

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2198

To establish a commission to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 18, 2002

Mr. BREAUX (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. SANTORUM) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish a commission to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, and for other purposes.

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 “Civil War Sesqui-
5 centennial Commission Act of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

9 (1) The American Civil War was a defining ex-
10 perience in the development of the United States.

1 (2) The people of the United States continue to
2 struggle with issues of race, civil rights, the politics
3 of federalism, and heritage which are legacies of the
4 Civil War and Reconstruction.

5 (3) There is a resurgence of interest in the Civil
6 War, that is evidenced by the multitude of publica-
7 tions, exhibits, reenactments, research organizations,
8 Internet and multimedia resources, historic parks,
9 and preservation associations focused on the Civil
10 War.

11 (4) The years 2011 through 2015 mark the ses-
12 quicentennial of the Civil War.

13 (5) The sesquicentennial of the Civil War pre-
14 sents a significant opportunity for Americans to re-
15 call and reflect upon the Civil War and its legacy in
16 a spirit of reconciliation and reflection.

17 (6) The United States Civil War Center at Lou-
18 isiana State University, Louisiana and the Civil War
19 Institute at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania have
20 been designated by the Federal government to plan
21 and facilitate the commemoration of the sesqui-
22 centennial of the Civil War.

23 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to estab-
24 lish a Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration Com-
25 mission to—

1 (A) 2 Members of the House of Represent-
2 atives appointed by the Speaker of the House of
3 Representatives;

4 (B) 2 Members of the Senate appointed by
5 the President pro tempore of the Senate, in
6 consultation with the Majority Leader and the
7 Minority Leader of the Senate;

8 (C) the Secretary of the Smithsonian Insti-
9 tution, or the designee of the Secretary;

10 (D) the Secretary of the Department of
11 Education, or the designee of the Secretary;

12 (E) the Chairman of the National Endow-
13 ment for the Humanities, or the designee of the
14 Chairman;

15 (F) the Archivist of the United States, or
16 the designee of the Archivist;

17 (G) the Librarian of Congress, or the des-
18 igned of the Librarian; and

19 (H) the Director of the National Park
20 Service, or the designee of the Director.

21 (2) PRIVATE MEMBERS.—The Commission shall
22 include—

23 (A) an individual appointed by the Presi-
24 dent after consultation with the Director of the

1 United States Civil War Center at Louisiana
2 State University, Louisiana;

3 (B) an individual appointed by the Presi-
4 dent after consultation with the Director of the
5 Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College,
6 Pennsylvania;

7 (C) 5 members appointed by the President
8 from among individuals who are representatives
9 of the corporate community; and

10 (D) 9 individuals, appointed by the Presi-
11 dent, from among persons who by reason of
12 education, training, and experience, are experts
13 on the Antebellum, Civil War, and Reconstruc-
14 tion eras, including—

15 (i) 6 individuals with expertise in his-
16 tory;

17 (ii) 1 individual with specific expertise
18 in art history, historic preservation, or a
19 related field;

20 (iii) 1 individual with expertise in an-
21 thropology, cultural geography, sociology,
22 or a related field; and

23 (iv) 1 individual with expertise in po-
24 litical science, law, economics, or a related
25 field.

1 (b) TERMS.—Members shall be appointed for the life
2 of the Commission.

3 (c) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Commission
4 shall not affect its powers, and shall be filled in the same
5 manner as the original appointment.

6 (d) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The appointment of
7 the members of the Commission shall be made not later
8 than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

9 **SEC. 5. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

10 (a) MEETINGS.—

11 (1) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 60 days
12 after the date on which all members of the Commis-
13 sion have been appointed, the members appointed
14 under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 4(a)(2)
15 shall call the first meeting of the Commission.

16 (2) SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.—The Commission
17 shall hold subsequent meetings at the call of the
18 chairperson.

19 (b) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—At the
20 initial meeting, the Commission shall elect a Chairperson
21 and Vice Chairperson from among its voting members.

22 (c) QUORUM.—A majority of voting members shall
23 constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold meet-
24 ings.

25 (d) VOTING.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall act
2 only on an affirmative vote of a majority of the vot-
3 ing members of the Commission.

4 (2) NONVOTING MEMBERS.—The individuals
5 appointed under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of sec-
6 tion 4(a)(1) shall be nonvoting members, and shall
7 serve only in an advisory capacity.

