

**The original documents are located in Box 49, folder “7/5/76 SJR196 Honoring James Smithson” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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*signed 7/5/76*

**APPROVED**  
**JUL 5 - 1976**

**THE WHITE HOUSE**  
**WASHINGTON**  
**July 2, 1976**

**ACTION**

**Last Day: July 12**

*Posted*  
*7/6/76*  
*Archives*  
*7/6/76*

**MEMORANDUM FOR**

**THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM:**

**JIM CANNON** *[Signature]*

**SUBJECT:**

**S.J. Res. 196 - Honoring James  
Smithson**

Attached for your consideration is S.J. Res. 196, sponsored by Senators Moss, Scott and Jackson, which expresses to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson, which was used to establish the Smithsonian Institution.

Additional information is provided in OMB's enrolled bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, Counsel's Office (Lazarus) and I recommend approval of the enrolled resolution.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That you sign S.J. Res. 196 at Tab B.



A

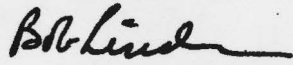
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 3, 1976

MR. PRESIDENT:

It has been requested that if you sign S. J. Res. 196 that you also sign a ceremonial copy of the resolution for presentation to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

If you sign this copy, I will have it lettered and dated.



Bob Linder

*signed 7/5/76*

FRANCIS R. VALEO  
SECRETARY

# United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

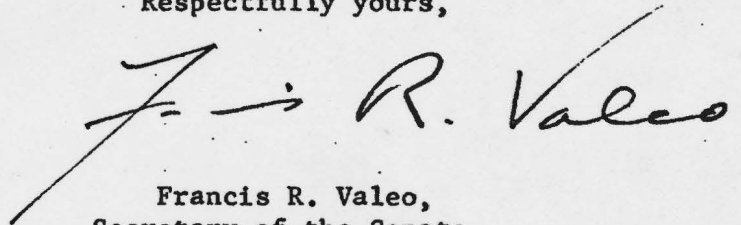
June 29, 1976.

The President,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am forwarding herewith S. J. Res. 196, providing for the expression to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson to the United States, enabling the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution. Pursuant to Section 2 thereof, I am writing to request that your signature may be included in the copy of the joint resolution which is to be presented to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Respectfully yours,



Francis R. Valeo,  
Secretary of the Senate.

Enclosure:  
S. J. Res. 196.

*Copy returned to Francis Valeo, Sec. of Senate: 7/6/76*

*DM*

# Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six*

## Joint Resolution

Providing for the expression to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson to the United States, enabling the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution.

Whereas James Smithson, British subject, scholar, and scientist, bequeathed his entire estate to the United States of America "to found at Washington under the name of the Smithsonian Institution an establishment for the increase and diffusion of Knowledge among men;"; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States in 1836 accepted the bequest and pledged the faith of this Nation to the execution of this trust, and in 1846 provided for the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution; and

Whereas the Smithsonian Institution, since the time of its founding, has been mindful of the charge stated in the will of James Smithson and has, through research and publication, through the collecting of natural history specimens and objects of art, culture, history, and technology, and through the creation of museums for the display and interpretation of these collections, been privileged to share its resources, not only with the people of the United States, but with the world community, for purposes of education, enlightenment, and betterment; and

Whereas the generous and inspiring bequest of James Smithson continues to enrich the lives of citizens of every nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, during this year of the Bicentennial of the United States, the people of this Nation make known their appreciation and gratitude for the gift of James Smithson, a gift whose significance grows with the passage of time and remains a lasting symbol of the indivisible cultural bonds which link Great Britain and the United States of America.*

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall make available to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution a copy of this resolution for presentation to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.



*Carl Albert*

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Hubert H. Humphrey*

*Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.*

I certify that this Joint Resolution originated in the Senate.

*F. R. Valles*

*Secretary.*

*Gerald R. Ford*  
*The President of the United States of America*  
*July 5, 1976*

# Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

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Whereas the Smithsonian Institution, since the time of its founding, has been mindful of the charge stated in the will of James Smithson and has, through research and publication, through the collecting of natural history specimens and objects of art, culture, history, and technology, and through the creation of museums for the display and interpretation of these collections, been privileged to share its resources, not only with the people of the United States, but with the world community, for purposes of education, enlightenment, and betterment; and

Whereas the generous and inspiring bequest of James Smithson continues to enrich the lives of citizens of every nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, during this year of the Bicentennial of the United States, the people of this Nation make known their appreciation and gratitude for the gift of James Smithson, a gift whose significance grows with the passage of time and remains a lasting symbol of the indivisible cultural bonds which link Great Britain and the United States of America.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall make available to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution a copy of this resolution for presentation to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUL 1 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution S.J. Res. 196 - Honoring  
James Smithson  
Sponsor - Sen. Moss (D) Utah, Sen. Scott (R) Pa.,  
and Sen. Jackson (D) Wash.

