

In the Senate of the United States,

November 19, 1999.

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 1451) entitled “An Act to establish the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENT:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act”.*

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 *Congress makes the following findings:*

6 *(1) Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President, was*
7 *one of the Nation’s most prominent leaders, dem-*
8 *onstrating true courage during the Civil War, one of*
9 *the greatest crises in the Nation’s history.*

10 *(2) Born of humble roots in Hardin County,*
11 *Kentucky, on February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln*

1 *rose to the Presidency through a legacy of honesty, in-*
2 *tegrity, intelligence, and commitment to the United*
3 *States.*

4 (3) *With the belief that all men were created*
5 *equal, Abraham Lincoln led the effort to free all slaves*
6 *in the United States.*

7 (4) *Abraham Lincoln had a generous heart, with*
8 *malice toward none and with charity for all.*

9 (5) *Abraham Lincoln gave the ultimate sacrifice*
10 *for the country Lincoln loved, dying from an assas-*
11 *sin's bullet on April 15, 1865.*

12 (6) *All Americans could benefit from studying*
13 *the life of Abraham Lincoln, for Lincoln's life is a*
14 *model for accomplishing the "American Dream"*
15 *through honesty, integrity, loyalty, and a lifetime of*
16 *education.*

17 (7) *The year 2009 will be the bicentennial anni-*
18 *versary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and a com-*
19 *mission should be established to study and recommend*
20 *to Congress activities that are fitting and proper to*
21 *celebrate that anniversary in a manner that appro-*
22 *priately honors Abraham Lincoln.*

1 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT.**

2 *There is established a commission to be known as the*
3 *Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (referred to in*
4 *this Act as the “Commission”).*

5 **SEC. 4. DUTIES.**

6 *The Commission shall have the following duties:*

7 *(1) To study activities that may be carried out*
8 *by the Federal Government to determine whether the*
9 *activities are fitting and proper to honor Abraham*
10 *Lincoln on the occasion of the bicentennial anniver-*
11 *sary of Lincoln’s birth, including—*

12 *(A) the minting of an Abraham Lincoln bi-*
13 *centennial penny;*

14 *(B) the issuance of an Abraham Lincoln bi-*
15 *centennial postage stamp;*

16 *(C) the convening of a joint meeting or joint*
17 *session of Congress for ceremonies and activities*
18 *relating to Abraham Lincoln;*

19 *(D) a redesignation of the Lincoln Memo-*
20 *rial, or other activity with respect to the Memo-*
21 *rial; and*

22 *(E) the acquisition and preservation of arti-*
23 *facts associated with Abraham Lincoln.*

24 *(2) To recommend to Congress the activities that*
25 *the Commission considers most fitting and proper to*
26 *honor Abraham Lincoln on such occasion, and the en-*

1 *tity or entities in the Federal Government that the*
2 *Commission considers most appropriate to carry out*
3 *such activities.*

4 **SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP.**

5 *(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission*
6 *shall be composed of 15 members appointed as follows:*

7 *(1) Two members, each of whom shall be a quali-*
8 *fied citizen described in subsection (b), appointed by*
9 *the President.*

10 *(2) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*
11 *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*
12 *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Illi-*
13 *nois.*

14 *(3) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*
15 *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*
16 *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Indi-*
17 *ana.*

18 *(4) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*
19 *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*
20 *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Ken-*
21 *tucky.*

22 *(5) Three members, at least one of whom shall be*
23 *a Member of the House of Representatives, appointed*
24 *by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

1 (6) *Three members, at least one of whom shall be*
2 *a Senator, appointed by the majority leader of the*
3 *Senate.*

4 (7) *Two members, at least one of whom shall be*
5 *a Member of the House of Representatives, appointed*
6 *by the minority leader of the House of Representa-*
7 *tives.*

8 (8) *Two members, at least one of whom shall be*
9 *a Senator, appointed by the minority leader of the*
10 *Senate.*

11 (b) *QUALIFIED CITIZEN.—A qualified citizen described*
12 *in this subsection is a private citizen of the United States*
13 *with—*

14 (1) *a demonstrated dedication to educating oth-*
15 *ers about the importance of historical figures and*
16 *events; and*

