

of the remaining members. The Chair and Secretary are eligible for consecutive reappointment.

“SEC. 5. COMMISSION DUTIES AND POWERS.

“(a) STUDY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall conduct a systematic study of the conditions affecting Black men and boys, including homicide rates, arrest and incarceration rates, poverty, violence, fatherhood, mentorship, drug abuse, death rates, disparate income and wealth levels, school performance in all grade levels including postsecondary education and college, and health issues.

“(2) TRENDS.—The Commission shall document trends regarding the topics described in paragraph (1) and report on the community impacts of relevant government programs within the scope of such topics.

“(b) PROPOSAL OF MEASURES.—The Commission shall propose measures to alleviate and remedy the underlying causes of the conditions described in subsection (a), which may include recommendations of changes to the law, recommendations for how to implement related policies, and recommendations for how to create, develop, or improve upon government programs.

“(c) SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS.—The Commission shall accept suggestions or comments pertinent to the applicable issues from members of Congress, governmental agencies, public and private organizations, and private citizens.

“(d) STAFF AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Office of the Staff Director of the United States Commission on Civil Rights shall provide staff and administrative support to the Commission. All entities of the United States Government shall provide information that is otherwise a public record at the request of the Commission.

“SEC. 6. COMMISSION MEETING REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) FIRST MEETING.—The first meeting of the Commission shall take place no later than 30 days after the initial members are all appointed. Meetings shall be focused on significant issues impacting Black men and boys, for the purpose of initiating research ideas and delegating research tasks to Commission members to initiate the first annual report described in section 7.

“(b) QUARTERLY MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet quarterly. In addition to all quarterly meetings, the Commission shall meet at other times at the call of the Chair or as determined by a majority of Commission members.

“(c) QUORUM; RULE FOR VOTING ON FINAL ACTIONS.—A majority of the members of the Commission constitute a quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present is required for final action.

“(d) EXPECTATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS.—Members are expected to attend all Commission meetings. In the case of an absence, members are expected to report to the Chair prior to the meeting and allowance may be made for an absent member to participate remotely. Members will still be responsible for fulfilling prior commitments, regardless of attendance status. If a member is absent twice in a given year, he or she will be reviewed by the Chair and appointing authority and further action will be considered, including removal and replacement on the Commission.

“(e) MINUTES.—Minutes shall be taken at each meeting by the Secretary, or in that individual’s absence, the Chair shall select another Commission member to take minutes during that absence. The Commission shall make its minutes publicly available and accessible not later than one week after each meeting.

“SEC. 7. ANNUAL REPORT GUIDELINES.

“The Commission shall make an annual report, beginning the year of the first Commission meeting. The report shall address the current conditions affecting Black men and boys and make recommendations to address these issues. The report shall be submitted to the President, the Congress, members of the President’s Cabinet, and the chairs of the appropriate committees of jurisdiction. The Commission shall make the report

publicly available online on a centralized Federal website.

“SEC. 8. COMMISSION COMPENSATION.

“Members of the Commission shall serve on the Commission without compensation.”

**§ 1975a. Duties of Commission**

**(a) Generally**

The Commission—

(1) shall investigate allegations in writing under oath or affirmation relating to deprivations—

- (A) because of color, race, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin; or
- (B) as a result of any pattern or practice of fraud;

of the right of citizens of the United States to vote and have votes counted; and

(2) shall—

- (A) study and collect information relating to;
- (B) make appraisals of the laws and policies of the Federal Government with respect to;
- (C) serve as a national clearinghouse for information relating to; and
- (D) prepare public service announcements and advertising campaigns to discourage;

discrimination or denials of equal protection of the laws under the Constitution of the United States because of color, race, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or in the administration of justice.

**(b) Limitations on investigatory duties**

Nothing in this chapter or any other Act shall be construed as authorizing the Commission, its advisory committees, or any person under its supervision or control, to inquire into or investigate any membership practices or internal operations of any fraternal organization, any college or university fraternity or sorority, any private club, or any religious organization.

**(c) Reports**

**(1) Annual report**

The Commission shall submit to the President and Congress at least one report annually that monitors Federal civil rights enforcement efforts in the United States.

**(2) Other reports generally**

The Commission shall submit such other reports to the President and the Congress as the Commission, the Congress, or the President shall deem appropriate.

