

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 834

To establish the National Commission on the COVID–19 Pandemic, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2021

Mr. POSEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish the National Commission on the COVID–19
Pandemic, and for other purposes.

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 “Pandemics Require
5 Evaluating, Planning, And Responding Effectively Act” or
6 the “PREPARE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.**

2 There is established in the legislative branch the Na-
3 tional Commission on the COVID–19 Pandemic (in this
4 Act referred to as the “Commission”).

5 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

6 The purposes of the Commission are to—

7 (1) examine and report upon the facts and
8 causes relating to the COVID–19 pandemic that re-
9 sulted from the global spread of the SARS–CoV–2
10 virus, from Wuhan, China;

11 (2) ascertain, evaluate, and report on the evi-
12 dence developed by all relevant governmental agen-
13 cies regarding the facts and circumstances sur-
14 rounding the pandemic and the emergence of SARS–
15 CoV–2;

16 (3) build upon the investigations of other enti-
17 ties, and avoid unnecessary duplication by critically
18 reviewing the findings, conclusions, and rec-
19 ommendations of executive branch, congressional, or
20 independent commission investigations into the
21 COVID–19 pandemic while adopting only the find-
22 ings, conclusions, and recommendations of such in-
23 vestigations as the Commission shall find accurate
24 and unbiased;

25 (4) make a full and complete accounting of the
26 circumstances surrounding the pandemic, and the

1 extent of the United States preparedness for, and
2 immediate response to, the pandemic; and

3 (5) investigate and report to the President and
4 Congress on its findings, conclusions, and rec-
5 ommendations for corrective measures that can be
6 taken to prevent, better prepare for, and respond to
7 pandemics.

8 **SEC. 4. CONSIDERATIONS.**

9 In carrying out its duties in furtherance of the pur-
10 poses specified in section 2, the Commission shall consider
11 the following:

12 (1) Compiling a full and complete accounting of
13 the circumstances surrounding the emergence of the
14 2019 novel coronavirus, the Nation's preparedness
15 for the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic, and the
16 actions taken by Federal, State, local, Tribal, and
17 territorial governments at critical junctures before
18 and after the World Health Organization designated
19 the 2019 novel coronavirus as a public health emer-
20 gency of international concern on January 30, 2020.

21 (2) Evaluating the effectiveness of United
22 States public health reconnaissance and intelligence
23 in recognizing the COVID-19 pandemic at its source
24 and effectively mobilizing the nation to meet the
25 challenge of the pandemic.

1 (3) Identifying biological collaborations among
2 government, private, nonprofit, not-for-profit enti-
3 ties, and other scientific communities, evaluating the
4 manner in which such collaborations can increase
5 the risk of accidental releases of harmful pathogens,
6 and making recommendations that will decrease
7 such risks.

8 (4) Identifying the lead person or agency of the
9 Federal Government responsible for conducting the
10 reconnaissance and intelligence in (1) and evaluating
11 the performance of this entity and the efficacy of the
12 assignment of such lead to this entity.

13 (5) Articulating the policy objectives of the
14 Federal Government in preparing, responding to and
15 recovering from a pandemic and the performance
16 metrics and standards to evaluate contributions to
17 the overall objectives as articulated.

18 (6) Identifying the current agency of the Fed-
19 eral Government with the lead for pandemic pre-
20 paredness and response.

21 (7) Evaluating the integration of the pandemic
22 planning into the National Preparedness System and
23 other preparedness activities throughout the Federal
24 Government.

1 (8) Evaluating the performance of the Federal,
2 State, and local governments in preparing for and
3 responding to the COVID–19 declared emergency
4 within the context of the National Preparedness Sys-
5 tem.

6 (9) Assessment of the assignment of roles and
7 responsibilities among Federal, State, and local gov-
8 ernments in preparing for, responding to and recov-
9 ering from the COVID–19 pandemic.

10 (10) Evaluation of the performance of an all-
11 hazard preparedness and response system in meeting
12 the challenges of the COVID–19 emergency and
13 whether actions should be taken to adapt prepared-
14 ness and response to unique circumstances related to
15 pandemics.

