

§ 2903. Japan-United States Friendship Commission

(a) Establishment; composition

There is established a commission to be known as the Japan-United States Friendship Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission"). The Commission shall be composed of—

- (1) the members of the United States Panel of the Joint Committee on United States-Japan Cultural and Educational Cooperation;
- (2) two Members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed at the beginning of each Congress or upon the occurrence of a vacancy during a Congress by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (3) two Members of the Senate, to be appointed at the beginning of each Congress or upon the occurrence of a vacancy during a Congress by the President pro tempore of the Senate;
- (4) the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; and
- (5) the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

(b) Compensation and travel expenses

Members of the Commission who are not full-time officers or employees of the United States and who are not Members of Congress shall, while serving on business of the Commission, be entitled to receive compensation at rates fixed by the President, but not exceeding the rate specified at the time of such service for grade GS-18 in section 5332 of title 5, including travel-time; and while so serving away from their homes or regular places of business, all members of the Commission may be allowed travel expenses including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5 for persons in Government service employed intermittently.

(c) Chairman; quorum; meetings

The Chairman of the United States Panel of the Joint Committee on United States-Japan Cultural and Educational Cooperation shall be the Chairman of the Commission. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall meet at least twice in each year.

(Pub. L. 94-118, § 4, Oct. 20, 1975, 89 Stat. 604.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS TO GS-16, 17, OR 18 PAY RATES

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS-16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, § 101(c)(1)] of Pub. L. 101-509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

§ 2904. Functions of Commission

(a) Promotion of scholarly, cultural, and artistic activities; grants

The Commission is authorized to—

- (1) develop and carry out programs at public or private institutions for the promotion of

scholarly, cultural, and artistic activities in Japan and the United States consistent with the provisions of section 2902(b) of this title; and

- (2) make grants to carry out such programs.

(b) Annual report

The Commission shall submit to the President and to the Congress an annual report of its activities under this chapter together with such recommendations as the Commission determines appropriate.

(Pub. L. 94-118, § 5, Oct. 20, 1975, 89 Stat. 605.)

§ 2905. Administrative powers of Commission

In order to carry out its functions under this chapter, the Commission is authorized to—

- (1) prescribe such regulations as it deems necessary governing the manner in which its functions shall be carried out;

- (2) receive money and property donated, bequeathed, or devised, without condition or restriction other than that it be used for the purposes of this chapter; and to use, sell, or otherwise dispose of such property (including transfer to the Fund) for the purpose of carrying out the purposes of this chapter, and any such donation shall be exempt from any Federal income, State, or gift tax;

- (3) in the discretion of the Commission, receive (and use, sell, or otherwise dispose of, in accordance with paragraph (2)) money and other property donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Commission with a condition or restriction, including a condition that the Commission use other funds of the Commission for the purposes of the gift, and any such donation shall be exempt from any Federal income, State, or gift tax;

- (4) direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make expenditure of the income of the Fund, any amount of the contributions deposited in the Fund from nonappropriated sources pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of this section, and not to exceed 5 percent annually of the principal of the total amount appropriated to the Fund to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including the payment of Commission expenses if needed;

- (5) appoint an Executive Director, without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, who shall be compensated at the rate provided for a GS-18 of the General Schedule of such title;

- (6) obtain the services of experts and consultants in accordance with the provisions of section 3109 of title 5, at rates for individuals not to exceed the rate specified at the time of such service for grade GS-18 in section 5332 of title 5;

- (7) accept and utilize the services of voluntary and noncompensated personnel and reimburse them for travel expenses, including per diem, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5;

- (8) enter into contracts, grants, or other arrangements, or modifications thereof;

- (9) make advances, progress, and other payments which the Commission deems necessary under this chapter;