**(d) Advisory committees**

The Commission may constitute such advisory committees as it deems advisable. The Commission shall establish at least one such committee in each State and the District of Columbia composed of citizens of that State or District.

**(e) Hearings and ancillary matters**

**(1) Power to hold hearings**

The Commission, or on the authorization of the Commission, any subcommittee of two or more members of the Commission, at least one of whom shall be of each major political party,

may, for the purpose of carrying out this chapter, hold such hearings and act at such times and places as the Commission or such authorized subcommittee deems advisable. Each member of the Commission shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations in connection with the proceedings of the Commission. The holding of a hearing by the Commission or the appointment of a subcommittee to hold a hearing pursuant to this paragraph must be approved by a majority of the Commission, or by a majority of the members present at a meeting when a quorum is present.

**(2) Power to issue subpoenas**

The Commission may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of written or other matter. Such a subpoena may not require the presence of a witness more than 100 miles outside the place wherein the witness is found or resides or is domiciled or transacts business, or has appointed an agent for receipt of service of process. In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena, the Attorney General may in a Federal court of appropriate jurisdiction obtain an appropriate order to enforce the subpoena.

**(3) Witness fees**

A witness attending any proceeding of the Commission shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States.

**(4) Depositions and interrogatories**

The Commission may use depositions and written interrogatories to obtain information and testimony about matters that are the subject of a Commission hearing or report.

**(f) Limitation relating to abortion**

Nothing in this chapter or any other Act shall be construed as authorizing the Commission, its advisory committees, or any other person under its supervision or control to study and collect, make appraisals of, or serve as a clearinghouse for any information about laws and policies of the Federal Government or any other governmental authority in the United States, with respect to abortion.

(Pub. L. 98-183, §3, Nov. 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1302; Pub. L. 102-167, §5, Nov. 26, 1991, 105 Stat. 1101; Pub. L. 103-419, §2, Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4339.)

**Editorial Notes**

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 1975a, Pub. L. 85-315, pt. I, §102, Sept. 9, 1957, 71 Stat. 634; Pub. L. 88-352, title V, §501, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 249; Pub. L. 91-521, §4, Nov. 25, 1970, 84 Stat. 1357; Pub. L. 92-496, §1, Oct. 14, 1972, 86 Stat. 813, established rules of procedure for Commission. See Codification note set out preceding section 1975 of this title.

**AMENDMENTS**

1994—Pub. L. 103-419 amended section generally, substituting provisions relating to duties of Commission for provisions relating to rules of procedure of Commission hearings.

1991—Subsecs. (a), (d), (f). Pub. L. 102-167 substituted “Chairperson” for “Chairman” wherever appearing.

**§ 1975b. Administrative provisions**

**(a) Staff**

**(1) Director**

There shall be a full-time staff director for the Commission who shall—

(A) serve as the administrative head of the Commission; and

(B) be appointed by the President with the concurrence of a majority of the Commission.

**(2) Other personnel**

Within the limitation of its appropriations, the Commission may—

(A) appoint such other personnel as it deems advisable, under the civil service and classification laws; and

(B) procure services, as authorized in section 3109 of title 5, but at rates for individuals not in excess of the daily equivalent paid for positions at the maximum rate for GS-15 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5.

**(b) Compensation of members**

**(1) Generally**

Each member of the Commission who is not otherwise in the service of the Government of the United States shall receive a sum equivalent to the compensation paid at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, prorated on a daily basis for time spent in the work of the Commission.

**(2) Persons otherwise in Government service**

Each member of the Commission who is otherwise in the service of the Government of the United States shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for such other service, but while engaged in the work of the Commission shall be paid actual travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when away from such member's usual place of residence, under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5.

**(c) Voluntary or uncompensated personnel**

The Commission shall not accept or use the services of voluntary or uncompensated persons. This limitation shall apply with respect to services of members of the Commission as it does with respect to services by other persons.

**(d) Rules**

**(1) Generally**

The Commission may make such rules as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

**(2) Continuation of old rules**

Except as inconsistent with this chapter, and until modified by the Commission, the rules of the Commission on Civil Rights in effect on September 30, 1994 shall be the initial rules of the Commission.

**(e) Cooperation**

All Federal agencies shall cooperate fully with the Commission to the end that it may effectively carry out its functions and duties.

(Pub. L. 98-183, §4, Nov. 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1304; Pub. L. 103-419, §2, Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4340.)