

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To establish the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. MCCAIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission.

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 “John F. Kennedy Cen-
5 tennial Commission Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.**

7 There is established a commission to be known as the
8 “John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission” (in this Act
9 referred to as the “Commission”).

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

11 The Commission shall—

1 (1) plan, develop, and carry out such activities
2 as the Commission considers fitting and proper to
3 honor John F. Kennedy on the occasion of the
4 100th anniversary of his birth;

5 (2) provide advice and assistance to Federal,
6 State, and local governmental agencies, as well as
7 civic groups to carry out activities to honor John F.
8 Kennedy on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of
9 his birth;

10 (3) develop activities that may be carried out by
11 the Federal Government that are fitting and proper
12 to honor John F. Kennedy on the occasion of the
13 100th anniversary of his birth; and

14 (4) submit to the President and Congress re-
15 ports pursuant to section 7.

16 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.**

17 (a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission
18 shall be composed of 11 members as follows:

19 (1) The Secretary of the Interior.

20 (2) Four members appointed by the President
21 after considering the recommendations of the Board
22 of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Library Foun-
23 dation.

1 (3) Two Members of the House of Representa-
2 tives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives.

4 (4) One Member of the House of Representa-
5 tives appointed by the minority leader of the House
6 of Representatives.

7 (5) Two Members of the Senate appointed by
8 the majority leader of the Senate.

9 (6) One Member of the Senate appointed by the
10 minority leader of the Senate.

11 (b) EX OFFICIO MEMBER.—The Archivist of the
12 United States shall serve in an ex officio capacity on the
13 Commission to provide advice and information to the Com-
14 mission.

15 (c) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the
16 life of the Commission.

17 (d) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All members of
18 the Commission shall be appointed not later than 90 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

20 (e) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission
21 shall—

22 (1) not affect the powers of the Commission;
23 and

24 (2) be filled in the manner in which the original
25 appointment was made.

1 (f) RATES OF PAY.—Members shall not receive com-
2 pensation for the performance of their duties on behalf
3 of the Commission.

4 (g) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Com-
5 mission shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem in lieu
6 of subsistence expenses during the performance of duties
7 of the Commission while away from home or his or her
8 regular place of business, in accordance with applicable
9 provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5,
10 United States Code.

11 (h) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the
12 Commission shall constitute a quorum to conduct busi-
13 ness, but two or more members may hold hearings.

14 (i) CHAIRPERSON.—The chairperson of the Commis-
15 sion shall be elected by a majority vote of the members
16 of the Commission.

17 **SEC. 5. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF COMMISSION.**

18 (a) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—The Commission shall
19 appoint an executive director and such other additional
20 employees as are necessary to enable the Commission to
21 perform its duties.

22 (b) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE
23 LAWS.—The executive director and employees of the Com-
24 mission may be appointed without regard to the provisions
25 of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in

1 the competitive service, and may be paid without regard
2 to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chap-
3 ter 53 of such title relating to classification and General
4 Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for the
5 executive director and other employees may not exceed the
6 rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under
7 section 5316 of such title.

8 (c) **DETAIL OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.**—Upon re-
9 quest of the Commission, the Secretary of the Interior or
10 the Archivist of the United States may detail, on a reim-
11 bursable basis, any of the employees of that department
12 or agency to the Commission to assist it in carrying out
13 its duties under this Act.

14 (d) **EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—The Commission
15 may procure such temporary and intermittent services as
16 are necessary to enable the Commission to perform its du-
17 ties.

18 (e) **VOLUNTEER AND UNCOMPENSATED SERVICES.**—
19 Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States
20 Code, the Commission may accept and use voluntary and
21 uncompensated services as the Commission determines
22 necessary.

23 **SEC. 6. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

24 (a) **HEARINGS.**—The Commission may, for the pur-
25 pose of carrying out this Act, hold hearings, sit and act

1 at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence
2 as the Commission considers appropriate.

3 (b) **MAILS.**—The Commission may use the United
4 States mails in the same manner and under the same con-
5 ditions as other departments and agencies of the United
6 States.

7 (c) **OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.**—The Commission
8 may secure directly from any department or agency of the
9 United States information necessary to enable it to carry
10 out its duties under this Act. Upon request of the chair-
11 person of the Commission, the head of that department
12 or agency shall furnish that information to the Commis-
13 sion.

14 (d) **GIFTS, BEQUESTS, DEVISES.**—The Commission
15 may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or
16 devises of money, services, or property, both real and per-
17 sonal, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating its work.

18 (e) **AVAILABLE SPACE.**—Upon the request of the
19 Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall
20 make available nationwide to the Commission, at a normal
21 rental rate for Federal agencies, such assistance and facili-
22 ties as may be necessary for the Commission to carry out
23 its duties under this Act.

24 (f) **CONTRACT AUTHORITY.**—The Commission may
25 enter into contracts with and compensate government and

1 private agencies or persons to enable the Commission to
2 discharge its duties under this Act.

3 **SEC. 7. REPORTS.**

4 (a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Commission shall sub-
5 mit to the President and the Congress annual reports on
6 the revenue and expenditures of the Commission, includ-
7 ing a list of each gift, bequest, or devise to the Commission
8 with a value of more than \$250, together with the identity
9 of the donor of each gift, bequest, or devise.

10 (b) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may sub-
11 mit to the President and Congress interim reports as the
12 Commission considers appropriate.

13 (c) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than August 31,
14 2017, the Commission shall submit a final report to the
15 President and the Congress containing—

16 (1) a summary of the activities of the Commis-
17 sion;

18 (2) a final accounting of funds received and ex-
19 pended by the Commission; and

20 (3) the findings, conclusions, and final rec-
21 ommendations of the Commission.

22 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION.**

23 The Commission may terminate on such date as the
24 Commission may determine after it submits its final re-

1 port pursuant to section 7(c), but not later than Sep-
2 tember 30, 2017.

3 **SEC. 9. ANNUAL AUDIT.**

4 The Inspector General of the Department of the Inte-
5 rior may perform an audit of the Commission, shall make
6 the results of any audit performed available to the public,
7 and shall transmit such results to the Committee on Over-
8 sight and Government Reform of the House of Represent-
9 atives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
10 ernmental Affairs of the Senate.

11 **SEC. 10. PROHIBITION ON OBLIGATION OF FEDERAL**
12 **FUNDS.**

13 No Federal funds may be obligated to carry out this
14 Act.