (5) the Memorial—

2 (A) will further recognize the thousands
3 who survived the terrorist attacks and all who
4 demonstrated extraordinary compassion in the
5 aftermath;

6 (B) will ensure, through educational pro-
7 grams, that the history of September 11, 2011,
8 and the implications of that day, continue to be
9 told, especially to the youth of the United
10 States; and

11 (C) will be a resource to the more than
12 600 September 11 Memorials being established
13 throughout the United States;

14 (6) the Memorial is scheduled to open on the
15 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks, while the
16 Museum is scheduled to open in 2012;

17 (7) it is projected that the Memorial will be one
18 of the most visited venues in the United States, with
19 millions of visitors each year, reflecting the enor-
20 mous impact the terrorist attacks had on the United
21 States and the world;

22 (8) throughout the history of the United States,
23 Congress has stepped forward to authorize operating
24 funds, in public and private partnership with private

1 donors, for memorials and museums of national sig-
2 nificance;

3 (9) the Memorial is a true public and private
4 partnership, recognized as a public charity under the
5 Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

6 (10) of the funds raised for the Memorial and
7 Museum—

8 (A) nearly 60 percent have come from over
9 300,000 private donations; and

10 (B) 40 percent have come from public
11 sources.

12 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to promote
13 the purposes of the Memorial, including—

14 (1) remembering and honoring the thousands of
15 innocent men, women, and children murdered by ter-
16 rorists in the horrific attacks of February 26, 1993,
17 and September 11, 2001;

18 (2) respecting the site made sacred through
19 tragic loss;

20 (3) recognizing—

21 (A) the endurance of the individuals who
22 survived the terrorist attacks;

23 (B) the courage of the individuals who
24 risked their lives to save others; and

1 (C) the compassion of the individuals who
2 supported the people of the United States in
3 our darkest hours;

4 (4) ensuring, through educational programs,
5 that the history of September 11, 2001, and the im-
6 plications of that day continue to be told, especially
7 to the youth of the United States; and

8 (5) ensuring that the Memorial will be a re-
9 source to the more than 600 September 11 Memo-
10 rials being established throughout the United States.

11 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this Act:

13 (1) BOARD.—The term “Board” means the
14 Board of Directors of the National September 11
15 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center
16 Foundation, Inc.

17 (2) MEMORIAL.—The term “Memorial” means
18 The National September 11 Memorial and Museum
19 at the World Trade Center in New York City, New
20 York.

21 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
22 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 **SEC. 4. DONATION OF MEMORIAL.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may accept from
3 the Board the donation of title to the Memorial, subject
4 to—

5 (1) any terms and conditions that the Secretary
6 and the Board may mutually agree to;

7 (2) the approval of the donation by the Gov-
8 ernor of the State of New York, the Governor of the
9 State of New Jersey, and the Mayor of the City of
10 New York; and

11 (3) the requirement that title to the Memorial
12 be in a form satisfactory to the Secretary.

13 (b) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide
15 technical and financial assistance to the Board relat-
16 ing to the operation of the Memorial.

17 (2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary may con-
18 sult with, and seek technical assistance from, the
19 Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Education, Sec-
20 retary of Homeland Security, Secretary of Housing
21 and Urban Development, and Administrator of Gen-
22 eral Services in providing assistance to the Board
23 under paragraph (1).

24 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

25 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
26 this Act not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2013

- 1 and each fiscal year thereafter, subject to the requirement
- 2 that any funds appropriated to carry out this Act shall
- 3 be matched with funds from non-Federal sources.

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