

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2889

To establish a commission to recommend a strategy for the global eradication of disease.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 1997

Mr. GEKAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To establish a commission to recommend a strategy for the global eradication of disease.

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 “National Commission
5 for the New National Goal: The Advancement of Global
6 Health Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 The Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) During the 20th century the United States
2 led the world in defeating totalitarianism and com-
3 munism.

4 (2) The United States also led the world in
5 spreading and establishing democracy in every re-
6 gion.

7 (3) The end of global conflict and the end of
8 the Cold War, now guaranteed by the power and
9 leadership of the United States, allow the Nation to
10 establish new goals for the 21st century.

11 (4) The United States, the world leader in the
12 research, development, and production of tech-
13 nologies, medicines, and methodologies utilized to
14 prevent and cure disease, has the human and natu-
15 ral resources to dedicate itself to the new national
16 goal of the global eradication of disease.

17 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT.**

18 There is established a commission to be known as the
19 “National Commission for the New National Goal: The
20 Advancement of Global Health” (in this Act referred to
21 as the “Commission”).

22 **SEC. 4. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.**

23 The Commission shall recommend to the Congress a
24 national strategy for coordinating governmental, aca-

1 demic, and public and private health care entities for the
2 purpose of the global eradication of disease.

3 **SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP.**

4 (a) MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.—The Com-
5 mission shall consist of individuals who are of recognized
6 standing and distinction and who possess the dem-
7 onstrated capacity to discharge the duties imposed on the
8 Commission, and shall include representatives of the pub-
9 lic, private, and academic areas whose capacity is based
10 on a special knowledge or expertise in medical research
11 or related areas.

12 (b) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission
13 shall be composed of 13 members appointed as follows:

14 (1) The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
15 ices (or the Secretary's delegate).

16 (2) The Chairman of the Federal Trade Com-
17 mission.

18 (3) 3 Members of the Senate appointed jointly
19 by the President of the Senate and the President
20 pro tempore. Not more than 2 members appointed
21 under this paragraph may be of the same political
22 party.

23 (4) 3 Members of the House of Representatives
24 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives. Not more than 2 members appointed

1 under this paragraph may be of the same political
2 party.

3 (5) 2 individuals appointed by the President, by
4 and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from
5 among individuals who are not officers or employees
6 of any government and who are specially qualified to
7 serve on the Commission by virtue of their edu-
8 cation, training, or experience.

9 (6) 3 individuals appointed by the President
10 from among individuals who will represent the views
11 of recipients of health services. Not more than 1
12 member appointed under this paragraph may be an
13 officer or employee of the Federal Government.

14 (c) CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—If a member
15 was appointed to the Commission as a Member of Con-
16 gress and the member ceases to be a Member of Congress,
17 that member may continue as a member for not longer
18 than the 30-day period beginning on the date that member
19 ceases to be a Member of Congress.

20 (d) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the
21 life of the Commission.

22 (e) BASIC PAY.—Members shall serve without pay.

23 (f) QUORUM.—7 members of the Commission shall
24 constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hear-
25 ings.

1 (g) CHAIRPERSON; VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The Chair-
2 person and Vice Chairperson of the Commission shall be
3 designated by the President at the time of the appoint-
4 ment.

5 (h) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet monthly
6 or at the call of a majority of its members.

7 **SEC. 6. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

8 (a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission
9 may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold hear-
10 ings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and
11 receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

12 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any mem-
13 ber or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the
14 Commission, take any action which the Commission is au-
15 thorized to take by this section.

16 (c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission
17 may secure directly from any department or agency of the
18 United States information necessary to enable it to carry
19 out this Act. Upon request of the Chairperson or Vice
20 Chairperson of the Commission, the head of that depart-
21 ment or agency shall furnish that information to the Com-
22 mission.

23 (d) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVICES.—The Commis-
24 sion may accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or
25 devises of services or property, both real and personal, for

1 the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Com-
2 mission. Gifts, bequests, or devises of money and proceeds
3 from sales of other property received as gifts, bequests,
4 or devises shall be deposited in the Treasury and shall be
5 available for disbursement upon order of the Chairperson
6 or Commission. For purposes of Federal income, estate,
7 and gift taxes, property accepted under this subsection
8 shall be considered as a gift, bequest, or devise to the
9 United States.

10 (e) **MAILS.**—The Commission may use the United
11 States mails in the same manner and under the same con-
12 ditions as other departments and agencies of the United
13 States.

14 (f) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.**—Upon the
15 request of the Commission, the Administrator of General
16 Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimburs-
17 able basis, the administrative support services necessary
18 for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under
19 this Act.

20 (g) **CONTRACT AUTHORITY.**—The Commission may
21 contract with and compensate government and private
22 agencies or persons for administrative and other services,
23 without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes
24 (41 U.S.C. 5).

1 **SEC. 7. REPORTS.**

2 (a) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may sub-
3 mit to the President and the Congress interim reports as
4 the Commission considers appropriate.

5 (b) FINAL REPORT.—The Commission shall transmit
6 a final report to the President and the Congress not later
7 than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act.
8 The final report shall contain a detailed statement of the
9 findings and conclusions of the Commission, together with
10 its recommendations for legislative, administrative, or
11 other actions, as the Commission considers appropriate.

12 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION.**

13 The Commission shall terminate 30 days after sub-
14 mitting its final report pursuant to section 7.

15 **SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

16 This Act shall take effect 60 days after the date of
17 its enactment.

18 **SEC. 10. BUDGET ACT COMPLIANCE.**

19 Any spending authority (as defined in subparagraphs
20 (A) and (C) of section 401(c)(2) of the Congressional
21 Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 651(c)(2) (A) and (C)))
22 authorized by this Act shall be effective only to such extent
23 and in such amounts as are provided in appropriation
24 Acts.

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