8 **SEC. 6. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.**

9 (a) ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE SESQUICENTEN-
10 NIAL.—The Commission shall—

11 (1) plan, develop, and carry out programs and
12 activities appropriate to commemorate the sesqui-
13 centennial of the Civil War;

14 (2) encourage interdisciplinary examination of
15 the Civil War;

16 (3) facilitate Civil War-related activities
17 throughout the United States;

18 (4) encourage civic, historical, educational, eco-
19 nomic, and other organizations throughout the
20 United States to organize and participate in activi-
21 ties to expand the understanding and appreciation of
22 the significance of the Civil War;

23 (5) coordinate and facilitate the public distribu-
24 tion of scholarly research, publications, and interpre-
25 tations of the Civil War;

1 (6) provide technical assistance to States, local-
2 ities, and nonprofit organizations to further the com-
3 memoration of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War;

4 (7) develop programs and facilities to ensure
5 that the sesquicentennial commemoration of the
6 Civil War results in a positive legacy and long-term
7 public benefit;

8 (8) administer the grant program under section
9 7; and

10 (9) encourage the development and conduct of
11 programs designed to involve the international com-
12 munity in activities that commemorate the Civil
13 War.

14 (b) PLANS AND REPORT.—

15 (1) PLANS.—The Commission shall prepare a
16 strategic plan in accordance with section 306 of title
17 5, United States Code, and the annual plan and re-
18 port required by sections 1115 and 1116, respec-
19 tively, of title 31, United States Code.

20 (2) REPORT.—Not later than December 30,
21 2015, the Commission shall submit to Congress a
22 final report that contains—

23 (A) a summary of activities of the Com-
24 mission;

1 (B) a final accounting of funds received
2 and expended by the Commission; and

3 (C) the findings and recommendations of
4 the Commission.

5 **SEC. 7. GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Commission shall
7 award a grant in each of the fiscal years 2003 through
8 2015 to each of the following:

9 (1) The United States Civil War Center at Lou-
10 isiana State University, Louisiana.

11 (2) The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg Col-
12 lege, Pennsylvania.

13 (b) LIMITATIONS.—The amount of any grant under
14 subsection (a) in any fiscal year may not exceed \$100,000,
15 nor may the amount of such grant be less than \$80,000.

16 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts awarded under sub-
17 section (a) shall be used for appropriate activities relating
18 to the sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

19 **SEC. 8. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may—

21 (1) solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts or
22 donations of services or property, and acknowledge
23 publicly the sources of such gifts and donations;

1 (2) appoint any advisory committee as the
2 Commission considers appropriate for the purposes
3 of this Act;

4 (3) authorize any voting member or employee of
5 the Commission to take any action that the Commis-
6 sion is authorized to take under this Act; and

7 (4) procure supplies and services to carry out
8 this Act.

9 (b) **POSTAL SERVICES.**—The Commission may use
10 the United States mails in the same manner and under
11 the same conditions as other departments and agencies of
12 the Federal Government.

13 **SEC. 9. PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

14 (a) **COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.**—Members of the
15 Commission, and members of any advisory committee ap-
16 pointed under section 8(a)(2), shall serve without com-
17 pensation.

18 (b) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—Members of the Commis-
19 sion, and members of any advisory committees appointed
20 under section 8(a)(2), shall be allowed travel expenses, in-
21 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized
22 for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chap-
23 ter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from
24 the home or regular place of business of the member in
25 the performance of the duties of the Commission.

1 (c) STAFF.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairperson of the
3 Commission may, without regard to civil service laws
4 and regulations, appoint and terminate an executive
5 director and other additional personnel as may be
6 necessary to enable the Commission to perform its
7 duties.

8 (2) CONFIRMATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIREC-
9 TOR.—The employment of an executive director shall
10 be subject to confirmation by the Commission.

11 (d) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—Any
12 Federal Government employee may be detailed to the
13 Commission without reimbursement, and any detail shall
14 be without interruption or loss of civil service status or
15 privilege.

16 (e) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMIT-
17 TENT SERVICES.—The Chairperson of the Commission
18 may procure temporary and intermittent services under
19 section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at daily
20 rates for individuals which do not exceed the daily equiva-
21 lent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level
22 V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such
23 title.

1 **SEC. 10. TERMINATION.**

2 The Commission shall terminate on the date that is
3 90 days after the date on which the Commission submits
4 its report under section 6(b)(2).

5 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
7 priated to carry out this Act \$500,000 for each of the fis-
8 cal years 2003 through 2015.

9 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts authorized to be appro-
10 priated by subsection (a) shall remain available until ex-
11 pended. Any unexpended balance of appropriations avail-
12 able pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in
13 subsection (a) as of December 30, 2015 are canceled effec-
14 tive December 30 2020.

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