

majority leader, shall designate one of the members of the Commission from the Senate as Cochairman of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 106-286, div. B, title III, §303, Oct. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 898.)

§ 6914. Votes of the Commission

Decisions of the Commission, including adoption of reports and recommendations to the executive branch or to the Congress, shall be made by a majority vote of the members of the Commission present and voting. Two-thirds of the Members¹ of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting business.

(Pub. L. 106-286, div. B, title III, §304, Oct. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 899.)

§ 6915. Expenditure of appropriations

For each fiscal year for which an appropriation is made to the Commission, the Commission shall issue a report to the Congress on its expenditures under that appropriation.

(Pub. L. 106-286, div. B, title III, §305, Oct. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 899.)

§ 6916. Testimony of witnesses, production of evidence; issuance of subpoenas; administration of oaths

In carrying out this subchapter, the Commission may require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and electronically recorded data as it considers necessary. Subpoenas may be issued only pursuant to a two-thirds vote of members of the Commission present and voting. Subpoenas may be issued over the signature of the Chairman of the Commission or any member designated by the Chairman, and may be served by any person designated by the Chairman or such member. The Chairman of the Commission, or any member designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witness.

(Pub. L. 106-286, div. B, title III, §306, Oct. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 899.)

§ 6917. Appropriations for the Commission

(a) Authorization; disbursements

(1) Authorization

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission for fiscal year 2001, and each fiscal year thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to enable it to carry out its functions. Appropriations to the Commission are authorized to remain available until expended.

(2) Disbursements

Appropriations to the Commission shall be disbursed on vouchers approved—

(A) jointly by the Chairman and the Cochairman; or

(B) by a majority of the members of the personnel and administration committee established pursuant to section 6918 of this title.

¹ So in original. Probably should not be capitalized.

(b) Foreign travel for official purposes

Foreign travel for official purposes by members and staff of the Commission may be authorized by either the Chairman or the Cochairman.

(Pub. L. 106-286, div. B, title III, §307, Oct. 10, 2000, 114 Stat. 899.)

§ 6918. Staff of the Commission

(a) Personnel and administration committee

The Commission shall have a personnel and administration committee composed of the Chairman, the Cochairman, the senior member of the Commission from the minority party of the House of Representatives, and the senior member of the Commission from the minority party of the Senate.

(b) Committee functions

All decisions pertaining to the hiring, firing, and fixing of pay of personnel of the Commission shall be by a majority vote of the personnel and administration committee, except that—

(1) the Chairman shall be entitled to appoint and fix the pay of the staff director, and the Cochairman shall be entitled to appoint and fix the pay of the Cochairman's senior staff member; and

(2) the Chairman and Cochairman shall each have the authority to appoint, with the approval of the personnel and administration committee, at least four professional staff members who shall be responsible to the Chairman or the Cochairman (as the case may be) who appointed them.

Subject to subsection (d), the personnel and administration committee may appoint and fix the pay of such other personnel as it considers desirable.

(c) Staff appointments

All staff appointments shall be made without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and general schedule pay rates.

(d) Qualifications of professional staff

The personnel and administration committee shall ensure that the professional staff of the Commission consists of persons with expertise in areas including human rights, internationally recognized worker rights, international economics, law (including international law), rule of law and other foreign assistance programming, Chinese politics, economy and culture, and the Chinese language.

(e) Commission employees as congressional employees

(1) In general

For purposes of pay and other employment benefits, rights, and privileges, and for all other purposes, any employee of the Commission shall be considered to be a congressional employee as defined in section 2107 of title 5.

(2) Competitive status

For purposes of section 3304(c)(1)¹ of title 5, employees of the Commission shall be consid-

¹ See References in Text note below.