16 (11) Evaluating whether the identification of
17 lead person or agency for pandemic preparedness is
18 clear and effective and whether the lead for pan-
19 demic preparedness and response requires consolida-
20 tion or should be reassigned to an alternative agen-
21 cy.

22 (12) Examining ways to improve integration
23 and coordination of preparedness and responses to
24 pandemics at all levels of government, Federal,
25 State, and local.

1 (13) Evaluating the resilience of production re-
2 sponses to the COVID–19 crisis particularly those
3 related medicines, medical equipment, protective
4 equipment and other medical supplies and the role
5 of the Federal and other governments in responding
6 to supply chain needs for pandemics.

7 (14) Identifying and evaluating the degree of
8 reliance of the United States on vulnerable supply
9 chains for medicines, medical equipment, protective
10 equipment and other medical supplies necessary to
11 prepare for and respond to a pandemic and all rea-
12 sonable alternatives for mitigating such
13 vulnerabilities in future pandemics.

14 (15) Evaluating the contribution of the Defense
15 Production Act in the COVID–19 emergency and
16 whether this law should be amended to improve pan-
17 demic preparedness and response.

18 (16) Evaluating the National Stockpile in pre-
19 paring for and responding to pandemics, the per-
20 formance of the National Stockpile in responding to
21 the COVID–19 emergency, and all reasonable alter-
22 natives improving the management and contribu-
23 tions of the Stockpile in preparing for and respond-
24 ing to future pandemics.

1 (17) Evaluating the role of the Federal Govern-
2 ment in developing and approving surveillance, test-
3 ing, treatments, therapeutics and vaccines for
4 COVID–19 and all reasonable alternatives to im-
5 prove the development of therapeutics and vaccines
6 in future pandemics.

7 (18) Evaluating the Federal, State, and local
8 response to the COVID–19 emergency related to en-
9 suring adequate national surge capacity infrastruc-
10 ture in hospitals and medical centers and alter-
11 natives for improving such preparedness and re-
12 sponse to ensure adequate capacity in future
13 pandemics.

14 (19) Identifying and evaluating the array of
15 public health interventions at the Federal, State,
16 and local levels, including mask orders, social
17 distancing practices, stay-at-home directives, school
18 and business closures, and other measures, imple-
19 mented in response to the COVID–19 emergency
20 and evaluating all reasonable alternatives for im-
21 proving such public health responses in future
22 pandemics with a due consideration of the economic
23 and other public health costs and tradeoffs associ-
24 ated with such measures.

1 (20) Evaluating the performance of financial
2 markets and regulators during the COVID–19 emer-
3 gency.

4 (21) Evaluating the overall efficacy of the Fed-
5 eral economic response to the COVID–19 emergency
6 and recommendations for modifying those responses
7 to improve preparedness and response to future
8 pandemics.

9 (22) Any other feature of the COVID–19 emer-
10 gency that would improve the prevention, prepared-
11 ness and response to future pandemic emergencies.

12 **SEC. 5. COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION.**

13 (a) MEMBERS.—The Commission shall be composed
14 of 10 members, of whom—

15 (1) 1 member shall be appointed by the Presi-
16 dent, who shall serve as chairperson of the Commis-
17 sion;

18 (2) 1 member shall be appointed by the leader
19 of the Senate whose political party is other than the
20 political party of the President (regardless of wheth-
21 er such individual is the majority or minority lead-
22 er), in consultation with the leader of the House of
23 Representatives whose political party is other than
24 the political party of the President (regardless of
25 whether such individual is the Speaker of the House

1 of Representatives or the minority leader), who shall
2 serve as vice chairperson of the Commission;

3 (3) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior
4 member of the majority leadership of the Senate;

5 (4) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior
6 member of the majority leadership of the House of
7 Representatives;

8 (5) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior
9 member of the minority leadership of the Senate;
10 and

11 (6) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior
12 member of the minority leadership of the House of
13 Representatives.

14 (b) QUALIFICATIONS; INITIAL MEETING.—

15 (1) POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION.—Each
16 major political party shall be represented by not
17 fewer than five members of the Commission.

