

(b) Compensation

The Commission may fix the compensation of the Executive Director and other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5 relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for the Executive Director and other personnel may not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(c) Professional staff

The Commission and the Executive Director shall hire Commission staff on the basis of professional and nonpartisan qualifications. Commissioners may not individually hire staff of the Commission. Staff shall serve the Commission as a whole and may not be assigned to the particular service of a single Commissioner or a specified group of Commissioners. This subsection does not prohibit staff personnel from assisting individual members of the Commission with particular needs related to their duties.

(d) Staff and services of other Federal agencies**(1) Department of State**

The Secretary of State shall assist the Commission by providing on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis to the Commission such staff and administrative services as may be necessary and appropriate to perform its functions.

(2) Other Federal agencies

Upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist it in carrying out its functions under this subchapter. The detail of any such personnel shall be without interruption or loss of civil service or Foreign Service status or privilege.

(e) Security clearances

The Executive Director shall be required to obtain a security clearance. The Executive Director may request, on a needs-only basis and in order to perform the duties of the Commission, that other personnel of the Commission be required to obtain a security clearance. The level of clearance shall be the lowest necessary to appropriately perform the duties of the Commission.

(f) Cost

The Commission shall reimburse all appropriate Government agencies for the cost of obtaining clearances for members of the commission,¹ for the executive¹ director,¹ and for any other personnel.

(g) Application of antidiscrimination laws

For purposes of providing remedies and procedures to address alleged violations of rights and protections that pertain to employment discrimination, family and medical leave, fair labor standards, employee polygraph protection, worker adjustment and retraining, veterans'

employment and reemployment, intimidation or reprisal, protections under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.], occupational safety and health, labor-management relations, and rights and protections that apply to employees whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, all employees of the Commission shall be treated as employees whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives and the Commission shall be treated as an employing office of the Senate or the House of Representatives.

(Pub. L. 105-292, title II, §204, as added Pub. L. 106-55, §1(b)(3), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 402; amended Pub. L. 112-75, §3(a), Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 1273.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, referred to in subsec. (g), is Pub. L. 101-336, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 327, which is classified principally to chapter 126 (§12101 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 12101 of Title 42 and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 204 of Pub. L. 105-292 was renumbered section 206 and is classified to section 6434 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 112-75 added subsec. (g).

PENDING CLAIMS

Pub. L. 112-75, §3(b), Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 1273, provided that: "Any administrative or judicial claim or action pending on the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2011] may be maintained under section 204(g) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 [22 U.S.C. 6432b(g)], as added by subsection (a)."

§ 6433. Report of Commission**(a) In general**

Not later than May 1 of each year, the Commission shall submit a report to the President, the Secretary of State, and Congress setting forth its recommendations for United States policy options based on its evaluations under section 6432 of this title.

(b) Classified form of report

The report may be submitted in classified form, together with a public summary of recommendations, if the classification of information would further the purposes of this chapter.

(c) Individual or dissenting views

Each member of the Commission may include the individual or dissenting views of the member.

(Pub. L. 105-292, title II, §205, formerly §203, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2799; renumbered §205, Pub. L. 106-55, §1(b)(2), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 401.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 105-292, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2787, known as the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, which is classified prin-

¹ So in original. Probably should be capitalized.

cipally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6401 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 205 of Pub. L. 105–292 was renumbered section 207 and is classified to section 6435 of this title.

§ 6434. Applicability of other laws

The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

(Pub. L. 105–292, title II, § 206, formerly § 204, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2799; renumbered § 206, Pub. L. 106–55, § 1(b)(2), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 401.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 92–463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, as amended, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 206 of Pub. L. 105–292 was renumbered section 209 and is classified to section 6436 of this title.

§ 6435. Authorization of appropriations

(a) In general

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission \$3,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2015 to carry out the provisions of this subchapter.

(b) Availability of funds

Amounts authorized to be appropriated under subparagraph (a) are authorized to remain available until expended but not later than the date of termination of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 105–292, title II, § 207, formerly § 205, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2800; renumbered § 207 and amended Pub. L. 106–55, § 1(b)(2), (4), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 401, 403; Pub. L. 107–228, div. A, title VI, § 681(e), Sept. 30, 2002, 116 Stat. 1409; Pub. L. 112–75, § 4, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 1273; Pub. L. 113–271, § 1(1), Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 2951.)

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113–271 substituted “2015” for “2014”.

2011—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112–75 substituted “for each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2014” for “for the fiscal year 2003”.

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107–228 inserted “for the fiscal year 2003” after “\$3,000,000”.

1999—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106–55, § 1(b)(4), substituted “to carry out the provisions of this subchapter” for “for each of the fiscal years 1999 and 2000 to carry out the provisions of this subchapter.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 113–271, § 2, Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 2951, provided that: “The amendments made by this Act [amending this section and section 6436 of this title] shall take effect as if enacted on December 10, 2014.”

§ 6435a. Standards of conduct and disclosure

(a) Cooperation with nongovernmental organizations, the Department of State, and Congress

The Commission shall seek to effectively and freely cooperate with all entities engaged in the promotion of religious freedom abroad, governmental and nongovernmental, in the perform-

ance of the Commission’s duties under this subchapter.

(b) Conflict of interest and antinepotism

(1) Member affiliations

Except as provided in paragraph (3), in order to ensure the independence and integrity of the Commission, the Commission may not compensate any nongovernmental agency, project, or person related to or affiliated with any member of the Commission, whether in that member’s direct employ or not. Staff employed by the Commission may not serve in the employ of any nongovernmental agency, project, or person related to or affiliated with any member of the Commission while employed by the Commission.

(2) Staff compensation

Staff of the Commission may not receive compensation from any other source for work performed in carrying out the duties of the Commission while employed by the Commission.

(3) Exception

(A) In general

Subject to subparagraph (B), paragraph (1) shall not apply to payments made for items such as conference fees or the purchase of periodicals or other similar expenses, if such payments would not cause the aggregate value paid to any agency, project, or person for a fiscal year to exceed \$250.

(B) Limitation

Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Commission shall not give special preference to any agency, project, or person related to or affiliated with any member of the Commission.

(4) Definitions

In this subsection, the term “affiliated” means the relationship between a member of the Commission and—

(A) an individual who holds the position of officer, trustee, partner, director, or employee of an agency, project, or person of which that member, or relative of that member of,¹ the Commission is an officer, trustee, partner, director, or employee; or

(B) a nongovernmental agency or project of which that member, or a relative of that member, of the Commission is an officer, trustee, partner, director, or employee.

(c) Contract authority

(1) In general

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Commission may contract with and compensate Government agencies or persons for the conduct of activities necessary to the discharge of its functions under this subchapter. Any such person shall be hired without interruption or loss of civil service or Foreign Service status or privilege. The Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under the authority of section 3109(b) of title 5, except that the Commission may not expend

¹ So in original. The comma probably should follow “member”.