

87TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 8360

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 1961

Mr. FOGARTY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Operations

A BILL

To authorize the disposal of the property known as Ellis Island for purposes consistent with the public interest.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That in order to assure that the property known as Ellis
4 Island, in the State of New York, will be utilized effectively
5 in the public interest, and to promote the public health and
6 welfare, the Administrator of General Services (hereinafter
7 referred to as the "Administrator") is authorized and di-
8 rected to convey to the Ellis Island Golden Age Center,
9 Incorporated (hereinafter referred to as the "center"), a
10 nonprofit corporation of the State of New York, in con-
11 sideration of the sum of \$1,000,000 and subject to the condi-

1 tions hereinafter specified, all right, title, and interest of the
2 United States in and to the real property constituting Ellis
3 Island, consisting of approximately twenty-eight acres (in-
4 cluding any submerged land contiguous to said island as to
5 which the United States claims title, consisting of approxi-
6 mately twenty and five-tenths acres), together with the
7 buildings, fixtures, and equipment situated thereon and the
8 appurtenances and utilities belonging and appertaining
9 thereto.

10 SEC. 2. The center shall not be required to accept the
11 conveyance authorized by this Act for a period of one year
12 after the date of enactment of this Act, or for such additional
13 period as the Administrator may determine to be reasonably
14 necessary in order to permit the center to obtain the neces-
15 sary financial assistance to provide all or a substantial part
16 of the facilities requisite to the establishment of a residence
17 center for elderly persons as provided in paragraph (1) of
18 section 3. The Administrator shall maintain the existing
19 improvements on Ellis Island in their present condition
20 (ordinary wear or damage by the elements excepted) from
21 the date of enactment of this Act until such time as such
22 conveyance is made to the center as herein authorized,
23 except that if such maintenance is continued during any
24 period subsequent to one year after the date of enactment
25 of this Act the cost of such maintenance during such period

1 shall be added to the purchase price specified in section 1
2 to be paid by the center at the time conveyance is made
3 hereunder.

4 SEC. 3. The conveyance of the property authorized by
5 this Act shall be upon condition that—

6 (1) such property is used by the center for the
7 establishment of a residence center for elderly persons
8 which shall include housing, together with related facili-
9 ties and services such as (A) a hospital, (B) medical
10 care, (C) educational and research facilities related to
11 the problems of the elderly, (D) shopping, residential,
12 recreational, and meeting places for personnel, guests,
13 and visitors to the island, and (E) any other ancillary
14 services and facilities which would promote a more desir-
15 able community in accordance with the purposes for
16 which such residence center is established;

17 (2) in the event the engineering or development of
18 such residence center has not commenced within a pe-
19 riod of one year after the conveyance of the property to
20 the center, or within such additional period as the Ad-
21 ministrator shall determine is reasonably necessary to
22 permit the commencement of such engineering and de-
23 velopment, such property shall revert to the United
24 States and the consideration received therefor shall be
25 refunded to the center, less such amount as the Ad-

1 administrator determines is necessary to restore the prop-
2 erty to the condition existing at the time of convey-
3 ance;

4 (3) such property shall be utilized for the pur-
5 poses set forth in paragraph (1) of this section, and if
6 at any time during a period of twenty years after
7 such conveyance, the Administrator, after hearing, de-
8 termines that it is not being used substantially for such
9 purposes then title thereto shall revert to the United
10 States: *Provided*, That in the event of any such re-
11 verter the United States shall take the property, to-
12 gether with the improvements thereon, subject to any
13 outstanding liens or mortgages thereon.

14 SEC. 4. For the purposes of this Act—

15 (1) the term “elderly persons” shall have the
16 same meaning as such term has when used in title II
17 of the Housing Act of 1959; and

18 (2) the term “housing” means five hundred or
19 more new living units, not less than 50 per centum of
20 which are specially designed for the use and occupancy
21 of elderly persons.

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