18 (2) NONGOVERNMENTAL APPOINTEES.—An in-
19 dividual appointed to the Commission may not be an
20 officer or employee of the Federal Government or
21 any State or local government.

22 (3) OTHER QUALIFICATIONS.—It is the sense of
23 Congress that individuals appointed to the Commis-
24 sion should be prominent United States citizens,
25 with national recognition and significant depth of ex-

1 perience in such professions as governmental service,
2 science, health, law, public administration, intel-
3 ligence gathering, commerce, logistics, and foreign
4 affairs.

5 (4) NO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—An indi-
6 vidual appointed to the Commission may not have a
7 conflict of interest with respect to any potential
8 issue or inquiry that may come within the purview
9 of the Commission consistent with Federal law relat-
10 ing to conflicts-of-interest and congressional ethics
11 rules.

12 (5) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All mem-
13 bers of the Commission shall be appointed not later
14 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
15 Act.

16 (6) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall
17 meet and begin the operations of the Commission as
18 soon as practicable.

19 (c) QUORUM; VACANCIES.—After its initial meeting,
20 the Commission shall meet upon the call of the chairman
21 or a majority of its members. Six members of the Commis-
22 sion shall constitute a quorum. Any vacancy in the Com-
23 mission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in
24 the same manner in which the original appointment was
25 made.

1 **SEC. 6. FUNCTIONS OF COMMISSION.**

2 The functions of the Commission are to—

3 (1) conduct an investigation that—

4 (A) investigates relevant facts and cir-
5 cumstances relating to the COVID–19 pan-
6 demic, including any relevant legislation, Execu-
7 tive order, regulation, plan, policy, scientific re-
8 search, practice, or procedure; and

9 (B) include relevant facts and cir-
10 cumstances relating to—

11 (i) scientific and public health re-
12 search;

13 (ii) public and private scientific orga-
14 nizations;

15 (iii) charitable organizations;

16 (iv) academic organizations;

17 (v) economic, education, scientific and
18 commercial institutions;

19 (vi) healthcare, public health policies,
20 and pandemic preparedness;

21 (vii) the role of congressional over-
22 sight and resource allocation; and

23 (viii) other areas of the public and
24 private sectors determined relevant by the
25 Commission for its inquiry;

1 (2) identify, review, and evaluate the lessons
2 learned from the COVID–19 pandemic from how the
3 virus emerged and spread to the ongoing response
4 efforts, regarding the structure, coordination, man-
5 agement policies, and procedures of the Federal
6 Government, and, where appropriate, State and local
7 governments, nongovernmental entities and inter-
8 national organizations, relative to detecting, pre-
9 venting, and responding to such disease events; and

10 (3) submit to the President and Congress such
11 reports as are required by this title containing such
12 findings, conclusions, and recommendations as the
13 Commission shall determine, including proposing or-
14 ganization, coordination, planning, management ar-
15 rangements, procedures, rules, and regulations.

16 **SEC. 7. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—

18 (1) HEARINGS AND EVIDENCE.—The Commis-
19 sion or, on the authority of the Commission, any
20 subcommittee or member thereof, may, for the pur-
21 pose of carrying out this title—

22 (A) hold such hearings and sit and act at
23 such times and places, take such testimony, re-
24 ceive such evidence, administer such oaths; and

1 (B) subject to paragraph (2)(A), require,
2 by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and
3 testimony of such witnesses and the production
4 of such books, records, correspondence, memo-
5 randa, papers, and documents, as the Commis-
6 sion or such designated subcommittee or des-
7 ignated member may determine advisable.

8 (2) SUBPOENAS.—

9 (A) ISSUANCE.—

10 (i) IN GENERAL.—A subpoena may be
11 issued under this subsection only—

12 (I) by the agreement of the
13 chairman and the vice chairman; or

14 (II) by the affirmative vote of 6
15 members of the Commission.

16 (ii) SIGNATURE.—Subject to clause
17 (i), subpoenas issued under this subsection
18 may be issued under the signature of the
19 chairman or any member designated by a
20 majority of the Commission, and may be
21 served by any person designated by the
22 chairman or by a member designated by a
23 majority of the Commission.

