

[H.R. 13211, 90th Cong., first sess.]

A BILL To create in the Executive Office of the President a Council of Ecological Advisers

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Ecological Advisers Act of 1967".

SEC. 2. (a) There is created in the Executive Office of the President a Council of Ecological Advisers (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Council"). The Council shall be composed of nine members who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall include representatives of science, industry, and major areas of ecological and environmental concern. The President shall designate one of the members of the Council as chairman and one as vice chairman, who shall act as chairman in the absence of the chairman.

(b) The Council shall study the national environment and the national ecology, including the atmospheric, aquatic, and terrestrial environment, relating each area of study to the health, social, and economic needs of the United States. The Council shall—

(1) report regularly to the President on the state and condition of our national environment, and report yearly on its activities;

(2) advise and assist the President on the formulation of national policy to protect, preserve, and improve our national environment;

(3) seek long-range solutions to environmental and ecological problems created by both man and nature;

(4) gather information concerning the conditions of the environment, drawing as much as possible on existing sources, and make such information available to all organizations and individuals, both public and private;

(5) coordinate research between and among public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals for the purpose of promoting advances in research and eliminating, to the extent desirable, duplication of efforts; and

(6) promote cooperation between public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals at all levels of government in the area of ecological and environmental protection, preservation, improvement, control, and research.

(c) The Council shall give priority to the following areas: air pollution, water pollution, solid wastes, atmospheric radiation, and environmental noise (especially problems associated with sonic booms). One year from the date of the enactment of this Act, the Council shall, with respect to the areas of priority, submit to the President—

(1) an appraisal of all policies and programs effected wholly or partially by Federal funds;

(2) recommendations for continued Federal support to existing policies and programs; and

(3) proposals for any new policies or programs deemed necessary by the Council for the promotion of the health, social, and economic needs of the United States as such needs relate to ecological and environmental conditions.

SEC. 3. (a) (1) Each member of the Council except the Chairman appointed from private life is entitled to \$100 per diem when engaged in the actual performance of the duties of the Council, including travel time.

(2) Members of the Council who are officers or employees of the United States are not entitled to additional pay for their service as members of the Council.

(b) Each member of the Council may be allowed travel expenses, including a per diem allowance, in accordance with section 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code, when engaged in the performance of services for the Council.

(c) Section 5313 of title 5 of the United States Code is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(20) Chairman, Council of Ecological Advisers."

(d) The Council shall appoint, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, such personnel as it deems advisable, and prescribe their basic pay without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, at rates not in excess of the maximum rate of the General Schedule in section 5332 of such title.

(e) The Council may procure the temporary or intermittent services of experts or consultants or an organization thereof, including stenographic reporting services, in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but without regard to the last sentence thereof.