

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5588

To establish the Government Program Evaluation Commission.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 27, 2000

Mr. ARCHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To establish the Government Program Evaluation 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. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.**

4 There is established a bipartisan commission to be
5 known as the Government Program Evaluation Commis-
6 sion (in this Act referred to as the “Commission”).

7 **SEC. 2. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.**

8 The Commission shall make a complete study and
9 evaluation of existing Federal programs and activities and
10 projected expansions of such programs and activities for

1 the purpose of determining, in light of the fundamental
2 needs of the Nation and its vital objectives—

3 (1) the effectiveness of each such program or
4 activity in terms of its present and projected costs;

5 (2) whether each such program or activity
6 should be continued and, if so, the level at which it
7 should be continued; and

8 (3) in the allocation of Federal funds, the rel-
9 ative priority that should be assigned to each such
10 program or activity.

11 SEC. 3. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than February 1, 2002,
13 the Commission shall submit to the President and the
14 Congress a comprehensive report.

15 (b) CONTENTS.—The report shall contain a detailed
16 statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commis-
17 sion, together with its recommendations (including any
18 recommendations as to constitutional amendments, legis-
19 lative enactments, and administrative actions) for changes
20 in Federal programs and activities, that the Commission
21 determines are necessary to meet the fundamental needs
22 and vital objectives of the Nation.

1 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.**

2 (a) **NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.**—The Commission
3 shall be composed of 12 members from private life, as fol-
4 lows:

5 (1) 4 members appointed by the President.

6 (2) 4 members appointed by the President pro
7 tempore of the Senate.

8 (3) 4 members appointed by the Speaker of the
9 House of Representatives.

10 (b) **LIMITATION.**—Of each class of 4 members re-
11 ferred to in subsection (a), not more than 2 members may
12 be from each of the 2 major political parties.

13 (c) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy in the Commission
14 shall not affect its powers, and shall be filled in the same
15 manner in which the original appointment was made.

16 (d) **CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.**—The Commis-
17 sion shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from
18 among its members.

19 (e) **QUORUM.**—7 members of the Commission shall
20 constitute a quorum.

21 (f) **COMPENSATION.**—Members of the Commission
22 shall serve without pay for their service on the Commis-
23 sion.

1 **SEC. 5. STAFF OF THE COMMISSION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may appoint and
3 fix the compensation of such personnel as it considers ap-
4 propriate.

5 (b) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE
6 LAWS.—The staff of the Commission may be appointed
7 without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States
8 Code, governing appointments in the competitive service,
9 and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chap-
10 ter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title, relat-
11 ing to classification and General Schedule pay rates, ex-
12 cept that an individual so appointed may not receive pay
13 in excess of the maximum rate of basic pay under the Gen-
14 eral Schedule.

15 (c) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission
16 may procure temporary and intermittent services under
17 section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

18 **SEC. 6. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.**

19 (a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission
20 may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold such
21 hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such
22 testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission
23 considers appropriate. The Commission may administer
24 oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before it.

25 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—If author-
26 ized by the Commission, any member or agent of the Com-

1 mission may take any action that the Commission is au-
2 thorized to take by this section.

3 (c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission
4 may secure directly from any department or agency of the
5 United States information necessary to enable it to carry
6 out this Act. Upon request of the Chairman or Vice Chair-
7 man of the Commission, the head of that department or
8 agency shall furnish that information to the Commission.

9 **SEC. 7. TERMINATION.**

10 The Commission shall terminate 30 days after sub-
11 mitting the report required by section 3.

