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CHAP. 1813.—An Act Creating a commission to consider and recommend legislation for the development of the American merchant marine, and for other purposes.

April 28, 1904.
[H. R. 7056.]
[Public, No. 245.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a commission is hereby created, to be called "The Merchant Marine Commission," to be composed as follows: Five members of the Senate of the United States and five members of the House of Representatives of the United States, to be appointed by the presiding officer of each House of Congress, respectively: *Provided*, That at least two of the said members of the Senate and two of the said members of the House of Representatives shall be members of the minority party.

American Merchant Marine.
Commission to investigate, etc.
Composition.
Proviso.
Minority party representation.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of this commission to investigate and to report to the Congress on the first day of its next session what legislation, if any, is desirable for the development of the American merchant marine and American commerce, and also what change, or changes, if any, should be made in existing laws relating to the treatment, comfort, and safety of seamen, in order to make more attractive the seafaring calling in the American merchant service.

Duties.

SEC. 3. That the commission shall give reasonable time for hearings, if deemed necessary, and if necessary it may appoint a subcommission or subcommissions of its own members to make investigation in any part of the United States, and it shall be allowed actual necessary expenses for the same. It shall have the authority to send for persons and papers and to administer oaths and affirmations. All necessary expenses, including clerks, stenographers, messengers, rent for place of meeting, and printing and stationery, shall be paid from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; however, not to exceed twenty thousand dollars for expenditure under this section, to be paid upon vouchers to be approved by the chairman of the commission.

Hearings.
Subcommissions.
Powers.
Expenses.
Limit.
Vouchers.

SEC. 4. That any vacancies occurring in the commission, by reason of death, disability, or from any other cause, shall be filled by appointment by the officer and in the same manner as was the member whose retirement from the commission creates the vacancy.

Vacancies.

Approved, April 28, 1904.

CHAP. 1814.—An Act To provide for the construction of a light-house and fog signal at Diamond Shoal, on the coast of North Carolina, at Cape Hatteras.

April 28, 1904.
[H. R. 7264.]
[Public, No. 246.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Albert F. Eells, of Boston, Massachusetts, be, and he is hereby, authorized, with such others as may be associated with him, to construct, in the manner and on the conditions herein specified, a substantial and sufficient light-house and fog signal of the latest and most improved construction, together with such auxiliary works of the most modern character and such as will be necessary to maintain the same permanently, at the outer side of the outer Diamond Shoal, on the coast of North Carolina, at Cape Hatteras.

Diamond Shoal, Cape Hatteras.
Construction of light-house and fog signal at, by Albert E. Eells.
Post, p. 1266.

That the construction of said proposed light-house and fog signal shall be in good faith commenced within twelve months from the date of the approval of this Act.

Commencement of construction.

That the said light-house and fog signal shall be constructed and placed where the water is at least thirty feet in depth, mean high tide.

Depth of water.

That the construction of the superstructure or tower of said light-house or fog signal above the line thirty feet above high-water mark shall conform to the specifications contained in the letter from D. W. Lockwood, lieutenant-colonel, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, secretary of the Light-House Board of the Department of

Tower.
Specifications.