

§ 282a. Staff; Deputy Legislative Counsel; delegation of functions

(a) With the approval of the Speaker, or in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the Speaker, the Legislative Counsel shall appoint such attorneys and other employees as may be necessary for the prompt and efficient performance of the functions of the Office. Any such appointment shall be made without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of fitness to perform the duties of the position. Any person so appointed may be removed by the Legislative Counsel with the approval of the Speaker, or in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the Speaker.

(b)(1) The Legislative Counsel shall designate one or more of the attorneys appointed under subsection (a) as a Deputy Legislative Counsel. During the absence or disability of the Legislative Counsel, or when the office is vacant, the functions of the Legislative Counsel shall be performed by a Deputy Legislative Counsel. If there is more than one Deputy Legislative Counsel, the Deputy Legislative Counsel who shall perform such functions shall be determined in accordance with the order specified in a notice filed with the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House by the Legislative Counsel.

(2) The Legislative Counsel may delegate to the Deputy Legislative Counsels and to other employees appointed under subsection (a) such of his functions as he considers necessary or appropriate.

(Pub. L. 91-510, title V, §522, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1203; Pub. L. 92-51, §101, July 9, 1971, 85 Stat. 132; Pub. L. 118-263, §2, Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 2978.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2025—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 118-263, §2(a), substituted “The Legislative Counsel shall designate one or more of the attorneys appointed under subsection (a) as a Deputy Legislative Counsel.” for “One of the attorneys appointed under subsection (a) shall be designated by the Legislative Counsel as Deputy Legislative Counsel.” and “the functions of the Legislative Counsel shall be performed by a Deputy Legislative Counsel. If there is more than one Deputy Legislative Counsel, the Deputy Legislative Counsel who shall perform such functions shall be determined in accordance with the order specified in a notice filed with the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House by the Legislative Counsel.” for “the Deputy Legislative Counsel shall perform the functions of the Legislative Counsel.”

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 118-263, §2(b), substituted “Deputy Legislative Counsels” for “Deputy Legislative Counsel”.

1971—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 92-51 substituted provisions for designation of one attorney as Deputy Legislative Counsel to perform functions of Legislative Counsel during his absence or disability or when office is vacant and for delegation of functions to Deputy Legislative Counsel and other employees for former provisions for appointment of full-time Office Administrator to exercise management, supervisory, and administrative functions of the Office as delegated to him by the Legislative Counsel.

§ 282b. Compensation

(a) The Legislative Counsel shall be paid at a per annum gross rate equal to the greater of

\$173,900 or the rate of pay in effect for such position under an order issued by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to the authority of section 4532 of this title.

(b) Members of the staff of the Office other than the Legislative Counsel shall be paid at per annum gross rates fixed by the Legislative Counsel with the approval of the Speaker or in accordance with policies approved by the Speaker, but not in excess of the applicable rate of pay in effect under an order issued by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to the authority of section 4532 of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-510, title V, §523, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1203; Pub. L. 95-94, title I, §115, Aug. 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 668; Pub. L. 116-94, div. E, title II, §212(b)(3)(A), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2776.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-94 is based on par. (2) of House Resolution No. 8, Ninety-fifth Congress, Jan. 4, 1977, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 95-94.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

House Resolution 312, 89th Congress, Mar. 31, 1965, which was enacted into permanent law by section 103 of Pub. L. 89-90, July 27, 1965, 79 Stat. 281, provided that effective Apr. 1, 1965, the compensation of the Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives shall be at a gross per annum rate which is equal to the gross per annum rate of compensation of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, and that the additional sums necessary to carry out this resolution shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House until otherwise provided by law.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-94, §212(b)(3)(A)(i), substituted “equal to the greater of \$173,900 or the rate of pay in effect for such position under an order issued by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to the authority of section 4532 of this title.” for “equal to the rate of basic pay, as in effect from time to time, for level III of the Executive Schedule of section 5314 of title 5.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116-94, §212(b)(3)(A)(ii), substituted “in excess of the applicable rate of pay in effect under an order issued by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to the authority of section 4532 of this title.” for “in excess of the rate of basic pay for one pay level above the maximum pay level for employees of the House of Representatives provided under clause 6(c) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.”

