

Public Law 100-594
100th Congress

An Act

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authorization of appropriations for the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

Nov. 3, 1988

[S. 1048]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Federal
Communications
Commission
Authorization
Act of 1988.
47 USC 609 note.

SHORT TITLE

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the "Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1988".

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 2. (a) Section 6 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 156) is amended to read as follows:

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated for the administration of this Act by the Commission \$107,250,000 for fiscal year 1988 and \$109,250,000 for fiscal year 1989, together with such sums as may be necessary for increases resulting from adjustments in salary, pay, retirement, other employee benefits required by law, and other nondiscretionary costs, for each of the fiscal years 1988 and 1989."

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) of this section shall apply with respect to fiscal years beginning after September 30, 1987.

47 USC 156 note.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

SEC. 3. Section 4(g)(2)(D) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 154(g)(2)(D)) is amended by striking "1987" and inserting in lieu thereof "1989".

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

SEC. 4. Subsection (g) of section 5 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 155) is repealed.

FEE SCHEDULE

SEC. 5. Section 8(b)(1) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. 158(b)(1)) is amended by striking "the date of enactment of this section" the first time it appears and inserting in lieu thereof "April 1, 1987,".

OLDER AMERICANS PROGRAM

SEC. 6. (a) During fiscal years 1988 and 1989, the Federal Communications Commission is authorized to make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements with, private nonprofit organizations to

Grants.
Contracts.
47 USC 154 note.

utilize the talents of older Americans in programs authorized by other provisions of law administered by the Commission (and consistent with such provisions of law) in providing technical and administrative assistance for projects related to the implementation, promotion, or enforcement of the regulations of the Commission.

(b) Prior to awarding any grant or entering into any agreement under subsection (a), the Office of the Managing Director of the Commission shall certify to the Commission that such grant or agreement will not—

(1) result in the displacement of individuals currently employed by the Commission;

(2) result in the employment of any individual when any other individual is on layoff status from the same or a substantially equivalent job within the jurisdiction of the Commission;

(3) result in filling a position prior to (A) publicly announcing the availability of such position, and (B) attempting to fill such position in accordance with regular employment procedures; or

(4) affect existing contracts for services.

(c) Participants in any program under a grant or cooperative agreement pursuant to this section shall—

(1) execute a signed statement with the Commission in which such participants certify that they will adhere to the standards of conduct prescribed for regular employees of the Commission, as set forth in part 19 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; and

(2) execute a confidential statement of employment and financial interest (Federal Communications Commission Form A-54) prior to commencement of work under the program.

Failure to comply with the terms of the signed statement described in paragraph (1) shall result in termination of the individual under the grant or agreement.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit employment of any such participant in any decisionmaking or policy-making position.

(e) Grants or agreements under this section shall be subject to prior appropriation Acts.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

SEC. 7. (a) The prohibition in section 1.1203(a) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply to any of the types of presentations listed in section 1.1204(b) of such title nor to any presentation made by a member or officer of Congress, or a staff person of any such member or officer, acting in his or her official capacity, in—

(1) any non-restricted proceeding under section 1.1206(b) of such title;

(2) any exempt proceeding under section 1.1204(a)(2) of such title not involving the allotment of a channel in the radio broadcast or television broadcast services; or

(3) any exempt proceeding under section 1.1204 (a)(4) through (a)(6) of such title.

(b) Each reference in subsection (a) of this section to a provision of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, applies to such provision as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act. No subsequent amendment of the rules or regulations in such title shall have the effect of prohibiting any presentation of the kind that would be permitted

under subsection (a) of this section on the date of enactment of this Act.

TARIFF REVIEW

SEC. 8. (a) Section 5(c)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 155(c)(1)) is amended, in the first sentence, by inserting immediately after "this subsection" the following: "and except any action referred to in sections 204(a)(2), 208(b), and 405(b)".

(b) Section 204(a) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 204(a)) is amended—

(1) by inserting "(1)" immediately before "Whenever"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Commission shall, with respect to any hearing under this section, issue an order concluding such hearing within 12 months after the date that the charge, classification, regulation, or practice subject to the hearing becomes effective, or within 15 months after such date if the hearing raises questions of fact of such extraordinary complexity that the questions cannot be resolved within 12 months.

"(B) The Commission shall, with respect to any such hearing initiated prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph, issue an order concluding the hearing not later than 12 months after such date of enactment.

"(C) Any order concluding a hearing under this section shall be a final order and may be appealed under section 402(a)."

