

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1625

To establish the Samuel Kelner Commission on Youth.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2001

Mr. RAMSTAD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish the Samuel Kelner Commission on Youth.

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 “Samuel Kelner Com-
5 mission on Youth Authorization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.**

7 There is established a commission to be known as the
8 “Samuel Kelner Commission on Youth” (in this Act re-
9 ferred to as the “Commission”).

10 **SEC. 3. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.**

11 The Commission shall seek to reduce apathy among
12 American youth regarding the Nation’s system of govern-

1 ment by discussing and making policy recommendations
2 on issues affecting American youth, including issues in the
3 following subject areas:

- 4 (1) Public education.
- 5 (2) Youth employment and wages.
- 6 (3) Higher education financing.
- 7 (4) Youth drug abuse and violence.

8 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.**

9 (a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission
10 shall be composed of 8 members, appointed as follows:

- 11 (1) 4 members appointed by the President.
- 12 (2) 1 member appointed by the Speaker of the
13 House of Representatives.
- 14 (3) 1 member appointed by the minority leader
15 of the House or Representatives.
- 16 (4) 1 member appointed by the majority leader
17 of the Senate.
- 18 (5) 1 member appointed by the minority leader
19 of the Senate.

20 (b) AGE LIMIT.—An individual may not be appointed
21 under subsection (a) if that individual will attain 18 years
22 of age by the date of the Commission's first meeting or
23 conference that occurs after that individual's appointment
24 in the term for which the individual is appointed.

25 (c) TERMS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each member shall be ap-
2 pointed for a term of 1 year beginning on August 1
3 and may be reappointed.

4 (2) INITIAL TERM.—The first 8 members shall
5 be appointed for the 1-year period that begins on
6 August 1 of the calendar year that follows the cal-
7 endar year of the date of the enactment of this Act.

8 (d) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed to fill a va-
9 cancy before the expiration of the term for which the mem-
10 ber's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only
11 for the remainder of that term. A vacancy in the Commis-
12 sion shall be filled in the manner in which the original
13 appointment was made.

14 (e) PAY.—Members shall serve without pay.

15 (f) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall receive
16 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,
17 in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5,
18 United States Code.

19 (g) QUORUM.—A majority of the members shall con-
20 stitute a quorum, except that a lesser number may hold
21 hearings.

22 (h) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Com-
23 mission shall be elected by the members.

24 (i) MEETINGS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In each 1 year period begin-
2 ning August 1 the Commission—

3 (A) shall conduct 4 meetings each span-
4 ning a period of not more than 3 days; and

5 (B) shall conduct 1 conference spanning a
6 period of not more than 1 week.

7 (2) SCHEDULING.—

8 (A) INITIAL MEETING.—The initial meet-
9 ing of the Commission each year under para-
10 graph (1)(A) shall begin on the first Thursday
11 in August.

12 (B) REMAINING MEETINGS.—The Commis-
13 sion, by majority vote at the initial meeting
14 each year, shall determine the dates of the re-
15 maining meetings and the conference under
16 paragraph (1) for that year.

17 (3) EMERGENCY MEETING.—In addition to the
18 meetings required under paragraph (1), the Com-
19 mission shall, at the call of the President, conduct
20 1 emergency meeting spanning a period of not more
21 than 3 days.

22 **SEC. 5. DIRECTOR; STAFF; EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**

23 (a) DIRECTOR.—

1 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall
2 have a Director who shall be appointed by the Presi-
3 dent.

4 (2) PAY.—The Director shall be paid at the
5 rate of basic pay for GS-12 of the General Schedule.

6 (b) STAFF.—The Commission may appoint additional
7 personnel as it considers appropriate.

8 (c) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE
9 LAWS.—The Director and staff of the Commission shall
10 be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United
11 States Code, governing appointments in the competitive
12 service.

13 (d) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission
14 may procure temporary and intermittent services under
15 section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

16 (e) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request
17 of the Commission, the head of any Federal department
18 or agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the
19 personnel of that department or agency to the Commission
20 to assist it in carrying out its duties under this Act.

21 **SEC. 6. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

22 (a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission
23 may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold hear-
24 ings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and
25 receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

1 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any mem-
2 ber or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the
3 Commission, take any action that the Commission is au-
4 thorized to take by this section.

5 (c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission
6 may secure directly from any department or agency of the
7 United States information necessary to enable it to carry
8 out this Act. The Chairperson may request such informa-
9 tion if such request is authorized by a majority vote of
10 the Commission. Upon request of the Chairperson, the
11 head of that department or agency shall furnish that infor-
12 mation to the Commission.

13 (d) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United
14 States mails in the same manner and under the same con-
15 ditions as other departments and agencies of the United
16 States.

17 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon
18 the request of the Commission, the Administrator of Gen-
19 eral Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reim-
20 bursable basis, the administrative support services nec-
21 essary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities
22 under this Act.

23 (f) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—To the extent and in
24 the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts,
25 the Director may contract with and compensate govern-

1 ment and private agencies or person for supplies and other
2 services.

3 **SEC. 7. ANNUAL REPORTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall submit to
5 the President and the Congress a report not later than
6 July 1 each year.

7 (b) CONTENTS.—Each report shall include policy rec-
8 ommendations on issues affecting youth, including issues
9 in the following subject areas:

- 10 (1) Public education.
- 11 (2) Youth employment and wages.
- 12 (3) Higher education financing.
- 13 (4) Youth drug abuse and violence.

14 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION.**

15 The Commission shall terminate 5 years after the be-
16 ginning of the terms of its first members.

17 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Com-
19 mission to carry out this Act \$100,000 for each of fiscal
20 years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006. Such sums may
21 remain available until expended.

