

“(1) within 180 days of the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 19, 1996], take appropriate action to expedite the establishment of negotiated rulemaking committees and committees established to resolve disputes under the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act [Pub. L. 101-552, see Short Title note set out under section 571 of this title], including, with respect to negotiated rulemaking committees, eliminating any redundant administrative requirements related to filing a committee charter under section 9 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) and providing public notice of such committee under section 564 of title 5, United States Code; and

“(2) within one year of the date of the enactment of this Act, submit recommendations to Congress for any necessary legislative changes.”

§ 564. Publication of notice; applications for membership on committees

(a) PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.—If, after considering the report of a convener or conducting its own assessment, an agency decides to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the agency shall publish in the Federal Register and, as appropriate, in trade or other specialized publications, a notice which shall include—

- (1) an announcement that the agency intends to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and develop a proposed rule;
- (2) a description of the subject and scope of the rule to be developed, and the issues to be considered;
- (3) a list of the interests which are likely to be significantly affected by the rule;
- (4) a list of the persons proposed to represent such interests and the person or persons proposed to represent the agency;
- (5) a proposed agenda and schedule for completing the work of the committee, including a target date for publication by the agency of a proposed rule for notice and comment;
- (6) a description of administrative support for the committee to be provided by the agency, including technical assistance;
- (7) a solicitation for comments on the proposal to establish the committee, and the proposed membership of the negotiated rulemaking committee; and
- (8) an explanation of how a person may apply or nominate another person for membership on the committee, as provided under subsection (b).

(b) APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OR¹ COMMITTEE.—Persons who will be significantly affected by a proposed rule and who believe that their interests will not be adequately represented by any person specified in a notice under subsection (a)(4) may apply for, or nominate another person for, membership on the negotiated rulemaking committee to represent such interests with respect to the proposed rule. Each application or nomination shall include—

- (1) the name of the applicant or nominee and a description of the interests such person shall represent;
- (2) evidence that the applicant or nominee is authorized to represent parties related to the interests the person proposes to represent;
- (3) a written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good

faith in the development of the rule under consideration; and

(4) the reasons that the persons specified in the notice under subsection (a)(4) do not adequately represent the interests of the person submitting the application or nomination.

(c) PERIOD FOR SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS.—The agency shall provide for a period of at least 30 calendar days for the submission of comments and applications under this section.

(Added Pub. L. 101-648, §3(a), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4971, §584; renumbered §564, Pub. L. 102-354, §3(a)(2), Aug. 26, 1992, 106 Stat. 944.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-354 renumbered section 584 of this title as this section.

§ 565. Establishment of committee

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) DETERMINATION TO ESTABLISH COMMITTEE.—If after considering comments and applications submitted under section 564, the agency determines that a negotiated rulemaking committee can adequately represent the interests that will be significantly affected by a proposed rule and that it is feasible and appropriate in the particular rulemaking, the agency may establish a negotiated rulemaking committee. In establishing and administering such a committee, the agency shall comply with the Federal Advisory Committee Act with respect to such committee, except as otherwise provided in this subchapter.

(2) DETERMINATION NOT TO ESTABLISH COMMITTEE.—If after considering such comments and applications, the agency decides not to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the agency shall promptly publish notice of such decision and the reasons therefor in the Federal Register and, as appropriate, in trade or other specialized publications, a copy of which shall be sent to any person who applied for, or nominated another person for membership on the negotiating¹ rulemaking committee to represent such interests with respect to the proposed rule.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The agency shall limit membership on a negotiated rulemaking committee to 25 members, unless the agency head determines that a greater number of members is necessary for the functioning of the committee or to achieve balanced membership. Each committee shall include at least one person representing the agency.

(c) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The agency shall provide appropriate administrative support to the negotiated rulemaking committee, including technical assistance.

(Added Pub. L. 101-648, §3(a), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4972, §585; renumbered §565 and amended Pub. L. 102-354, §3(a)(2), (3), Aug. 26, 1992, 106 Stat. 944.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770,

¹ So in original. Probably should be “on”.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “negotiated”.

as amended, which is set out in the Appendix to this title.

