

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1081

To amend title 44, United States Code, to direct the Archivist of the United States to maintain an inventory of all gifts received from domestic sources for the President, the Executive Residence at the White House, or a Presidential archival depository.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 2001

Mr. OSE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

---

## A BILL

To amend title 44, United States Code, to direct the Archivist of the United States to maintain an inventory of all gifts received from domestic sources for the President, the Executive Residence at the White House, or a Presidential archival depository.

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 “Accountability for  
5        Presidential Gifts Act”.

6        **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) There is no clear accountability for Presi-  
2           dential gifts, since multiple lists of such gifts are  
3           separately maintained by different Federal agencies,  
4           including by the White House Gifts Unit, the Na-  
5           tional Park Service, and the National Archives and  
6           Records Administration.

7           (2) The lack of a consolidated record of the re-  
8           ceipt, administration, and disposition of Presidential  
9           gifts creates confusion about the status of some of  
10          those gifts.

11          (3) Requiring the National Archives and  
12          Records Administration to maintain an inventory of  
13          Presidential gifts would eliminate such confusion  
14          and ensure accountability.

15 **SEC. 3. INVENTORY OF PRESIDENTIAL GIFTS.**

16          (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 22 of title 44, United  
17          States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
18          lowing:

19 **“§ 2208. Inventory of Presidential gifts**

20          “(a) The Archivist shall maintain a current inventory  
21          of all Presidential gifts.

22          “(b) The inventory shall include, with respect to each  
23          Presidential gift, the following information:

24                  “(1) The date of receipt by the Federal Govern-  
25          ment.

1           “(2) A description.

2           “(3) The estimated cost or appraised value.

3           “(4) The donor.

4           “(5) Any indication of whether the intent of the  
5 donor was to make the gift to the United States or  
6 to the President personally.

7           “(6) The current location and status of the gift,  
8 including identification of the Federal agency or  
9 other person having control of the gift.

10          “(c) The head of a Federal office or agency, including  
11 any unit in the Executive Office of the President, having  
12 possession of any record containing information regarding  
13 the receipt, location, control, or disposition of a Presi-  
14 dential gift shall, upon receipt of such information, report  
15 such information to the Archivist in accordance with regu-  
16 lations issued by the Archivist under this section.

17          “(d) The Archivist shall make available to the public,  
18 upon request, any information in the inventory maintained  
19 under this section.

20          “(e) The Archivist shall report to the Committee on  
21 Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee  
22 on Government Reform of the House of Representatives  
23 each proposed disposition of a Presidential gift other  
24 than—

25           “(1) a gift from a relative of the President; and

1           “(2) a gift having a value of less than \$250.

2           “(f)(1) The Archivist shall issue regulations imple-  
3     menting this section.

4           “(2) The Archivist may not issue any nonbinding  
5     guidance for purposes of this section.

6           “(g) In this section:

7           “(1) The term ‘gift’ has the meaning that term  
8     has under section 109 of the Ethics in Government  
9     Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

10          “(2) The term ‘Presidential gift’ means any gift  
11     to or for the benefit of the President personally, the  
12     President in his or her official capacity, the Execu-  
13     tive Residence at the White House, or a Presidential  
14     archival depository, other than a gift from a foreign  
15     government (as that term is defined in section  
16     7342(a) of title 5, United States Code).”.

17          (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
18     for chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, is amended  
19     by adding at the end the following:

“2208. Inventory of Presidential gifts.”.

○