

No. 1988-165

## AN ACT

HB 2506

Establishing the Legislative Eisenhower Centennial Commission; and providing for its funding.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Legislative Eisenhower Centennial Commission Law.

Section 2. Legislative findings.

The General Assembly finds the following:

(1) October 14, 1990, will mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of President Dwight David Eisenhower. To commemorate the occasion, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Society, organized in 1969 as a nonprofit corporation under section 301(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (Public Law 99-514, 26 U.S.C. § 301(c)(3)), which, with the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship, Incorporated, of Philadelphia, organized in 1951, as a nonprofit corporation under section 301(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, is one of two perpetual living memorials to Dwight David Eisenhower in this Commonwealth, and the National Park Service will conduct a series of special events at Gettysburg College and the Eisenhower National Historic Site in Gettysburg, and elsewhere in Pennsylvania.

(2) As an officer in the United States Army, President Eisenhower first came to Gettysburg in the spring of 1918. At Camp Colt, he was instrumental in founding a separate armored unit known as the Tank Corps for which he won the Distinguished Service Medal.

(3) Following his service as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe during World War II and its aftermath, President Eisenhower purchased a farm near the battlefield at Gettysburg as a country retreat in 1951. The farm was the first home that the General and his wife, Mamie Dowd Eisenhower, ever owned and was the only truly permanent home the Eisenhowers were to have.

(4) The Eisenhower Farm also was the site of important official visits by many heads of state, including Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill and French President Charles de Gaulle.

(5) In 1961, upon leaving the White House, the Eisenhowers chose this Commonwealth as their state residence, and lived at the Gettysburg farm until the General's death in 1969 and until Mamie Eisenhower's death in 1979.

(6) Because the Eisenhower Farm in Gettysburg played such an important role both in the personal and public life of President Eisenhower and in the history of the United States, it is wholly appropriate for the General Assembly to encourage the active participation of the Commonwealth in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of our 34th president.

Section 3. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Commission.” The Legislative Eisenhower Centennial Commission.

“National Park Service.” The National Park Service of the Department of the Interior of the Federal Government.

Section 4. Commission created.

The General Assembly hereby creates the Legislative Eisenhower Centennial Commission to encourage, plan, develop and coordinate observances and activities, and to enhance the participation of the Commonwealth in the observance of the 100th anniversary of the birth of President Dwight David Eisenhower.

Section 5. Membership.

The commission shall be comprised of eight members of the General Assembly, four from the House of Representatives and four from the Senate; four members of the public; the cofounder of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Society, the President of Gettysburg College and the Superintendent of the Gettysburg National Military Park on behalf of the Eisenhower National Historic Site; and the present members of the House of Representatives and the Senate whose districts encompass Gettysburg. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives shall each appoint two members of the House of Representatives and one public member. The President pro tempore and the Minority Leader of the Senate shall each appoint two members of the Senate and one public member. The commission shall elect a chairman from among its members.

Section 6. Powers and duties.

The commission shall:

(1) Cooperate with the Dwight D. Eisenhower Society, Gettysburg College and the National Park Service and any other public or private entities planning for the observance of the Eisenhower Centennial in this Commonwealth, as considered appropriate by the commission, upon application thereto.

(2) Be empowered to enter into contracts and execute all instruments necessary or convenient for carrying out its operations.

(3) Authorize expenditures from any funds appropriated or provided to support the activities of the Eisenhower Centennial in this Commonwealth, including funding being authorized toward the casting of a bronze statue of the General for emplacement in Lincoln Square of Gettysburg.

(4) Submit a report to the General Assembly of the activities of the commission.

Section 7. Contributions.

In addition to any funds appropriated by the General Assembly to support the activities of the commission, all moneys received from other sources as contributions to these activities shall be paid into the General Fund and credited to this appropriation. The commission shall also be authorized to accept services and in-kind contributions for its activities.

Section 8. Sunset.

(a) Final report.—The commission shall complete its business and submit its final report to the General Assembly by November 30, 1990.

(b) Expiration.—This act shall expire and the commission shall terminate November 30, 1990.

Section 9. Effective date.

This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 19th day of December, A. D. 1988.

ROBERT P. CASEY