24 (B) ENFORCEMENT.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of con-
2 tumacy or failure to obey a subpoena
3 issued under subsection (a), the United
4 States district court for the judicial district
5 in which the subpoenaed person resides, is
6 served, or may be found, or where the sub-
7 poena is returnable, may issue an order re-
8 quiring such person to appear at any des-
9 ignated place to testify or to produce docu-
10 mentary or other evidence. Any failure to
11 obey the order of the court may be pun-
12 ished by the court as a contempt of that
13 court.

14 (ii) ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT.—In
15 the case of any failure of any witness to
16 comply with any subpoena or to testify
17 when summoned under authority of this
18 section, the Commission may, by majority
19 vote, certify a statement of fact consti-
20 tuting such failure to the appropriate
21 United States attorney, who may bring the
22 matter before the grand jury for its action,
23 under the same statutory authority and
24 procedures as if the United States attorney
25 had received a certification under sections

1 102 through 104 of the Revised Statutes
2 of the United States (2 U.S.C. 192
3 through 194).

4 (b) CONTRACTING.—The Commission may, to such
5 extent and in such amounts as are provided in appropria-
6 tion Acts, enter into contracts to enable the Commission
7 to discharge its duties under this title.

8 (c) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission is author-
10 ized to secure directly from any executive depart-
11 ment, bureau, agency, board, commission, office,
12 independent establishment, or instrumentality of the
13 Government, information, suggestions, estimates,
14 and statistics for the purposes of this title. Each de-
15 partment, bureau, agency, board, commission, office,
16 independent establishment, or instrumentality shall,
17 to the extent authorized by law, furnish such infor-
18 mation, suggestions, estimates, and statistics di-
19 rectly to the Commission, upon request made by the
20 chairman, the chairman of any subcommittee cre-
21 ated by a majority of the Commission, or any mem-
22 ber designated by a majority of the Commission.

23 (2) RECEIPT, HANDLING, STORAGE, AND DIS-
24 SEMINATION.—Information shall only be received,
25 handled, stored, and disseminated by members of

1 the Commission and its staff consistent with all ap-
2 plicable statutes, regulations, and Executive orders.

3 (d) ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

4 (1) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION.—

5 The Administrator of General Services shall provide
6 to the Commission on a reimbursable basis adminis-
7 trative support and other services for the perform-
8 ance of the Commission's functions.

9 (2) OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.—In

10 addition to the assistance prescribed in paragraph
11 (1), departments and agencies of the United States
12 may provide to the Commission such services, funds,
13 facilities, staff, and other support services as they
14 may determine advisable and as may be authorized
15 by law.

16 (e) GIFTS.—The Commission may accept, use, and
17 dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

18 (f) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use
19 the United States mails in the same manner and under
20 the same conditions as departments and agencies of the
21 United States.

22 **SEC. 8. NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-**
23 **MITTEE ACT.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Advisory Committee
25 Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

1 (b) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—

2 (1) Each Commission meeting shall be open to
3 the public.

4 (2) Except when the Commission determines
5 otherwise for reasons of national security, timely no-
6 tice of each such meeting shall be published in the
7 Federal Register, and the Commission shall; publish
8 procedures to provide for other types of public notice
9 to ensure that all interested persons are notified of
10 such meeting prior thereto.

11 (3) Interested persons shall be permitted to at-
12 tend, appear before, or file statements with the
13 Commission, subject to such reasonable procedures
14 as the Commission may prescribe and publish.

15 (c) RECORDS.—

16 (1) MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS.—The Com-
17 mission shall maintain and dispose of all records re-
18 lated to Commission, its meeting and general busi-
19 ness in accordance with statutes governing the main-
20 tenance and disposition of records that apply to any
21 agency of the Federal Government.

22 (2) PUBLIC ACCESS.—In accordance with proce-
23 dures to be adopted and published by the Commis-
24 sion, the records, reports, transcripts, minutes, ap-
25 pendixes, working papers, drafts, studies, agenda, or

1 other documents which were made available to or
2 prepared for or by the Commission shall be available
3 for public inspection and copying at a single location
4 in the offices of the Commission until the Commis-
5 sion ceases to exist and after the termination of the
6 Commission, such records shall be transferred to the
7 National Archives and Records Administration.