Last Day for Action

July 12, 1976 - Monday

Purpose

Expresses to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson, which was used to establish the Smithsonian Institution.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval
Smithsonian Institution	Approval

Discussion

The Smithsonian Institution is the legacy of James Smithson, a wealthy 19th Century English scientist who willed his fortune, equivalent to \$500,000, to the United States "to found in Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

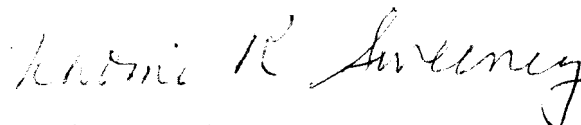
The Congress accepted the bequest in 1836 and approved legislation ten years later to establish the Institution and create a Board of Regents to govern it.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, will visit the United States shortly for the Bicentennial celebration, and the sponsors of the enrolled resolution felt it appropriate that the



country convey its appreciation on this occasion. The resolution states that "...the people of this Nation make known their appreciation and gratitude for the gift...whose significance grows with the passage of time and remains a lasting symbol of the indivisible cultural bonds which link Great Britain and the United States of America."

Her Majesty will visit the Smithsonian on July 8, and it is anticipated that an appropriately inscribed copy of the resolution will be presented at that time.



Acting Assistant Director  
for Legislative Reference

Enclosures

B

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: July 1

Time: 500pm

FOR ACTION: Sarah Massengale  
Max Friederick *MF*  
Ken Lazans *KL*

cc (for information): Jack Marsh  
Jim Cavanaugh  
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

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DUE: Date: July 2

Time: 100pm

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SUBJECT:

S.J. Res. 196 - Honoring James Smithson

ACTION REQUESTED:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action         | <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief     | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks            |

REMARKS:

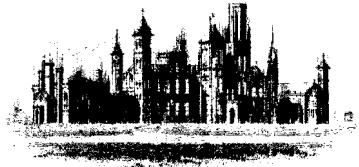
please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephons the Staff Secretary immediately.

---

K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

*Washington, D. C. 20560*  
*U.S.A.*

June 28, 1976

Mr. James M. Frey  
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference  
Office of Management and Budget  
Executive Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Frey:

Thank you for referring to the Smithsonian Institution for comment S. J. Res. 196, providing for the expression to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson to the United States, enabling the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Smithsonian Institution is the generous legacy of James Smithson, a wealthy English scientist, who willed his fortune to the United States "to found in Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

James Smithson was born in 1765. He matriculated at Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1782 at the age of 17, graduated in 1786, and was described as the "best chemist and mineralogist of his year." Chemistry, then in its infancy, was the most exciting science of its day, and he made skillful chemical analyses of a remarkable variety of substances. As a mineralogist he identified a new ore now known as Smithsonite. He was admitted in 1787 to Britain's Royal Society, and throughout much of his lifetime pursued interests in chemistry and mineralogy, making many field trips to continental Europe to collect specimens.

Smithson died in 1829 and his will, written in 1826, left the bulk of his estate to his nephew and any heirs he might have. However, it provided that, if the nephew died childless, the money should go to the United States to found an institution bearing the Smithson name and dedicated to the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The nephew died in 1835 without children. In 1836 Congress accepted the bequest, on behalf of the United States, and pledged the faith of the United States to its execution. With the approval of the British Court of Chancery Smithson's fortune--105 bags containing approximately 100,000 gold sovereigns--was brought to America in 1838. It was equivalent to more than \$500,000 and then, as now, was considered a great fortune.

Receipt of the bequest precipitated an eight-year debate in Congress over what the "Smithsonian Institution" should be. With former President John Quincy Adams serving in the House and acting as guardian of the bequest and leader of debate, Congress finally approved legislation in 1846 establishing the Smithsonian Institution and creating a Board of Regents to govern it.

