

**(b) Acceptance of gifts**

The Secretary may accept on behalf of the people of the United States gifts of historic objects and records pertaining to Roger Williams for appropriate display or other use in keeping with the commemoration of the founding of the principles of freedom in the United States and of the historical events that took place in the city of Providence in connection therewith.

(Pub. L. 89-293, §3, Oct. 22, 1965, 79 Stat. 1070.)

**§ 450pp-3. Authorization of appropriations**

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated not more than \$146,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in land and not more than \$1,862,000 for the development of the Roger Williams National Memorial, as provided in sections 450pp to 450pp-3 of this title.

(Pub. L. 89-293, §4, Oct. 22, 1965, 79 Stat. 1070; Pub. L. 96-607, title I, §101, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3539.)

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

1980—Pub. L. 96-607 substituted “\$146,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in land and not more than \$1,862,000” for “\$700,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in land and”.

**§§ 450qq to 450qq-4. Omitted****Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

Sections provided for the Biscayne National Monument which was abolished and its lands, waters, and interests incorporated within and made part of the Biscayne National Park and funds of and authorizations of funds for the Monument made available for the Park pursuant to Pub. L. 96-287, title I, §103(b), June 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 600, classified to section 410gg-2(b) of this title.

Section 450qq, Pub. L. 90-606, §1, Oct. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 1188, authorized establishment of the Monument, made drawings of the Monument area available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, authorized revision of boundaries, prescribed limitation of ninety-six thousand three hundred acres, and prohibited outward revision of the Monument or obstruction of prospective seaport channels. See section 410gg of this title.

Section 450qq-1, Pub. L. 90-606, §2, Oct. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 1188, provided for acquisition of property, authorized maximum of eighty acres for a mainland headquarters site and forty acres for a Key Largo visitor contact site, and authorized exchange of Federal for non-Federal property, including cash equalization payments. See section 410gg-1 of this title.

Section 450qq-2, Pub. L. 90-606, §3, Oct. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 1189, required the donation and transfer of State lands as condition for establishment of the Monument and Federal acquisition of other lands, and authorized land options for the Secretary and acquisitions to be made after State transfers.

Section 450qq-3, Pub. L. 90-606, §4, Oct. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 1189, provided for administration of the Monument and recognition of fishing rights under Florida law as otherwise regulated by the Secretary. See section 410gg-2 of this title.

Section 450qq-4, Pub. L. 90-606, §5, Oct. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 1189; Pub. L. 93-477, title I, §101(1), Oct. 26, 1974, 88 Stat. 1445; Pub. L. 95-625, title I, §101(4), Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3470, authorized appropriation of \$28,350,000 and \$6,565,000 for land acquisition and development. See section 410gg-5 of this title.

**§ 450rr. R.M.S. Titanic; international maritime memorial; findings and purposes****(a) Findings**

The Congress finds that—

(1) the R.M.S. Titanic, the ocean liner which sank on her maiden voyage after striking an iceberg on April 14, 1912, should be designated as an international maritime memorial to the men, women, and children who perished aboard her;

(2) the recent discovery of the R.M.S. Titanic, lying more than twelve thousand feet beneath the ocean surface, demonstrates the practical applications of ocean science and engineering;

(3) the R.M.S. Titanic, well preserved in the cold, oxygen-poor waters of the deep North Atlantic Ocean, is of major national and international cultural and historical significance, and merits appropriate international protection; and

(4) the R.M.S. Titanic represents a special opportunity for deep ocean scientific research and exploration.

**(b) Purposes**

The Congress declares that the purposes of sections 450rr to 450rr-6 of this title are—

(1) to encourage international efforts to designate the R.M.S. Titanic as an international maritime memorial to those who lost their lives aboard her in 1912;

(2) to direct the United States to enter into negotiations with other interested nations to establish an international agreement which will provide for the designation of the R.M.S. Titanic as an international maritime memorial, and protect the scientific, cultural, and historical significance of the R.M.S. Titanic;

(3) to encourage, in those negotiations or in other fora, the development and implementation of international guidelines for conducting research on, exploration of, and if appropriate, salvage of the R.M.S. Titanic; and

(4) to express the sense of the United States Congress that, pending such international agreement or guidelines, no person should physically alter, disturb, or salvage the R.M.S. Titanic in any research or exploratory activities which are conducted.

