

Parks and Recreation, is authorized to deaccession the Pre-Columbian collection from the Parthenon and the Director of Parks and Recreation is authorized to execute the same.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall take effect from and after its final passage, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County requiring it.

Analysis

This ordinance authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to permanently remove the Pre-Columbian collection from the Parthenon.

In the 1960s and 1970s, a former director of the Parthenon received a total of 244 Pre-Columbian artifacts separately from donors John Montgomery and Edgar York. According to the archival paperwork, some artifacts were acquired during amateur and undocumented excavations in Western Mexico mostly done by John Montgomery. The artifacts donated by Edgar York have no documentation regarding their origin. The Department of Parks and Recreation is the legal owner of the Parthenon and all of its properties and wishes to deaccession, or permanently remove, the Pre-Columbian Collection. The Board of Parks and Recreation has approved the deaccession. Because these are illegally sourced artifacts, these artifacts will be shipped to the Government of Mexico where the artifacts were sourced.

This resolution would authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to deaccession the Pre-Columbian Collection from the Parthenon and authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation to execute the same.