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84TH CONGRESS

H. R. 11080

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 8, 1956

Mr. Gubser introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Operations

A BILL

To establish a permanent Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 DECLARATION OF POLICY
- 4 Section 1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of
- 5 the Congress to promote economy, efficiency, and improved
- 6 service in the transaction of the public business in the de-
- 7 partments, bureaus, agencies, boards, commissions, offices,
- 8 independent establishments, and instrumentalities of the
- 9 executive branch of the Government by-
- 10 (1) recommending methods and procedures for
- reducing expenditures to the lowest amount consistent

1	with the efficient performance of essential services, ac-
2	tivities, and functions;
3	(2) eliminiating duplication and overlapping of
4	·
5	(3) consolidating services, activities, and functions
6	of a similar nature;
7	(4) abolishing services, activities, and functions
8	not necessary to the efficient conduct of government;
9	(5) eliminating nonessential services, activities,
10	and functions which are competitive with private enter-
11	prise;
12	(6) defining responsibilities of officials; and
13	(7) relocating agencies now responsible directly
14	to the President in departments or other agencies.
15	ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION ON ORGANIZATION
16	OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH
17	SEC. 2. (a) For the purpose of carrying out the policy
18	set forth in section 1 of this Act, there is established a com-
19	mission to be known as the Commission on Organization of
20	the Executive Branch of the Government (in this Act re-
21	ferred to as the "Commission").
22	(b) Service of an individual as a member of the Com-
23	mission or employment of an individual by the Commission
24	as an attorney or expert in any business or professional field,
25	on a part-time or full-time basis, with or without compensa-

- 1 tion, shall not be considered as service or employment bring-
- 2 ing such individual within the provisions of section 281,
- 3 283, 284, 434, or 1914 of title 18 of the United States Code,
- 4 or section 190 of the Revised Statutes (5 U.S. C. 99).
- 5 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION
- 6 Sec. 3. (a) Number and Appointment.—The Com-
- 7 mission shall be composed of twelve members as follows:
- 8 (1) Four appointed by the President of the United
- 9 States, two from the executive branch of the Government,
- 10 and two from private life;
- 11 (2) Four appointed by the President of the Senate,
- 12 two from the Senate, and two from private life; and
- 13 (3) Four appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 14 Representatives, two from the House of Representatives, and
- 15 two from private life.
- 16 (b) TERMS OF OFFICE.—Appointments to the Commis-
- 17 sion shall be made as of the first day of the first regular
- 18 session of each Congress (commencing with the Eighty-
- 19 fifth Congress); and the term of office of each member of
- 20 the Commission shall be two years, expiring upon the
- 21 appointment of the members of the Commission in the
- 22 following Congress.
- 23 (c) POLITICAL AFFILIATION.—Of each class of two
- 24 members mentioned in subsection (a), not more than one
- 25 member shall be from each of the two major political parties.

1	(d) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Commission
2.	shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same
3	manner as in the case of the original appointment. Any
4	person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the
5	remainder of the unexpired term of his predecessor.
6	(e) Continuation of Membership Upon Change
7	OF STATUS.—Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections
8	(a) and (d), a person who is appointed to the Commission
9	in the status of a Member of Congress or in the status of a
10	person in the executive branch of the Government, but who
11.	during the term for which he was appointed ceases to have
12	such status, shall nevertheless continue to be a member of the
13	Commission until the expiration of such term. If such per-
14	son returns to private life (except for his membership on
15	the Commission) he shall, from and after such change of
16	status (and until the expiration of his term), receive the
17	same compensation as a person originally appointed to the
18	Commission from private life.
19	ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION
20:	SEC. 4. The Commission shall annually elect a Chairman
21	and a Vice Chairman from among its members.
22	QUORUM
23	SEC. 5. Seven members of the Commission shall con-
24	stitute a quorum.

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1	COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
2	SEC. 6. (a) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—The members
3	of the Commission who are Members of Congress shall serve
4	without compensation in addition to that received for their
5	services as Members of Congress; but they shall be reim-
6	bursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses
7	incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in
8	the Commission.
9	(b) MEMBERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—The
10	members of the Commission who are in the executive branch
11	of the Government shall serve without compenstation in
12	addition to that received for their services in the executive
13	branch, but they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence,
14	and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the per-
15	formance of the duties vested in the Commission.
16	(c) MEMBERS FROM PRIVATE LIFE.—The members of
17	the Commission from private life shall each receive \$50 per
18	diem when engaged in the actual performance of duties
19	vested in the Commission, plus reimbursement for travel,
20	subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them
21	in the performance of such duties.
22	STAFF OF THE COMMISSION
23	SEC. 7. (a) The Commission shall have power to ap-
24	point and fix the compensation of such personnel as it deems
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- 1 advisable, without regard to the provisions of the civil-service
- 2 laws and the Classification Act of 1949, as amended.
- 3 (b) The Commission may procure, without regard to
- 4 the civil-service laws and the classification laws, temporary
- 5 and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized
- 6 for the departments by section 15 of the Act of August 2,
- 7 1946 (60 Stat. 810), but at rates not to exceed \$50 per
- 8 diem for individuals.
- 9 EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION
- 10 Sec. 8. There is authorized to be appropriated, out of
- 11 any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, so
- 12 much as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this
- 13 Act.
- 14 DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION
- SEC. 9. (a) STUDY AND INVESTIGATION.—The Com-
- 16 mission shall conduct a continuing study and investigation
- 17 of the organization and methods of operation of all depart-
- 18 ments, bureaus, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, in-
- 19 dependent establishments, and instrumentalities of the Gov-
- 20 ernment, except the judiciary and the Congress of the United
- 21 States, to determine what changes therein are necessary in
- 22 its opinion to accomplish the purposes set forth in section 1
- 23 of this Act.
- 24 (b) REPORTS.—The Commission shall submit to the
- 25 Congress and the President, annually and at such other times

- as it may deem appropriate, a report of its activities and the results of its studies and investigations. Any report of the Commission may propose such constitutional amendments, 3 legislative enactments, and administrative actions as in its judgment are necessary to carry out its recommendations. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION 6 SEC. 10. (a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Com-7 mission or, on the authorization of the Commission, any sub-8 committee or member thereof, may, for the purpose of 9 carrying out the provisions of this Act, hold such hearings 10 and sit and act at such times and places, administer such 11 oaths, and require, by subpena or otherwise, the attendance 12and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such 13 books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and 14 documents as the Commission or such subcommittee or 15 member may deem advisable. Subpenas may be issued un-16 der the signature of the Chairman of the Commission, the 17 chairman of such subcommittee, or any duly designated mem-18 ber, and may be served by any person designated by such 19 Chairman or member. The provisions of section 102 to 104, 20 inclusive, of the Revised Statutes (2 U.S.C., secs. 192-21 194), shall apply in the case of any failure of any witness 22

under authority of this section.

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to comply with any subpena or to testify when summoned

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1 (b) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission is	1
2 authorized to secure directly from any executive department,	2
3 bureau, agency, board, commission, office, independent estab-	3
4 lishment, or instrumentality information, suggestions, esti-	4:
5 mates, and statistics for the purpose of this Act; and each	5
6 such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office,	
7 establishment, and instrumentality is authorized and directed	
8 to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates, and	
9 statistics directly to the Commission, upon request made by	
10 the Chairman or Vice Chairman	

84TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

To establish a permanent Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

By Mr. Gusser

Referred to the Committee on Government Operations

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