17 (2) *substantial knowledge and appreciation of*
18 *Abraham Lincoln.*

19 (c) *TIME OF APPOINTMENT.—Each initial appoint-*
20 *ment of a member of the Commission shall be made before*
21 *the expiration of the 120-day period beginning on the date*
22 *of enactment of this Act.*

23 (d) *CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—If a member of*
24 *the Commission was appointed to the Commission as a*
25 *Member of Congress, and ceases to be a Member of Congress,*

1 *that member may continue to serve on the Commission for*
2 *not longer than the 30-day period beginning on the date*
3 *that member ceases to be a Member of Congress.*

4 (e) *TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the*
5 *life of the Commission.*

6 (f) *VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall*
7 *not affect the powers of the Commission but shall be filled*
8 *in the manner in which the original appointment was*
9 *made.*

10 (g) *BASIC PAY.—Members shall serve on the Commis-*
11 *sion without pay.*

12 (h) *TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall receive*
13 *travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,*
14 *in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United*
15 *States Code.*

16 (i) *QUORUM.—Five members of the Commission shall*
17 *constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hearings.*

18 (j) *CHAIR.—The Commission shall select a Chair from*
19 *among the members of the Commission.*

20 (k) *MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the call*
21 *of the Chair. Periodically, the Commission shall hold a*
22 *meeting in Springfield, Illinois.*

1 **SEC. 6. DIRECTOR AND STAFF.**

2 (a) *DIRECTOR.*—*The Commission may appoint and*
3 *fix the pay of a Director and such additional personnel as*
4 *the Commission considers to be appropriate.*

5 (b) *APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE*
6 *LAWS.*—

7 (1) *DIRECTOR.*—*The Director of the Commission*
8 *may be appointed without regard to the provisions of*
9 *title 5, United States Code, governing appointments*
10 *in the competitive service, and may be paid without*
11 *regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter*
12 *III of chapter 53 of that title relating to classification*
13 *and General Schedule pay rates.*

14 (2) *STAFF.*—*The staff of the Commission shall be*
15 *appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United*
16 *States Code, governing appointments in the competi-*
17 *tive service, and shall be paid in accordance with the*
18 *provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chap-*
19 *ter 53 of that title relating to classification and Gen-*
20 *eral Schedule pay rates.*

21 **SEC. 7. POWERS.**

22 (a) *HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.*—*The Commission may,*
23 *for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold such hearings,*
24 *sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony,*
25 *and receive such evidence as the Commission considers to*
26 *be appropriate.*

1 (b) *POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.*—Any mem-
2 ber or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the
3 Commission, take any action that the Commission is au-
4 thorized to take by this Act.

5 (c) *OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.*—The Commission
6 may secure directly from any department or agency of the
7 United States information necessary to enable the Commis-
8 sion to carry out this Act. Upon request of the Chair of
9 the Commission, the head of that department or agency
10 shall furnish that information to the Commission.

11 (d) *MAILS.*—The Commission may use the United
12 States mails in the same manner and under the same condi-
13 tions as other departments and agencies of the United
14 States.

15 (e) *ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.*—Upon the
16 request of the Commission, the Administrator of General
17 Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable
18 basis, the administrative support services necessary for the
19 Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

20 **SEC. 8. REPORTS.**

21 (a) *INTERIM REPORTS.*—The Commission may submit
22 to Congress such interim reports as the Commission con-
23 siders to be appropriate.

24 (b) *FINAL REPORT.*—The Commission shall submit a
25 final report to Congress not later than the expiration of the

1 4-year period beginning on the date of the formation of the
2 Commission. The final report shall contain—

3 (1) a detailed statement of the findings and con-
4 clusions of the Commission;

5 (2) the recommendations of the Commission; and

6 (3) any other information that the Commission
7 considers to be appropriate.

8 **SEC. 9. BUDGET ACT COMPLIANCE.**

9 Any spending authority provided under this Act shall
10 be effective only to such extent and in such amounts as are
11 provided in appropriation Acts.

12 **SEC. 10. TERMINATION.**

13 The Commission shall terminate 120 days after sub-
14 mitting the final report of the Commission pursuant to sec-
15 tion 8.

16 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as
18 may be necessary to carry out this Act.

Attest:

Secretary.

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1451

AMENDMENT