(c) Section 208 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 208) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the existing text as subsection (a); and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Commission shall, with respect to any investigation under this section of the lawfulness of a charge, classification, regulation, or practice, issue an order concluding such investigation within 12 months after the date on which the complaint was filed, or within 15 months after such date if the investigation raises questions of fact of such extraordinary complexity that the questions cannot be resolved within 12 months.

"(2) The Commission shall, with respect to any such investigation initiated prior to the date of enactment of this subsection, issue an order concluding the investigation not later than 12 months after such date of enactment.

"(3) Any order concluding an investigation under paragraph (1) or (2) shall be a final order and may be appealed under section 402(a)."

(d) Section 405 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 405) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the existing text as subsection (a);

(2) in subsection (a), as so redesignated, by striking "section 5(d)(1)" each place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof "section 5(c)(1)"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b)(1) Within 90 days after receiving a petition for reconsideration of an order concluding a hearing under section 204(a) or concluding an investigation under section 208(b), the Commission shall issue an order granting or denying such petition.

"(2) Any order issued under paragraph (1) shall be a final order and may be appealed under section 402(a)."

HAWAII MONITORING STATION

Real property.

SEC. 9. (a) The Federal Communications Commission is authorized to expend such funds as may be required in fiscal years 1989 and 1990, out of its appropriations for such fiscal years, to relocate within the State of Hawaii the Hawaii Monitoring Station presently located in Honolulu (Waipahu), including all necessary expenses for—

- (1) acquisition of real property;
- (2) options to purchase real property;
- (3) architectural and engineering services;
- (4) construction of a facility at the new location;
- (5) transportation of equipment and personnel;
- (6) lease-back of real property and related personal property at the present location of the Monitoring Station pending acquisition of real property and construction of a facility at a new location; and
- (7) the re-establishment, if warranted by the circumstances, of a downtown office to serve the residents of Honolulu.

(b) The Federal Communications Commission shall declare as surplus property, for disposition by the General Services Administration, the real property (including the structures and fixtures) and related personal property which are at the present location of the Hawaii Monitoring Station and which will not be relocated. Notwithstanding sections 203 and 204 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 484 and 485), the General Services Administration shall sell such real and related personal property on an expedited basis, including provisions for leaseback as required, and shall reimburse the Commission from the net proceeds of the sale for all of the expenditures of the Commission associated with such relocation of the Monitoring Station. Any such reimbursed funds received by the Commission shall remain available until expended.

(c) The net proceeds of the sale of such real and related property, less any funds reimbursed to the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to subsection (b), and less normal and reasonable charges by the General Services Administration for costs associated with such sale, shall be deposited in the general funds of the Treasury.

(d) The Hawaii Monitoring Station shall continue its full operations at its present location until a new facility has been built and is fully operational at a new location.

(e) The Federal Communications Commission and the General Services Administration shall not take any action under this section committing any funds disposing of any property in connection with the relocation of the Hawaii Monitoring Station until—

- (1) the Chairman of the Commission and the Administrator of General Services have jointly prepared and submitted, to the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Government Operations of the House of Representatives, a letter or other document setting forth in detail the plan and procedures for such relocation which will reasonably carry out, in an expeditious manner, the provisions of this section but will not disrupt or defer any programs or regulatory

activities of the Commission or adversely affect any employee of the Commission (other than those at the Monitoring Station who may be required to transfer to another location) through the use of appropriations for the Commission, in fiscal years 1989 and 1990; and

(2) at least 30 calendar days have passed since the receipt of such document by such committees.

SENSE OF CONGRESS

SEC. 10. (a) The Congress finds that—

(1) more than four hundred and thirty-five thousand four hundred radio amateurs in the United States are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission upon examination in radio regulations, technical principles, and the international Morse code;

(2) by international treaty and the Federal Communications Commission regulation, the amateur is authorized to operate his or her station in a radio service of intercommunications and technical investigations solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest;

(3) among the basic purposes for the Amateur Radio Service is the provision of voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications; and

(4) volunteer amateur radio emergency communications services have consistently and reliably been provided before, during, and after floods, tornadoes, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train wrecks, chemical spills, and other disasters.

(b) It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) it strongly encourages and supports the Amateur Radio Service and its emergency communications efforts; and

(2) Government agencies shall take into account the valuable contributions made by amateur radio operators when considering actions affecting the Amateur Radio Service.

Approved November 3, 1988.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1048 (H.R. 2961):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 100-363 accompanying H.R. 2961 (Comm. on Energy and Commerce).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 100-142 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 133 (1987): Oct. 13, H.R. 2961 considered and passed House.

Vol. 134 (1988): Oct. 7, S. 1048 considered and passed Senate.

Oct. 19, considered and passed House.