1977—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-94 substituted provisions authorizing compensation at a rate not in excess of the rate of basic pay for one pay level above the maximum pay level for House employees provided under cl. 6(c) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, for provisions authorizing compensation at per annum gross rates not in excess of a per annum gross rate equal to the rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule of section 5316 of title 5.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2019 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 116-94, div. E, title II, §212(c), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2778, provided that: “This section [see Tables for classification] and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the later of—

“(1) the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2020; or

“(2) the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019].”

INCREASES IN COMPENSATION

Increases in compensation for House officers and employees under authority of Federal Salary Act of 1967 (Pub. L. 90-206), Federal Pay Comparability Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-656), and Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1988 (Pub. L. 100-202), see sections 4531 and 4532 of this title, and Salary Directives of Speaker of the House, set out as notes under those sections.

§ 282c. Expenditures

In accordance with policies and procedures approved by the Speaker, the Legislative Counsel may make such expenditures as may be necessary or appropriate for the functioning of the Office.

(Pub. L. 91-510, title V, §524, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1203.)

§ 282d. Official mail matter

The Legislative Counsel may send the official mail matter of the Office as franked mail under section 3210 of title 39.

(Pub. L. 91-510, title V, §525, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1203; Pub. L. 92-51, §101, July 9, 1971, 85 Stat. 132.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1971—Pub. L. 92-51 substituted provision for Legislative Counsel to send official mail matter of the Office as franked mail under section 3210 of title 39, for former provision granting the Office the same privilege of free transmission of official mail matter as other offices of the United States Government.

§ 282e. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971, and for each fiscal year thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter and to increase the efficiency of the Office and the quality of the services which it provides.

(Pub. L. 91-510, title V, §526, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1203.)

CHAPTER 9A—OFFICE OF LAW REVISION COUNSEL

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§ 285. Establishment

There is established in the House of Representatives an office to be known as the Office of the Law Revision Counsel, referred to hereinafter in this chapter as the “Office”.

(Pub. L. 93-554, title I, ch. III, §101, Dec. 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1777.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is based on section 205(a) of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, Oct. 8, 1974, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 93-554.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 93-554, title I, ch. III, Dec. 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1777, provided that the enactment of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, Oct. 8, 1974, into permanent law is effective on Jan. 2, 1975. This chapter is derived from enactment into permanent law of section 205 of House Resolution No. 988.

§ 285a. Purpose and policy

The principal purpose of the Office shall be to develop and keep current an official and positive codification of the laws of the United States. The Office shall maintain impartiality as to issues of legislative policy to be determined by the House.

(Pub. L. 93-554, title I, ch. III, §101, Dec. 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1777.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is based on section 205(b) of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, Oct. 8, 1974, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 93-554.

§ 285b. Functions

The functions of the Office shall be as follows:

(1) To prepare, and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary one title at a time, a complete compilation, restatement, and revision of the general and permanent laws of the United States which conforms to the understood policy, intent, and purpose of the Congress in the original enactments, with such amendments and corrections as will remove ambiguities, contradictions, and other imperfections both of substance and of form, separately stated, with a view to the enactment of each title as positive law.

(2) To examine periodically all of the public laws enacted by the Congress and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary recommendations for the repeal of obsolete, superfluous, and superseded provisions contained therein.

(3) To prepare and publish periodically a new edition of the United States Code (including those titles which are not yet enacted into positive law as well as those titles which have been so enacted), with annual cumulative supplements reflecting newly enacted laws.

(4) To classify newly enacted provisions of law to their proper positions in the Code where the titles involved have not yet been enacted into positive law.

(5) To prepare and submit periodically such revisions in the titles of the Code which have been enacted into positive law as may be necessary to keep such titles current.

(6) To prepare and publish periodically new editions of the District of Columbia Code, with annual cumulative supplements reflecting newly enacted laws, through publication of