

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2888

To ensure the economy, efficiency, and management of Government operations and activities relating to travel arranged by the Executive Office of the President, by abolishing the White House travel office and requiring procurement of travel-related services by the Executive Office of the President from private-sector sources.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois, and Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight

A BILL

To ensure the economy, efficiency, and management of Government operations and activities relating to travel arranged by the Executive Office of the President, by abolishing the White House travel office and requiring procurement of travel-related services by the Executive Office of the President from private-sector sources.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Executive Office Travel
5 Management Improvement Act of 1996”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) In May of 1993, the accounting firm Peat
4 Warwick prepared a study of the White House travel
5 office and found a lack of basic financial manage-
6 ment procedures, including—

7 (A) lack of formal guidelines and proce-
8 dures for procurement,

9 (B) poor accounting systems,

10 (C) inadequate documentation and billing
11 practices, and

12 (D) ineffective cash management controls.

13 (2) In May of 1994, the General Accounting
14 Office issued a report reviewing the White House
15 travel office and establishing 29 management cri-
16 teria that should be applied to operations of the
17 White House travel office.

18 (3) Peat Warwick has confirmed to the General
19 Accounting Office that its May 1993 study had ad-
20 dressed 25 out of the 29 criteria and that the White
21 House travel office operations at that time satisfied
22 only 6 of the 25 criteria addressed.

23 (4) The White House travel office has greatly
24 improved and professionalized its operations, and
25 the General Accounting Office has determined that

1 the office's operations now satisfy 27 of the 29 cri-
2 teria.

3 (5) The functions of the White House travel of-
4 fice are unique within the Government and involve
5 arranging, facilitating, and coordinating complex
6 travel, transportation, communications, and other
7 logistical requirements.

8 (6) The travel, transportation, communication,
9 and other logistical support activities of the White
10 House travel office must carefully accommodate ex-
11 tensive and intensive Presidential security require-
12 ments.

13 (7) The employees of the White House travel
14 office are political appointees who serve at the pleas-
15 ure of the President and therefore do not have the
16 protections afforded Federal civil service employees.

17 **SEC. 3. ABOLISHMENT OF WHITE HOUSE TRAVEL OFFICE.**

18 (a) ABOLISHMENT OF OFFICE.—The White House
19 travel office, located within the White House Office, is
20 abolished.

21 (b) REASSIGNMENT OF FUNCTIONS.—Subject to sub-
22 section (c), the President shall assign to the Director of
23 the Office of Administration the functions that imme-
24 diately before this section took effect were performed by

1 the White House travel office within the White House Of-
2 fice.

3 (c) ENSURING PROCUREMENT FROM PRIVATE SEC-
4 TOR SOURCES.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to policies and di-
6 rectives of the President, the Director of the Office
7 of Administration shall ensure that travel manage-
8 ment and related services for the Executive Office of
9 the President are, to the extent feasible, procured
10 from private-sector sources.

11 (2) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out
12 this subsection, the Director shall—

13 (A) take steps to improve economy, effi-
14 ciency, management, and accountability of trav-
15 el-related functions of the Executive Office of
16 the President;

17 (B) expand the range of travel-related
18 services obtained by the Executive Office of the
19 President from private-sector and Federal agen-
20 cy sources;

21 (C) encourage full use of innovative sys-
22 tems and technology in the performance of trav-
23 el-related functions; and

24 (D) obtain advice from the Administrator
25 of General Services, representatives of the trav-

1 el management industry, representatives of the
2 communications industry, and other appropriate
3 persons.

4 (d) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the President shall report
6 to the Congress the results of actions taken under this
7 section.

8 (e) OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION DEFINED.—In this
9 section, the term “Office of Administration” means such
10 office in the Executive Office of the President, established
11 by Reorganization Plan Number 1 of 1977 (3 U.S.C.
12 chapter 2 note).

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