

83rd CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6819

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 3, 1953

Mr. WOLVERTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

A BILL

To establish a Telecommunications Policy Committee.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE

4 SECTION 1. (a) There is hereby established a Tele-
5 communications Policy Committee (hereinafter referred to
6 as the "Committee"). The Committee shall (1) coordi-
7 nate the development of telecommunications policies and
8 standards and (2) formulate plans and policies with re-
9 spect to the best possible utilization of the radio spectrum
10 and communications media in promoting the interests of the
11 United States.

1 (b) The Committee shall have as members one repre-
2 sentative of each participating agency. The President shall
3 appoint a Chairman and a Vice Chairman of the Committee
4 from among the members.

5 (c) For purposes of this Act, participating agencies
6 initially shall be the Departments of State, Defense, and
7 Commerce and the Federal Communications Commission,
8 except that—

9 (1) the President may from time to time desig-
10 nate as a participating agency any other agency of the
11 Government which he finds has a substantial and con-
12 tinuing interest in the field of telecommunications, and
13 may terminate the participation of any agency which
14 he finds no longer has such interest; and

15 (2) in connection with any matter arising under
16 this Act which is of substantial interest to any agency
17 of the Government which is not a participating agency,
18 the Committee, in accordance with procedures estab-
19 lished by it, may designate such agency as a participat-
20 ing agency for purposes of consideration of, and action
21 on, such matter.

22 The Bureau of the Budget shall be a participating
23 agency but its representative shall not have the right to vote.

24 (d) The member who is to represent any participating
25 agency shall be the head of such agency or shall be desig-

1 nated by the head of such agency to represent him. Each
2 agency shall designate an alternate or alternates to serve
3 on the Committee in the event of the absence or inability
4 of the member to serve. A majority of the members of the
5 Committee shall constitute a quorum.

6
7 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

8 SEC. 2. (a) The Committee shall recommend to the
9 appropriate agencies of the Government and the President
10 the adoption and carrying out, within the limits of au-
11 thority possessed by them, of such policies, programs, and
12 procedures relating to the subjects specified in section 1 (a)
13 of this Act as in the judgment of the Committee will pro-
14 mote the public interest.

15 (b) The Committee shall recommend to the Congress
16 the enactment of legislation relating to the matters speci-
17 fied in section 1 (a) of this Act which, in the judgment
18 of the Committee, will promote the public interest.

19 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND OTHER PERSONNEL

20 SEC. 3. (a) There shall be an Executive Secretary of
21 the Committee, appointed by the Committee without regard
22 to the civil-service laws, who shall perform such duties as
23 may be required by law or prescribed by the Committee.

24 (b) The Committee may employ such experts, assist-
25 ants, and other employees or agencies as in its judgment
may be necessary for the performance of its duties. Such

1 employees shall be appointed in accordance with the civil-
2 service laws, and their compensation fixed in accordance
3 with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except
4 that expert technical and professional personnel or agencies
5 may be employed, and their compensation fixed, without
6 regard to such laws.

7 ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES

8 SEC. 4. (a) The Committee may request reports and
9 information from any agency of the Government as to the
10 activities of such agency which relate to the matters re-
11 ferred to in section 1 (a) of this Act.

12 (b) The Committee may utilize the services, informa-
13 tion, facilities, and personnel of the various agencies of the
14 Government to the extent that such services, information,
15 facilities, and personnel, in the opinion of the heads of such
16 agencies, can be furnished without undue interference with
17 the performance of the work and duties of such agencies.

18 ADVISORY PANELS

19 SEC. 5. (a) The Committee shall create such advisory
20 panels as it deems necessary. The members of each panel
21 shall be selected by the Committee from time to time. Each
22 advisory panel shall select its own chairman from among
23 its members. The Executive Secretary of the Committee
24 or his designee shall act as secretary of each advisory panel.

25 (b) Members of an advisory panel shall receive a per

1 diem allowance of \$25 for each day, or part thereof, of serv-
2 ice in attending meetings of the panel or conferences held
3 upon call of the Committee, plus necessary traveling ex-
4 penses incurred while so engaged.

5
6 REPORTS TO CONGRESS

6 SEC. 6. The Committee shall submit to the President,
7 for transmission to the Congress on or before the 31st day of
8 January, an annual report with respect to its activities, and
9 may include in such report such recommendations as it may
10 deem advisable; and the Committee may from time to time
11 submit to the President, for transmission to the Congress,
12 such special reports and recommendations as it may deem
13 advisable. Views of the advisory panels, as well as minority
14 views and recommendations of the Committee and the ad-
15 visory panels, if any, shall be included in such annual re-
16 ports and in such special reports and recommendations.

17 DEFINITION OF "AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT"

18 SEC. 7. As used in this Act the term "agency of the
19 Government" means any department or independent estab-
20 lishment in the executive branch of the Government.

21 AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS

22 SEC. 8. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated
23 such sums as may be necessary to enable the Committee

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- 1 to carry out the provisions of this Act and to perform any
- 2 other duties which may be imposed upon it by law or
- 3 Executive order.

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