

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1232

To provide for the declassification of the journal kept by Glenn T. Seaborg while serving as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26, 1997

Mr. MOYNIHAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide for the declassification of the journal kept by Glenn T. Seaborg while serving as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 (1) Whereas Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg is a truly great
5 American who has made indispensable contributions in the
6 development of nuclear energy.

7 (2) Whereas Dr. Seaborg is the co-discoverer of plu-
8 tonium and eight other elements and as a result of these
9 discoveries was awarded the 1951 Nobel Prize for chem-
10 istry.

1 (3) Whereas while serving as Chairman of the Atomic
2 Energy Commission (AEC), Dr. Seaborg maintained a
3 journal consisting of a diary, correspondence, announce-
4 ments, minutes of meetings, and other documents of his-
5 torical value.

6 (4) Whereas in preparing the journal, Dr. Seaborg
7 took care to include only information which was not classi-
8 fied and could be made public.

9 (5) Whereas before leaving the Atomic Energy Com-
10 mission, Dr. Seaborg submitted the journal to the AEC's
11 Division of Classification for review.

12 (6) Whereas Dr. Seaborg's journal was cleared by the
13 Division of Classification, virtually without deletion.

14 (7) Whereas twelve years later, in 1983, the chief his-
15 torian at the Department of Energy asked to borrow a
16 copy of Dr. Seaborg's journal in order to write a history
17 of the AEC.

18 (8) Whereas when the journal was returned to Dr.
19 Seaborg three years later, passage after passage was re-
20 dacted, including explicitly public information, such as the
21 published code names of nuclear weapons tests, and purely
22 personal material, such as his description of accompanying
23 his children on a "trick or treat" outing one Halloween
24 evening.

1 **SEC. 2. DECLASSIFICATION OF SEABORG JOURNAL.**

2 The Secretary of Energy shall return to Dr. Glenn
3 T. Seaborg his journal which the prepared while serving
4 as Chairman of he AEC. The journal shall be returned
5 in the original, unredacted form in which it was lent to
6 the Department of Energy in 1983.

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