8 (3) EXEMPTIONS.—The requirement for public
9 access under paragraph (2) shall not apply to
10 records that are—

11 (A) specifically authorized under criteria
12 established by an Executive order to be kept se-
13 cret in the interest of national defense or for-
14 eign policy and are in fact properly classified
15 pursuant to such Executive order;

16 (B) related solely to the internal personnel
17 rules and practices of any Federal agency;

18 (C) specifically exempted from disclosure
19 by statute, if that statute—

20 (i) requires that the matters be with-
21 held from the public in such a manner as
22 to leave no discretion on the issue; or

23 (ii) establishes particular criteria for
24 withholding or refers to particular types of
25 matters to be withheld;

1 (D) trade secrets and commercial or finan-
2 cial information obtained from a person and
3 privileged or confidential;

4 (E) that are inter-agency or intra-agency
5 memorandums or letters that would not be
6 available by law to a party other than an agen-
7 cy including the Commission in litigation with
8 the agency, provided that the deliberative proc-
9 ess privilege shall not apply to records created
10 25 years or more before the date on which the
11 records were requested;

12 (F) personnel and medical files and similar
13 files the disclosure of which would constitute a
14 clearly unwarranted invasion of personal pri-
15 vacy;

16 (G) records or information compiled for
17 law enforcement purposes, but only to the ex-
18 tent that the production of such law enforce-
19 ment records or information—

20 (i) could reasonably be expected to
21 interfere with enforcement proceedings;

22 (ii) would deprive a person of a right
23 to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication;

1 (iii) could reasonably be expected to
2 constitute an unwarranted invasion of per-
3 sonal privacy;

4 (iv) could reasonably be expected to
5 disclose the identity of a confidential
6 source, including a State, local, or foreign
7 agency or authority or any private institu-
8 tion which furnished information on a con-
9 fidential basis, and, in the case of a record
10 or information compiled by criminal law
11 enforcement authority in the course of a
12 criminal investigation or by an agency con-
13 ducting a lawful national security intel-
14 ligence investigation, information furnished
15 by a confidential source;

16 (v) would disclose techniques and pro-
17 cedures for law enforcement investigations
18 or prosecutions, or would disclose guide-
19 lines for law enforcement investigations or
20 prosecutions if such disclosure could rea-
21 sonably be expected to risk circumvention
22 of the law; or

23 (vi) could reasonably be expected to
24 endanger the life or physical safety of any
25 individual;

1 (H) contained in or related to examination,
2 operating, or condition reports prepared by, on
3 behalf of, or for the use of an agency respon-
4 sible for the regulation or supervision of finan-
5 cial institutions; or

6 (I) geological and geophysical information
7 and data, including maps, concerning wells.

8 Any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall
9 be provided to any person requesting such record
10 after deletion of the portions which are exempt
11 under this subsection. The amount of information
12 deleted, and the exemption under which the deletion
13 is made, shall be indicated on the released portion
14 of the record, unless including that indication would
15 harm an interest protected by the exemption in this
16 subsection under which the deletion is made. If tech-
17 nically feasible, the amount of the information de-
18 leted, and the exemption under which the deletion is
19 made, shall be indicated at the place in the record
20 where such deletion is made.

21 (4) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (3)
22 shall be construed as imposing any limitation what-
23 soever on the scope or subject matter of the Com-
24 mission’s inquiry. The Commission shall arrange for
25 secure access to all Commission records and a com-

1 prehensive Commission report without redaction by
2 any Member of Congress or authorized individual
3 with a required security clearance in appropriately
4 secure facilities.

5 (d) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—Any public hearings of the
6 Commission shall be conducted in a manner consistent
7 with the protection of information provided to or developed
8 for or by the Commission as required by any applicable
9 statute, regulation, or Executive order.

