

(A) A Federal Cochairperson, to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(B) The Governor of each participating State in the region of the Commission.

(2) ALTERNATE MEMBERS.—

(A) ALTERNATE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSON.—The President shall appoint an alternate Federal Cochairperson for each Commission. The alternate Federal Cochairperson, when not actively serving as an alternate for the Federal Cochairperson, shall perform such functions and duties as are delegated by the Federal Cochairperson.

(B) STATE ALTERNATES.—The State member of a participating State may have a single alternate, who shall be appointed by the Governor of the State from among the members of the Governor's cabinet or personal staff.

(C) VOTING.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An alternate member shall vote in the case of the absence, death, disability, removal, or resignation of the Federal or State member for which the alternate member is an alternate.

(ii) STATE ALTERNATES.—If the alternate State member is unable to vote in accordance with clause (i), the alternate State member may delegate voting authority to a designee, subject to the condition that the executive director shall be notified, in writing, of the designation not less than 1 week before the applicable vote is to take place.

(3) COCHAIRPERSONS.—A Commission shall be headed by—

(A) the Federal Cochairperson, who shall serve as a liaison between the Federal Government and the Commission; and

(B) a State Cochairperson, who shall be a Governor of a participating State in the region and shall be elected by the State members for a term of not less than 1 year.

(4) CONSECUTIVE TERMS.—A State member may not be elected to serve as State Cochairperson for more than 2 consecutive terms.

(c) COMPENSATION.—

(1) FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSONS.—Each Federal Cochairperson shall be compensated by the Federal Government at level III of the Executive Schedule as set out in section 5314 of title 5.

(2) ALTERNATE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSONS.—Each Federal Cochairperson's alternate shall be compensated by the Federal Government at level V of the Executive Schedule as set out in section 5316 of title 5.

(3) STATE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES.—Each State member and alternate shall be compensated by the State that they represent at the rate established by the laws of that State.

(d) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A Commission shall appoint and fix the compensation of an executive director and such other personnel as are necessary to enable the Commission to carry out its duties. Compensation under this paragraph may not exceed the maximum rate of basic

pay established for the Senior Executive Service under section 5382 of title 5, including any applicable locality-based comparability payment that may be authorized under section 5304(h)(2)(C) of that title.

(2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The executive director shall be responsible for carrying out the administrative duties of the Commission, directing the Commission staff, and such other duties as the Commission may assign.

(e) NO FEDERAL EMPLOYEE STATUS.—No member, alternate, officer, or employee of a Commission (other than the Federal Cochairperson, the alternate Federal Cochairperson, staff of the Federal Cochairperson, and any Federal employee detailed to the Commission) shall be considered to be a Federal employee for any purpose.

(f) SUCCESSION.—Subject to the time limitations under section 3346 of title 5, the Federal Cochairperson may designate an employee of the Commission to perform the functions and duties of the office of the Federal Cochairperson temporarily in an acting capacity if both the Federal Cochairperson and the alternate Federal Cochairperson die, resign, or otherwise are unable to perform the functions and duties of their offices.

(Added Pub. L. 110-234, title XIV, §14217(a)(2), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1469, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XIV, §14217(a)(2), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2231; amended Pub. L. 115-334, title VI, §6304(f), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4752; Pub. L. 117-328, div. O, title IV, §401(a)(1), Dec. 29, 2022, 136 Stat. 5228; Pub. L. 118-272, div. B, title II, §§2242(a), 2249(a), 2250(a), Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 3202, 3209.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2025—Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 118-272, §2249(a), added par. (5).

Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 118-272, §2250(a), added par. (6).
Subsec. (b)(2)(C). Pub. L. 118-272, §2242(a)(1), designated existing provisions as cl. (i), inserted heading, and added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 118-272, §2242(a)(2), substituted “an employee” for “a Federal employee”.

2022—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 117-328 added par. (4).

2018—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 115-334 added subsec. (f).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after June 18, 2008, see section 14217(d) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 15101 of this title.

§ 15302. Decisions

(a) REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL.—Except as provided in section 15304(c)(3), decisions by the Commission shall require the affirmative vote of the Federal Cochairperson and a majority of the State members or alternate State members, including designees (exclusive of members rep-

resenting States delinquent under section 15304(c)(3)(C)).

(b) CONSULTATION.—In matters coming before the Commission, the Federal Cochairperson shall, to the extent practicable, consult with the Federal departments and agencies having an interest in the subject matter.

(c) QUORUMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), a Commission shall determine what constitutes a quorum for meetings of the Commission.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Any quorum for meetings of a Commission shall include—

(A) the Federal Cochairperson or the alternate Federal Cochairperson; and

(B) a majority of State members or alternate State members, including designees (exclusive of members representing States delinquent under section 15304(c)(3)(C)).

(d) PROJECTS AND GRANT PROPOSALS.—The approval of project and grant proposals shall be a responsibility of each Commission and shall be carried out in accordance with section 15503.

(Added Pub. L. 110-234, title XIV, §14217(a)(2), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1470, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XIV, §14217(a)(2), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2232; amended Pub. L. 118-272, div. B, title II, §2242(b), Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 3202.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2025—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 118-272, §2242(b)(1), inserted “or alternate State members, including designees” after “State members”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 118-272, §2242(b)(2), added subsec. (c) and struck out former subsec. (c). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “A Commission shall determine what constitutes a quorum for Commission meetings; except that—

“(1) any quorum shall include the Federal Cochairperson or the alternate Federal Cochairperson; and

“(2) a State alternate member shall not be counted toward the establishment of a quorum.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after June 18, 2008, see section 14217(d) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 15101 of this title.

§ 15303. Functions

A Commission shall—

(1) assess the needs and assets of its region based on available research, demonstration projects, investigations, assessments, and evaluations of the region prepared by Federal, State, and local agencies, universities, local development districts, and other nonprofit groups;

(2) develop, on a continuing basis, comprehensive and coordinated economic and infrastructure development strategies to establish priorities and approve grants for the economic development of its region, giving due

consideration to other Federal, State, and local planning and development activities in the region;

(3) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, and after taking into account State plans developed under section 15502, establish priorities in an economic and infrastructure development plan for its region, including 5-year regional outcome targets;

(4)(A) enhance the capacity of, and provide support for, local development districts in its region; or

(B) if no local development district exists in an area in a participating State in the region, foster the creation of a local development district;

(5) encourage private investment in industrial, commercial, and other economic development projects in its region;

(6) cooperate with and assist State governments with the preparation of economic and infrastructure development plans and programs for participating States;

(7) formulate and recommend to the Governors and legislatures of States that participate in the Commission forms of interstate cooperation and, where appropriate, international cooperation; and

(8) work with State and local agencies in developing appropriate model legislation to enhance local and regional economic development.

(Added Pub. L. 110-234, title XIV, §14217(a)(2), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1470, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XIV, §14217(a)(2), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2232.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of this section, referred to in par. (3), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-246, which was approved June 18, 2008.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after June 18, 2008, see section 14217(d) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 15101 of this title.

§ 15304. Administrative powers and expenses

(a) POWERS.—In carrying out its duties under this subtitle, a Commission may—

(1) hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, receive such evidence, and print or otherwise reproduce and distribute a description of the proceedings and reports on actions by the Commission as the Commission considers appropriate;

(2) authorize, through the Federal or State Cochairperson or any other member of the Commission designated by the Commission,