(Pub. L. 99-513, §2, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2082.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 99-513, §1, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2082, provided that: “This Act [enacting this section and sections 450rr-1 to 450rr-6 of this title] may be cited as the ‘R.M.S. Titanic Maritime Memorial Act of 1986.’”

**§ 450rr-1. Definitions**

For the purposes of sections 450rr to 450rr-6 of this title, the term—

(a) “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA);

(b) “person” means any individual (whether or not a citizen or national of the United States), any corporation, partnership, association, or other entity (whether or not organized

or existing under the laws of any State), and any Federal, State, local, or foreign government or any entity of any such government;

(c) “R.M.S. Titanic” means the shipwrecked vessel R.M.S. Titanic, her cargo or other contents, including those items which are scattered on the ocean floor in her vicinity; and

(d) “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.

(Pub. L. 99-513, § 3, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2082.)

#### § 450rr-2. Commendation

The Congress of the United States highly commends the members of the joint international expedition which discovered the R.M.S. Titanic.

(Pub. L. 99-513, § 4, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2083.)

#### § 450rr-3. International guidelines

(a) The Administrator is directed to enter into consultations with the United Kingdom, France, Canada, and other interested nations to develop international guidelines for research on, exploration of, and if appropriate, salvage of the R.M.S. Titanic, which—

(1) are consistent with its national and international scientific, cultural, and historical significance and the purposes of sections 450rr to 450rr-6 of this title; and

(2) promote the safety of individuals involved in such operations.

(b) In carrying out subsection (a), the Administrator shall consult with the Secretary and shall promote full participation by other interested Federal agencies, academic and research institutions, and members of the public.

(Pub. L. 99-513, § 5, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2083.)

#### § 450rr-4. International agreement

##### (a) Negotiations

The Secretary is directed to enter into negotiations with the United Kingdom, France, Canada, and other interested nations to develop an international agreement which provides for—

(1) the designation of the R.M.S. Titanic as an international maritime memorial; and

(2) research on, exploration of, and if appropriate, salvage of the R.M.S. Titanic consistent with the international guidelines developed pursuant to section 450rr-3 of this title and the purposes of sections 450rr to 450rr-6 of this title.

##### (b) Consultation with Administrator

In carrying out the requirements of subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with the Administrator, who shall provide research and technical assistance to the Secretary.

##### (c) Reports to Congressional committees on progress of negotiations and consultations

The Secretary and the Administrator shall report semiannually to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation in the Senate on the progress of the negotiations and consultations.

#### (d) Notification of agreement and recommendations to Congressional committees

Upon adoption of an international agreement as described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide notification of the agreement and recommendations for legislation to implement the agreement to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation in the Senate.

(Pub. L. 99-513, § 6, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2083.)

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### ABOLITION OF HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of House of Representatives abolished and its jurisdiction transferred by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Fourth Congress, Jan. 4, 1995. For treatment of references to Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, see section 1(b)(3) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress.

#### § 450rr-5. Sense of Congress regarding conduct of future activities

It is the sense of Congress that research and limited exploration activities concerning the R.M.S. Titanic should continue for the purpose of enhancing public knowledge of its scientific, cultural, and historical significance: *Provided*, That, pending adoption of the international agreement described in section 450rr-4(a) of this title or implementation of the international guidelines described in section 450rr-3 of this title, no person should conduct any such research or exploration activity which would physically alter, disturb, or salvage the R.M.S. Titanic.

(Pub. L. 99-513, § 7, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2084.)

#### § 450rr-6. Disclaimer of extraterritorial sovereignty

By enactment of sections 450rr to 450rr-6 of this title, the United States does not assert sovereignty, or sovereign or exclusive rights or jurisdiction over, or the ownership of, any marine areas or the R.M.S. Titanic.

(Pub. L. 99-513, § 8, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 2084.)

#### § 450ss. Findings and purposes

Congress finds that—

(1) few events in the past quarter-century have rocked Americans' perception of themselves and their institutions, and brought together the people of our Nation with greater intensity than the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City;

(2) the resulting deaths of 168 people, some of whom were children, immediately touched thousands of family members whose lives will forever bear scars of having those precious to them taken away so brutally;

(3) suffering with such families are countless survivors, including children, who struggle not only with the suffering around them, but their