The Board of Regents is composed of the Chief Justice, who is Chancellor of the Institution, the Vice President, three members of the Senate, three members of the House of Representatives, and nine citizen members. Regents from the Senate (currently Senators Jackson, Moss, and Scott of Pennsylvania) are appointed by the President of the Senate; those from the House (currently Mr. Mahon, Mr. Yates, and Mr. Cederberg) are appointed by the Speaker of the House. Citizen members are appointed by joint resolution of Congress, taking into consideration geographical representation required by law.

Congress, in taking action on the Smithson bequest, and placing the fund on permanent loan to the United States Treasury at six percent interest in perpetuity, stated that its purpose was to provide "for the faithful execution of said trust agreeable to the will of the liberal and enlightened donor," and made provision for work in the areas of concern that have occupied the Institution through succeeding generations--art, history, science, research, museum and library operation, and the dissemination of information.

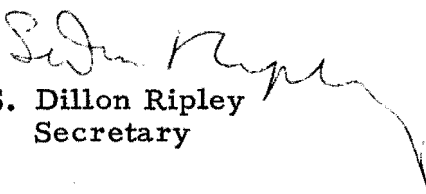
The Bicentennial of the United States also marks the 130th anniversary of the Smithsonian and a high point in its work. The Bicentennial program of the Institution, which includes traveling exhibitions, scholarly projects and publications, a summer-long Folklife Festival on the Mall, major exhibitions in Washington, and the opening of the new National Air and Space Museum, is an important factor in providing people in Washington and all across America with an increased understanding of our heritage and a pleasant sense of celebration.

Thus, it seems appropriate that on the occasion of the Bicentennial visit of the reigning Head of State of Great Britain to the United States that the people of this Nation, through their representatives, make known their appreciation for the bequest of James Smithson, one of the least-known yet most significant philanthropic gestures ever made by a British subject to the people of the United States.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, will visit the Smithsonian on July 8 and in a brief ceremony will be presented a duplicate of S. J. Res. 196.

Enactment of S. J. Res. 196 will entail no costs to the Government. We respectfully recommend endorsement by the President of the enrolled resolution, S. J. Res. 196, and of the accompanying duplicate as well.

Sincerely yours,

  
S. Dillon Ripley  
Secretary

## HONORING JAMES SMITHSON

JUNE 17, 1976.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mrs. SCHROEDER, from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S.J. Res. 196]

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to whom was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 196) providing for the expression to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson to the United States, enabling the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of Senate Joint Resolution 196 is to express to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, upon her visit to the United States during this Bicentennial year, the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson to the United States, which enabled the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

The Post Office and Civil Service Committee, by unanimous voice vote, ordered Senate Joint Resolution 196 reported on June 17, 1976. Pursuant to the committee policy on commemorative legislation the sponsor of the resolution obtained the support of a majority of the Members of the House for this bill.

#### STATEMENT

The Smithsonian Institution is the generous legacy of James Smithson, a wealthy English scientist, who willed his fortune to the United States "to found in Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

James Smithson was born in 1765. He matriculated at Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1782 at the age of 17, graduated in 1786, and was described as the "best chemist and mineralogist of his year." Chemistry, then in its infancy, was the most exciting science of its day, and he made skillful chemical analyses of a remarkable variety of substances. As a mineralogist he identified a new ore now known as Smithsonite. He was admitted in 1787 to Britain's Royal Society, and throughout much of his lifetime pursued interests in chemistry and mineralogy, making many field trips to continental Europe to collect specimens.

Smithson died in 1829 and his will, written in 1826, left the bulk of his estate to his nephew and any heirs he might have. However, it provided that, if the nephew died childless, the money should go to the United States to found an institution bearing the Smithson name and dedicated to the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The nephew died in 1835 without children. In 1836 Congress accepted the bequest, on behalf of the United States, and pledged the faith of the United States to its execution. With the approval of the British Court of Chancery Smithson's fortune—105 bags containing approximately 100,000 gold sovereigns—was brought to America in 1838. It was equivalent to more than \$500,000 and then, as now, was considered a great fortune.

Receipt of the bequest precipitated an 8-year debate in Congress over what the "Smithsonian Institution" should be. With former President John Quincy Adams serving in the House and acting as guardian of the bequest and leader of debate, Congress finally approved legislation in 1846 establishing the Smithsonian Institution and creating a Board of Regents to govern it.

