

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3561

To establish the Twenty-First Century Water Policy Commission.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2001

Mr. LINDER (for himself, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, and Mr. CALVERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Twenty-First Century Water Policy 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 “Twenty-First Century
5 Water Policy Commission Establishment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.**

7 There is established a commission to be known as the
8 Twenty-First Century Water Policy Commission (in this
9 Act referred to as the “Commission”).

1 **SEC. 3. DUTIES.**

2 The duties of the Commission shall be to—

3 (1) study all aspects of water management by
4 Federal, State, and local agencies and by private
5 sector entities; and

6 (2) develop recommendations for a comprehen-
7 sive water policy which—

8 (A) ensures an adequate and dependable
9 supply of fresh water to meet the needs of the
10 United States for the next 50 years;

11 (B) does not place increased mandates on
12 State and local governments;

13 (C) eliminates duplication and conflict
14 among governmental agencies;

15 (D) considers all available technologies for
16 increasing water supply efficiently, while safe-
17 guarding the environment;

18 (E) recommends means of capturing excess
19 water and flood water for use in the event of
20 a drought;

21 (F) suggests financing options for public
22 works projects, including the implementation of
23 user fees; and

24 (G) includes other objectives which the
25 Commission shall consider appropriate.

1 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.**

2 (a) APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be com-
3 posed of 17 members appointed by the President, and
4 shall include—

5 (1) 8 representatives from Federal agencies in-
6 volved in water management, conservation, or re-
7 source issues;

8 (2) 5 representatives from non-governmental or-
9 ganizations with an interest in water management,
10 conservation, or resource issues;

11 (3) 2 representatives of local government; and

12 (4) 2 representatives of State government or
13 Indian tribes.

14 (b) CHAIRPERSON.—The members of the Commission
15 shall elect 1 member to serve as chairperson.

16 (c) TERMS.—Members of the Commission shall be
17 appointed not later than 30 days after the date of enact-
18 ment of this Act. Appointments shall be for the life of the
19 Commission.

20 (d) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall
21 not affect its powers, and shall be filled in the same man-
22 ner as the original appointment.

23 (e) COMPENSATION AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Mem-
24 bers of the Commission shall serve without pay, but shall
25 receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of sub-

1 sistence, in accordance with applicable provisions under
2 subchapter I of chapter 57, United State Code.

3 **SEC. 5 MEETINGS AND QUORUM.**

4 (a) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold its first
5 meeting not later than 30 days after the date on which
6 all members of the Commission have been appointed, and
7 shall hold additional meetings at the call of the chair-
8 person or a majority of its members.

9 (b) QUORUM.—A majority of the Commission shall
10 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

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

12 (a) HEARINGS.—The Commission may hold such
13 hearings and receive such evidence as the Commission may
14 find advisable to fulfill the requirements of this Act.

15 (b) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The
16 Commission may secure directly from any Federal agency
17 such information as the Commission considers necessary
18 to carry out the provisions of this Act.

19 **SEC. 7. REPORT.**

20 Not later than 1 year after the date of the first meet-
21 ing of the Commission, the Commission shall transmit to
22 the Congress a report containing a detailed statement of
23 the findings and conclusions of the Commission, and rec-
24 ommendations for legislation to implement a comprehen-
25 sive water policy.

1 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION.**

2 The Commission shall terminate 30 days after the
3 date on which the Commission transmits a report under
4 section 6.

5 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
7 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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