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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Tsongas (for himself, Mr. Cranston, Mr. Pell, and Mr. Bradley) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

*Jackson and Randolph, Morgan, Levin, Stone, and Wicker
Nelson, Baucus, Inouye*

A BILL

To amend the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 to establish a Presidential Commission on National Service.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
2 of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That
3 the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 is amended by adding
4 at the end thereof the following new title:

5 "TITLE VII--PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON NATIONAL SERVICE
6 "ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION

7 "Sec. 701. (a) There is hereby established a Presidential
8 Commission on National Service (hereinafter referred to as the
9 'Commission'). The Commission shall be composed of not more than
10 25 members appointed by the President. A Chairperson of the
11 Commission shall be appointed by the President not later than
12 60 days after the date of enactment of this title.

13 "(b) Members of the Commission shall include individuals who
14 are broadly representative of private volunteer organizations,
15 higher education, business, organized labor, organizations and
16 groups with a primary interest in service opportunities for
17 youth and older Americans, social services organizations, minority
18 group and ethnic organizations, and Federal (including the military),
19 State, and local governments. No less than 7 members of the
20 Commission shall be between the ages of 17 and 25 at the time of
21 their appointments.

22 "(c) Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers
23 but shall be filled in the same manner provided in this section for
24 the original appointment.

1 "(d) Thirteen members shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser
2 number may conduct such hearings as may be authorized by the total
3 membership of the Commission.

4 "FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

5 "SEC. 702. (a) The Commission shall examine the need for and
6 the desirability and feasibility of establishing a comprehensive
7 national service program to meet a broad range of national and local
8 needs.

9 "(b) The Commission shall submit to the President and to the
10 Congress such interim reports as it deems advisable. Not later than
11 18 months after the first meeting of the Commission or 24 months
12 after the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever date occurs
13 earlier, the Commission shall submit to the President and to the
14 Congress a final report of its examination, together with such
15 recommendations, including recommendations for legislation, as the
16 Commission deems advisable.

17 "(c) The first meeting of the Commission shall be held not
18 later than 60 days following the appointment of a majority of its
19 members. The Commission shall meet regularly, but not less often
20 than quarterly.

21 "(d) To the extent feasible, the Commission in carrying out
22 its duties under subsection (a) of this section shall conduct
23 meetings, hearings, or conferences in various regions and localities
24 of the United States and actively seek out the opinions of young
25 people and those groups which would be most affected by a program of
26 national service.

27 COMMISSION POWERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

28 "SEC. 703. (a) The Commission may, in carrying out the
29 provisions of this title, sit and act at such times and places, hold
30 such hearings, take such testimony, request the attendance of such
31 witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents
32 and have such printing and binding done, as the Commission deems
33 advisable.

34 "(b) The Commission may acquire directly from the head of any
35 department, agency, instrumentality, or other authority of the

1 executive branch of the Federal Government available information
2 which the Commission determines useful in the discharge of its
3 functions. Each department, agency, instrumentality, or other
4 authority of the executive branch of the Federal Government shall
5 cooperate with the Commission and, to the extent permitted by law,
6 furnish all information requested by the Commission.

7 "(c) Subject to such rules and regulations as may be adopted by
8 the Commission, the Chairman is authorized to --

9 "(1) appoint and fix the compensation of an executive director
10 and such additional staff personnel as may be necessary, without
11 regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title
12 relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at
13 rates not in excess of the maximum rate for GS-18 of the General
14 Schedule under section 5332 of such title;

15 "(2) procure temporary and intermittent services to the same
16 extent as is authorized by section 3109 of such title, but at rates
17 not to exceed the comparable daily rate for a GS-18 under section
18 5332 of such title;

19 "(3) accept and utilize the services of voluntary and non-
20 compensated personnel and reimburse them for travel expenses, including
21 per diem as authorized by subchapter I of chapter 57 of such title;

22 "(4) receive money and other property donated, bequeathed, or
23 devised, without condition or restriction other than that it will be
24 used for the purpose of carrying out the functions of the Commission
25 under this title, and to use, sell, and otherwise dispose of such property
26 for such purpose;

27 "(5) enter into agreements with the General Services Administration
28 for procurement of necessary financial and administrative services, for
29 which payment shall be made by reimbursement from the funds of the
30 Commission in such amounts as may be agreed upon by the Chairman
31 of the Commission and the Administrator of General Services; and

32 "(6) enter into contracts with Federal, State, and local public
33 agencies, private business concerns, institutions, and other organiza-
34 tions for the conduct of research, surveys, the preparation of reports,
35 and any other activity which the Commission determines to be necessary.

1 "(d) (1) Members of the Commission who are otherwise employed
2 by the Federal Government shall serve without compensation but shall
3 be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses,
4 at rates provided for in subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5,
5 United States Code, incurred by them in carrying out their duties
6 as members of the Commission.

7 "(2) Members of the Commission not otherwise employed by the Federal
8 Government shall receive compensation at the daily rate prescribed
9 for GS-18 under section 5332 of such title, including travel time,
10 for each day they are engaged in the performance of their duties
11 as members of the Commission; and, they shall be entitled to reim-
12 bursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses, at
13 rates provided for in subchapter I of chapter 57 of such title, in-
14 curred by them in carrying out their duties as members of the Commission.

15 FOLLOWUP ON COMMISSION FINAL REPORT

16 "SEC. 704. (a) Upon submission of the Commission's final report
17 under section 702 (b), the President or the head of the department
18 or agency designated by him shall take steps to ascertain the views
19 of each affected department or agency of the executive branch of the
20 Federal Government on such report and, not later than 180 days after
21 the date of such submission, shall submit an interim report to the
22 Congress on --

23 (1) the desirability, feasibility, and cost of implementing each
24 of the Commission's recommendations, and the actions taken or planned
25 with respect to their implementation; and

26 (2) recommendations with respect to any legislation proposed
27 by the Commission and the need for any alternative or additional
28 legislation to implement the Commission's recommendations.

29 Not later than 12 months after the date of the submission of such interim
30 report, the President or such designee shall submit a final report to
31 the Congress detailing the actions taken by the executive branch of the
32 Federal Government with respect to the recommendations of the Commission,
33 together with any further recommendations deemed appropriate.

34 "(b) The Commission shall terminate 180 days after the submission
35 of its final report under section 702 (b). During this 180-day period,
36 the Commission may develop and submit recommendations for programs
37 designed to implement its findings.

EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION

- 1 "SEC. 705. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as
- 2 may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title".