The Board of Regents is composed of the Chief Justice, the Vice President, three members of the Senate, three members of the House of Representatives, and nine citizen members. Regents from the Senate (currently Senators Jackson, Moss, and Scott of Pennsylvania) are appointed by the President of the Senate; those from the House (currently Mr. Mahon, Mr. Yates, and Mr. Cederberg) are appointed by the Speaker of the House. Citizen members are appointed by joint resolution of Congress, taking into consideration geographical representation required by law.

Congress, in taking action on the Smithson bequest, and placing the fund on permanent loan to the U.S. Treasury at 6 percent interest in perpetuity, stated that its purpose was to provide "for the faithful execution of said trust agreeable to the will of the liberal and enlightened donor," and made provision for work in areas of concern that have occupied the Institution through succeeding generations—art, history, science, research, museum and library operation, and the dissemination of information.

The Bicentennial of the United States also marks the 130th anniversary of the Smithsonian and a high point in its work. The Bicentennial program of the Institution, which includes traveling exhibitions, scholarly projects and publications, a summer-long Folklife Festival on the Mall, major exhibitions in Washington, and the opening of the new National Air and Space Museum, is an important factor in providing people in Washington and all across America with an increased understanding of our heritage and a pleasant sense of celebration.

Thus, it seems appropriate that on the occasion of the Bicentennial visit of the reigning Head of State of Great Britain to the United States that the people of this Nation, through their representatives in Congress, make known their appreciation for the bequest of James Smithson, one of the least known yet most significant philanthropic gestures ever made by a British subject to the people of the United States.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, will visit the Smithsonian on July 8 and it is anticipated that an appropriately inscribed copy of this resolution will be presented at that time.

## COST

No cost will be incurred by the enactment of this legislation.

## COMPLIANCE WITH CLAUSE 2(1)(3) OF RULE XI

With respect to the requirement of clause 2(1)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives—

(A) The Subcommittee on Census and Population is vested under the Committee Rules with legislative and oversight jurisdiction and responsibility over the subject matter of S.J. Res. 196 and made no specific findings and recommendations in connection with its oversight responsibilities on this resolution;

(B) The measure does not provide new budget authority or new increased tax expenditures within the meaning of section 3 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and thus a statement required by section 308(a) of that act is not necessary;

(C) No estimate or comparison of costs has been received by the committee from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, pursuant to section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974; and

(D) The committee has received no report from the Committee on Government Operations of oversight findings and recommendations arrived at pursuant to clause 2(b)(2) of rule XI.

## INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 2(1)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the committee has concluded that since no costs will be incurred under House Joint Resolution 670, no inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy will occur.

○



# Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six*

## Joint Resolution

Providing for the expression to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson to the United States, enabling the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution.

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Whereas the Smithsonian Institution, since the time of its founding, has been mindful of the charge stated in the will of James Smithson and has, through research and publication, through the collecting of natural history specimens and objects of art, culture, history, and technology, and through the creation of museums for the display and interpretation of these collections, been privileged to share its resources, not only with the people of the United States, but with the world community, for purposes of education, enlightenment, and betterment; and

Whereas the generous and inspiring bequest of James Smithson continues to enrich the lives of citizens of every nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, during this year of the Bicentennial of the United States, the people of this Nation make known their appreciation and gratitude for the gift of James Smithson, a gift whose significance grows with the passage of time and remains a lasting symbol of the indivisible cultural bonds which link Great Britain and the United States of America.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall make available to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution a copy of this resolution for presentation to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: July 1

Time: 500pm

FOR ACTION: Sarah Massengale  
Max Friedersdorf  
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh  
Jim Cavanaugh  
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: July 2

Time: 100pm

SUBJECT:

S.J. Res. 196 - Honoring James Smithson

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

No objection -- Ken Lazarus 7/2/76

**PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.**

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH  
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *M.L.F.*  
SUBJECT: S.J.Res. 196 - Honoring James Smithson

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies  
that the subject resolution be signed.

Attachments

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUL 1 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution S.J. Res. 196 - Honoring  
James Smithson  
Sponsor - Sen. Moss (D) Utah, Sen. Scott (R) Pa.,  
and Sen. Jackson (D) Wash.

Last Day for Action

July 12, 1976 - Monday

Purpose

Expresses to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the appreciation of the people of the United States for the bequest of James Smithson, which was used to establish the Smithsonian Institution.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Smithsonian Institution

Approval

Discussion

The Smithsonian Institution is the legacy of James Smithson, a wealthy 19th Century English scientist who willed his fortune, equivalent to \$500,000, to the United States "to found in Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

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