

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 5, 1999
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 1999
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 15, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 268

**Introduced by Assembly Member ~~Cedillo~~ Members *Cedillo
and Nakano*
(~~Coauthor: Assembly Member Honda~~)
(*Coauthors: Assembly Members Calderon, Hertzberg,
Honda, Kuehl, and Wayne*)**

February 3, 1999

An act relating to the Museum of Chinese American History, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 268, as amended, Cedillo. Museum of Chinese American History: funding.

The Budget Act of 1998 appropriates funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation for local assistance grants.

This bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Parks and Recreation for allocation as a grant to the governing board of the Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History to develop the permanent location for the Museum of Chinese American History in Los Angeles.

Vote: 2/3. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and
 2 declares the following:

3 (a) The history of our nation and California is a rich
 4 and enduring tapestry woven with the threads of many
 5 remarkable lives, cultures, and events.

6 (b) The lives, work, and artistry of Chinese Americans
 7 have added strength, vitality, and purpose to that
 8 tapestry.

9 (c) Chinese Americans constitute one of the fastest
 10 growing populations in the nation, with the majority of
 11 Chinese Americans making their home in this state with
 12 large numbers in southern California.

13 (d) In order to educate the general public while
 14 preserving American history and culture from the unique
 15 perspective of the generations of Chinese Americans who
 16 have contributed to our national fabric, the Museum of
 17 Chinese American History was established.

18 (e) The Museum of Chinese American History was
 19 formed as a nonprofit organization in 1989 and the
 20 museum will officially open to the public at its permanent
 21 site in the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument
 22 in Los Angeles in the year 2000, the Sesquicentennial of
 23 California's statehood.

24 (f) The Museum of Chinese American History has
 25 already firmly established itself as a significant cultural
 26 educational resource for Chinese Americans and the
 27 multicultural communities in this state and the nation,
 28 hosting numerous exhibitions and events and conducting
 29 research projects.

30 (g) Through the work of the museum, precious
 31 Chinese American traditions and folklore, moving oral
 32 histories, records of painful obstacles overcome, and hard
 33 fought successes are being preserved and safeguarded for
 34 all Americans and visitors to our country to study, admire,



1 and treasure as they explore the pieces of our national
2 character.

3 (h) The Museum of Chinese American History also
4 serves as an educational and resource center for the
5 exchange of ideas and experiences related to life in
6 multiethnic and multicultural America and as a vital force
7 in bridging communities and generations of different
8 cultural backgrounds.

9 The Museum of Chinese American History and Friends
10 of the Museum of Chinese American History are working
11 in partnership with the City of Los Angeles and the
12 private sector to secure funding in order to develop and
13 maintain a permanent facility for the museum center.

14 SEC. 2. *It is the intent of the Legislature that the*
15 *Museum of Chinese American History shall not become*
16 *a financial burden to the State of California, and*
17 *therefore, that any maintenance or repair costs incurred*
18 *by the museum shall be the responsibility of the Friends*
19 *of the Museum of Chinese American History.*

20 SEC. 3. The sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) is
21 hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the
22 Department of Parks and Recreation for allocation as a
23 grant to the governing board of the Friends of the
24 Museum of Chinese American History to facilitate the
25 rehabilitation, development, and operations for the
26 permanent site of the Museum of Chinese American
27 History in Los Angeles.