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-354, §3(a)(2), renumbered section 585 of this title as this section.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 102-354, §3(a)(3), substituted “section 564” for “section 584”.

§ 566. Conduct of committee activity

(a) DUTIES OF COMMITTEE.—Each negotiated rulemaking committee established under this subchapter shall consider the matter proposed by the agency for consideration and shall attempt to reach a consensus concerning a proposed rule with respect to such matter and any other matter the committee determines is relevant to the proposed rule.

(b) REPRESENTATIVES OF AGENCY ON COMMITTEE.—The person or persons representing the agency on a negotiated rulemaking committee shall participate in the deliberations and activities of the committee with the same rights and responsibilities as other members of the committee, and shall be authorized to fully represent the agency in the discussions and negotiations of the committee.

(c) SELECTING FACILITATOR.—Notwithstanding section 10(e) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, an agency may nominate either a person from the Federal Government or a person from outside the Federal Government to serve as a facilitator for the negotiations of the committee, subject to the approval of the committee by consensus. If the committee does not approve the nominee of the agency for facilitator, the agency shall submit a substitute nomination. If a committee does not approve any nominee of the agency for facilitator, the committee shall select by consensus a person to serve as facilitator. A person designated to represent the agency in substantive issues may not serve as facilitator or otherwise chair the committee.

(d) DUTIES OF FACILITATOR.—A facilitator approved or selected by a negotiated rulemaking committee shall—

(1) chair the meetings of the committee in an impartial manner;

(2) impartially assist the members of the committee in conducting discussions and negotiations; and

(3) manage the keeping of minutes and records as required under section 10(b) and (c) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, except that any personal notes and materials of the facilitator or of the members of a committee shall not be subject to section 552 of this title.

(e) COMMITTEE PROCEDURES.—A negotiated rulemaking committee established under this subchapter may adopt procedures for the operation of the committee. No provision of section 553 of this title shall apply to the procedures of a negotiated rulemaking committee.

(f) REPORT OF COMMITTEE.—If a committee reaches a consensus on a proposed rule, at the conclusion of negotiations the committee shall transmit to the agency that established the committee a report containing the proposed rule. If the committee does not reach a consensus on a proposed rule, the committee may

transmit to the agency a report specifying any areas in which the committee reached a consensus. The committee may include in a report any other information, recommendations, or materials that the committee considers appropriate. Any committee member may include as an addendum to the report additional information, recommendations, or materials.

(g) RECORDS OF COMMITTEE.—In addition to the report required by subsection (f), a committee shall submit to the agency the records required under section 10(b) and (c) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

(Added Pub. L. 101-648, §3(a), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4973, §586; renumbered §566, Pub. L. 102-354, §3(a)(2), Aug. 26, 1992, 106 Stat. 944.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsecs. (c), (d)(3), and (g), is section 10 of Pub. L. 92-463, which is set out in the Appendix to this title.

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-354 renumbered section 586 of this title as this section.

§ 567. Termination of committee

A negotiated rulemaking committee shall terminate upon promulgation of the final rule under consideration, unless the committee's charter contains an earlier termination date or the agency, after consulting the committee, or the committee itself specifies an earlier termination date.

(Added Pub. L. 101-648, §3(a), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4974, §587; renumbered §567, Pub. L. 102-354, §3(a)(2), Aug. 26, 1992, 106 Stat. 944.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-354 renumbered section 587 of this title as this section.

§ 568. Services, facilities, and payment of committee member expenses

(a) SERVICES OF CONVENERS AND FACILITATORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An agency may employ or enter into contracts for the services of an individual or organization to serve as a convener or facilitator for a negotiated rulemaking committee under this subchapter, or may use the services of a Government employee to act as a convener or a facilitator for such a committee.

(2) DETERMINATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS.—An agency shall determine whether a person under consideration to serve as convener or facilitator of a committee under paragraph (1) has any financial or other interest that would preclude such person from serving in an impartial and independent manner.

(b) SERVICES AND FACILITIES OF OTHER ENTITIES.—For purposes of this subchapter, an agency may use the services and facilities of other Federal agencies and public and private agencies and instrumentalities with the consent of such agencies and instrumentalities, and with or without reimbursement to such agencies and instrumentalities, and may accept voluntary and