

96TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2159

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 20 (legislative day, DECEMBER 15), 1979

Mr. TSONGAS (for himself, Mr. CRANSTON, Mr. PELL, Mr. BRADLEY, Mr. RANDOLPH, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. STONE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MORGAN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. WEICKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

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 Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 is amend-
4 ed by adding at the end thereof the following new title:

1 "TITLE VII—PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON
2 NATIONAL SERVICE

3 "ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION

4 "SEC. 701. (a) There is hereby established a Presiden-
5 tial Commission on National Service (hereinafter referred to
6 as the 'Commission'). The Commission shall be composed of
7 not more than twenty-five members appointed by the Presi-
8 dent. A Chairperson of the Commission shall be appointed by
9 the President not later than sixty days after the date of en-
10 actment of this title.

11 "(b) Members of the Commission shall include individ-
12 uals who are broadly representative of private volunteer or-
13 ganizations, higher education, business, organized labor, or-
14 ganizations and groups with a primary interest in service op-
15 portunities for youth and older Americans, social services or-
16 ganizations, minority group and ethnic organizations, and
17 Federal (including the military), State, and local govern-
18 ments. No less than seven members of the Commission shall
19 be between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five at the time
20 of their appointments.

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

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

4 “FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

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

9 “(b) The Commission shall submit to the President and
10 to the Congress such interim reports as it deems advisable.
11 Not later than eighteen months after the first meeting of the
12 Commission or twenty-four months after the date of the en-
13 actment of this Act, whichever date occurs earlier, the Com-
14 mission shall submit to the President and to the Congress a
15 final report of its examination, together with such recommen-
16 dations, including recommendations for legislation, as the
17 Commission deems advisable.

18 “(c) The first meeting of the Commission shall be held
19 not later than sixty days following the appointment of a ma-
20 jority of its members. The Commission shall meet regularly,
21 but not less often than quarterly.

22 “(d) To the extent feasible, the Commission in carrying
23 out its duties under subsection (a) of this section shall conduct
24 meetings, hearings, or conferences in various regions and lo-
25 calities of the United States and actively seek out the opin-

1 ions of young people and those groups which would be most
2 affected by a program of national service.

3 "COMMISSION POWERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

4 "SEC. 703. (a) The Commission may, in carrying out
5 the provisions of this title, sit and act at such times and
6 places, hold such hearings, take such testimony, request the
7 attendance of such witnesses and the production of such
8 books, papers, and documents and have such printing and
9 binding done, as the Commission deems advisable.

10 "(b) The Commission may acquire directly from the
11 head of any department, agency, instrumentality, or other
12 authority of the executive branch of the Federal Government
13 available information which the Commission determines use-
14 ful in the discharge of its functions. Each department, agen-
15 cy, instrumentality, or other authority of the executive
16 branch of the Federal Government shall cooperate with the
17 Commission and, to the extent permitted by law, furnish all
18 information requested by the Commission.

19 "(c) Subject to such rules and regulations as may be
20 adopted by the Commission, the Chairman is authorized to—

21 "(1) appoint and fix the compensation of an ex-
22 ecutive director and such additional staff personnel as
23 may be necessary, without regard to chapter 51 and
24 subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to
25 classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at

1 rates not in excess of the maximum rate for GS-18 of
2 the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title;

3 “(2) procure temporary and intermittent services
4 to the same extent as is authorized by section 3109 of
5 such title, but at rates not to exceed the comparable
6 daily rate for a GS-18 under section 5332 of such
7 title;

8 “(3) accept and utilize the services of voluntary
9 and noncompensated personnel and reimburse them for
10 travel expenses, including per diem as authorized by
11 subchapter I of chapter 57 of such title;

12 “(4) receive money and other property donated,
13 bequeathed, or devised, without condition or restriction
14 other than that it will be used for the purpose of carry-
15 ing out the functions of the Commission under this
16 title, and to use, sell, and otherwise dispose of such
17 property for such purpose;

18 “(5) enter into agreements with the General Serv-
19 ices Administration for procurement of necessary finan-
20 cial and administrative services, for which payment
21 shall be made by reimbursement from the funds of the
22 Commission in such amounts as may be agreed upon
23 by the Chairman of the Commission and the Adminis-
24 trator of General Services; and

1 “(6) enter into contracts with Federal, State, and
2 local public agencies, private business concerns, institu-
3 tions, and other organizations for the conduct of re-
4 search, surveys, the preparation of reports, and any
5 other activity which the Commission determines to be
6 necessary.

7 “(d)(1) Members of the Commission who are otherwise
8 employed by the Federal Government shall serve without
9 compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence,
10 and other necessary expenses, at rates provided for in sub-
11 chapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, in-
12 curred by them in carrying out their duties as members of the
13 Commission.

14 “(2) Members of the Commission not otherwise em-
15 ployed by the Federal Government shall receive compensa-
16 tion at the daily rate prescribed for GS-18 under section
17 5332 of such title, including traveltime, for each day they are
18 engaged in the performance of their duties as members of the
19 Commission; and, they shall be entitled to reimbursement for
20 travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses, at rates
21 provided for in subchapter I of chapter 57 of such title, in-
22 curred by them in carrying out their duties as members of the
23 Commission.

1 "FOLLOWUP ON COMMISSION FINAL REPORT

2 "SEC. 704. (a) Upon submission of the Commission's
3 final report under section 702(b), the President or the head of
4 the department or agency designated by him shall take steps
5 to ascertain the views of each affected department or agency
6 of the executive branch of the Federal Government on such
7 report and, not later than one hundred and eighty days after
8 the date of such submission, shall submit an interim report to
9 the Congress on—

10 "(1) the desirability, feasibility, and cost of imple-
11 menting each of the Commission's recommendations,
12 and the actions taken or planned with respect to their
13 implementation; and

14 "(2) recommendations with respect to any legisla-
15 tion proposed by the Commission and the need for any
16 alternative or additional legislation to implement the
17 Commission's recommendations.

18 Not later than twelve months after the date of the submission
19 of such interim report, the President or such designee shall
20 submit a final report to the Congress detailing the actions
21 taken by the executive branch of the Federal Government
22 with respect to the recommendations of the Commission,
23 together with any further recommendations deemed
24 appropriate.

1 “(b) The Commission shall terminate one hundred and
2 eighty days after the submission of its final report under sec-
3 tion 702(b). During this one-hundred-and-eighty-day period,
4 the Commission may develop and submit recommendations
5 for programs designed to implement its findings.

6 “SEC. 705. There are authorized to be appropriated
7 such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of
8 this title.”.

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