

[H.R. 3250, 87th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts to assist in the growth and development of the fine arts in the United States

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Congress hereby finds and declares, and it is the policy of the Congress in enacting this Act—

(1) that the growth and flourishing of the arts depend upon freedom, imagination, and individual initiative;

(2) that the encouragement of creative activity in the performance and practice of the arts, and of a widespread participation in and appreciation of the arts, is essential to the general welfare and the national interest;

(3) that as workdays shorten and life expectancy lengthens, the arts will play an ever more important role in the lives of our citizens; and

(4) that the encouragement of the arts, while primarily a matter for private and local initiative, is an appropriate matter of concern to the United States Government.

SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby established in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Council"). The Council shall be composed of twenty-one members appointed by the President, from among private citizens of the United States who are widely recognized for their knowledge of or experience in, or for their profound interest in, one or more of the arts and who collectively will provide an appropriate balance of representation among the major art fields including music, drama, dance, literature, architecture and allied arts, painting, sculpture, photography, graphic and craft arts, motion pictures, radio, and television; and the President is requested in the making of such appointments to give consideration to such recommendations as may from time to time be submitted to him by leading national organizations in these fields. Each member of the Council shall hold office for a term of six years, except that (1) any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term, and (2) the terms of the members first taking office shall expire, as designated by the President at the time of appointment, seven at the end of the second year, seven at the end of the fourth year, and seven at the end of the sixth year after the date of enactment of this Act. No member of the Council shall be eligible for reappointment during the two-year period following the expiration of his term. The Council shall meet at the call of the Chairman or the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary"), but not less often than twice during each calendar year. The Council shall annually elect one of its members to serve as Chairman until the next election.

(b) The Council shall have an executive secretary who shall be appointed by the Secretary after consultation with the Council. Within the limits of appropriations available therefor, the Secretary shall provide the Council, its executive secretary, and members of its special committees, necessary secretarial, clerical, and other staff assistance.

SEC. 3. (a) A major duty of the Council shall be to recommend ways to maintain and increase the cultural resources of the United States. A primary purpose of the Council is to propose methods to encourage private initiative in the arts and its cooperation with local, State, and Federal departments or agencies to foster artistic and cultural endeavors and the use of the arts in the best interests of our country, and to stimulate greater appreciation of the arts by our citizens.

(b) To these ends the Council shall undertake studies of and make recommendations relating to appropriate methods, consistent with the policy set forth in the first section of this Act, for encouraging creative activity in the performance and practice of the arts and participation in and appreciation of the arts. In selecting subjects to be studied, the Council shall consider requests submitted to it by the heads of departments, agencies, and independent establishments of the Federal Government. The Council shall make recommendations in writing to the Secretary with respect to such studies; and the Secretary shall transmit such recommendations, together with his comments thereon, to the President and the Congress. In the selection of subjects to be studied and in the formulation of recommendations, the Council may obtain the advice of any interested and qualified persons and organizations, and the Secretary may appoint interested and qualified persons to assist the Council in making its studies from among those recommended to him by the Council.