10 **SEC. 9. STAFF OF COMMISSION.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—

12 (1) APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION.—The
13 chairman, in consultation with vice chairman, in ac-
14 cordance with rules agreed upon by the Commission,
15 may appoint and fix the compensation of a staff di-
16 rector and such other personnel as may be necessary
17 to enable the Commission to carry out its functions,
18 without regard to the provisions of title 5, United
19 States Code, governing appointments in the competi-
20 tive service, and without regard to the provisions of
21 chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such
22 title relating to classification and General Schedule
23 pay rates, except that no rate of pay fixed under this
24 subsection may exceed the equivalent of that payable

1 for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule
2 under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

3 (2) PERSONNEL AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The executive director
5 and any personnel of the Commission who are
6 employees shall be employees under section
7 2105 of title 5, United States Code, for pur-
8 poses of chapters 63, 81, 83, 84, 85, 87, 89,
9 and 90 of that title.

10 (B) MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.—Subpara-
11 graph (A) shall not be construed to apply to
12 members of the Commission.

13 (b) DETAILEES.—Any Federal Government employee
14 may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement
15 from the Commission, and such detailee shall retain the
16 rights, status, and privileges of his or her regular employ-
17 ment without interruption.

18 (c) CONSULTANT SERVICES.—The Commission is au-
19 thorized to procure the services of experts and consultants
20 in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, United States
21 Code, but at rates not to exceed the daily rate paid a per-
22 son occupying a position at level IV of the Executive
23 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States
24 Code.

1 (d) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—All individuals whose
2 services are rendered to the Commission will be free from
3 any financial, academic, personal, or professional conflicts
4 of interest which may interfere with the work of the Com-
5 mission.

6 **SEC. 10. COMPENSATION AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.**

7 (a) COMPENSATION.—Each member of the Commis-
8 sion may be compensated at not to exceed the daily equiva-
9 lent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for a position
10 at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315
11 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which
12 that member is engaged in the actual performance of the
13 duties of the Commission.

14 (b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—While away from their
15 homes or regular places of business in the performance
16 of services for the Commission, members of the Commis-
17 sion shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem
18 in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons em-
19 ployed intermittently in the Government service are al-
20 lowed expenses under section 5703(b) of title 5, United
21 States Code.

22 **SEC. 11. SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR COMMISSION MEM-**
23 **BERS AND STAFF.**

24 The appropriate Federal agencies or departments
25 shall cooperate with the Commission in expeditiously pro-

1 viding to the Commission members and staff appropriate
2 security clearances to the extent possible pursuant to ex-
3 isting procedures and requirements, except that no person
4 shall be provided with access to classified information
5 under this title without the appropriate security clear-
6 ances.

7 **SEC. 12. REPORTS OF COMMISSION; TERMINATION.**

8 (a) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may sub-
9 mit to the President and Congress interim reports con-
10 taining such findings, conclusions, and recommendations
11 for corrective measures as have been agreed to by a major-
12 ity of Commission members.

13 (b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after
14 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission
15 shall submit to the President and Congress a final report
16 containing such findings, conclusions, and recommenda-
17 tions for corrective measures as have been agreed to by
18 a majority of Commission members.

19 (c) TERMINATION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, and all the
21 authorities of this title, shall terminate 60 days after
22 the date on which the final report is submitted
23 under subsection (b).

24 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES BEFORE TER-
25 MINATION.—The Commission may use the 60-day

1 period referred to in paragraph (1) for the purpose
2 of concluding its activities, including providing testi-
3 mony to committees of Congress concerning its re-
4 ports and disseminating the final report.

5 **SEC. 13. FUNDING.**

6 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
7 authorized to be appropriated to the Commission such
8 sums as may be necessary for any fiscal year, half of which
9 shall be derived from the applicable account of the House
10 of Representatives, and half of which shall be derived from
11 the contingent fund of the Senate.

12 (b) **DURATION OF AVAILABILITY.**—Amounts made
13 available to the Commission under paragraph (a) shall re-
14 main available until the termination of the Commission.

15 (c) **NOTICE.**—The chair shall promptly notify Con-
16 gress if the chair determines that the amounts made avail-
17 able to the Commission under subsection (a) are insuffi-
18 cient for the Commission to carry out its duties.

○