

ber was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term.

(3) A member of the Council may serve after the expiration of the term of such member until the successor of such member has taken office.

**(d) Removal**

Members of the Council may be removed only for malfeasance in office.

**(e) Conflict of interest**

A member of the Council shall not serve as an agent for a foreign principal or a lobbyist for a foreign entity (as the terms “lobbyist” and “foreign entity” are defined under section 1602 of title 2).

**(f) Expenses**

Each member of the Council, while engaged in duties as a member of the Council, shall be paid actual travel expenses, and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when away from the usual place of residence of such member, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5.

**(g) Quorum**

**(1) In general**

Seven members of the Council constitute a quorum, except that a lesser number may hold hearings if such action is approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire Council.

**(2) Initial organization**

The Council shall not commence its duties until all the nongovernmental members have been appointed and have qualified.

**(h) Chairperson**

The Council shall elect, by a two-thirds vote of the entire Council, a chairperson from among the nongovernmental members.

**(i) Meetings**

The Council shall meet at the call of the chairperson or a majority of the members.

**(j) Policy actions**

Except as provided in subsection (g), no action establishing policy shall be taken by the Council unless approved by two-thirds of the entire membership of the Council.

**(k) Alternate members**

(1) Each member of the Council shall designate one alternate representative to attend any meeting that such member is unable to attend.

(2) In the course of attending any such meeting, an alternate representative shall be considered a member of the Council for all purposes, except for voting.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title V, § 5205, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1457; Pub. L. 101-382, title I, § 133(a), Aug. 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 648; Pub. L. 104-65, § 12(a), Dec. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 701.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1995—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-65, which directed amendment of section “5206(e) of the Competitiveness Policy Council Act (15 U.S.C. 4804(e))” by inserting “or a lobbyist for a foreign entity (as the terms ‘lobbyist’ and ‘foreign entity’ are defined under section 1602 of title 2)” after “an agent for a foreign principal”, was

executed to section 5205(e) of such Act, which is subsec. (e) of this section, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

1990—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-382, § 133(a)(1), substituted reference to Aug. 20, 1990, for reference to Jan. 21, 1989.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 101-382, § 133(a)(2), added subsec. (e) and struck out former subsec. (e) which read as follows:

“(1) A member of the Council may not serve as an agent for a foreign principal.

“(2) Members of the Council shall be required to file a financial disclosure report under title II of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-521), except that such reports shall be held confidential and exempt from any law otherwise requiring their public disclosure.

“(3) Members of the Council shall be deemed to be special Government employees, as defined in section 202 of title 18, for purposes of sections 201, 202, 203, 205, and 208 of such title.”

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101-382, § 133(a)(2), added subsec. (f) and struck out former subsec. (f) “Compensation” which read as follows:

“(1) Each member of the Council who is not employed by the Federal Government or any State or local government—

“(A) shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the rate for GS-18 of the General Schedule pursuant to section 5332 of title 5 for each day such member is engaged in duties as a member of the Council; and

“(B) shall be paid actual travel expenses, and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when away from the usual place of residence of such member, in accordance with section 5703 of such title.

“(2) Each member of the Council who is employed by the Federal Government or any State or local government shall serve on the Council without additional compensation, but while engaged in duties as a member of the Council shall be paid actual travel expenses, and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when away from the usual place of residence of such member, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5.”

Subsec. (l). Pub. L. 101-382, § 133(a)(3), struck out subsec. (l) which read as follows: “The Council may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay for GS-16 of the General Schedule.”

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 101-382, § 133(a)(3), struck out subsec. (m) which read as follows: “Upon request of the Council, the head of any other Federal agency is authorized to detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such agency to the Council to assist the Council in carrying out its duties under this chapter.”

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1995 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-65 effective Jan. 1, 1996, except as otherwise provided, see section 24 of Pub. L. 104-65, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1601 of Title 2, The Congress.

**§ 4805. Executive Director and staff**

**(a) Executive Director**

(1) The principal administrative officer of the Council shall be an Executive Director, who shall be appointed by the Council and who shall be paid at a rate not to exceed GS-18 of the General Schedule.

(2) The Executive Director shall serve on a full-time basis.

**(b) Staff**

(1) Within the limitations of appropriations to the Council, the Executive Director may appoint

a staff for the Council in accordance with the Federal civil service and classification laws.

(2) The staff of the Council shall be deemed to be special government employees as defined in section 202 of title 18 for purposes of title II of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978<sup>1</sup> and sections 201, 202, 203, 205, 207, and 208 of title 18.

**(c) Experts and consultants**

The Council may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay for GS-16 of the General Schedule.

**(d) Details**

Upon request of the Council, the head of any other Federal agency is authorized to detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such agency to the Council to assist the Council in carrying out its duties under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title V, § 5206, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1459; Pub. L. 101-382, title I, § 133(b), Aug. 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 648.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

The Ethics in Government Act of 1978, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), is Pub. L. 95-521, Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1824. Title II of the Act was set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-194, title II, § 201, Nov. 30, 1989, 103 Stat. 1724. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

**AMENDMENTS**

1990—Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 101-382 added subsecs. (c) and (d).

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS TO GS-16, 17, OR 18 PAY RATES**

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS-16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, § 101(c)(1)] of Pub. L. 101-509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

**§ 4806. Powers of Council**

**(a) Hearings**

The Council may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter, hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Council considers appropriate. The Council may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the Council.

**(b) Information**

(1)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Council may secure directly from any Federal agency information necessary to enable the Council to carry out the provisions of this chapter. Upon request of the chairman of the Council, the head of such agency shall promptly furnish such information to the Council.

(B) Subparagraph (A) does not apply to matters that are specifically authorized under cri-

teria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order.

(2) In any case in which the Council receives any information from a Federal agency, the Council shall not disclose such information to the public unless such agency is authorized to disclose such information pursuant to Federal law.

**(c) Consultation with President and Congress**

No later than 120 days after the initial members are appointed to the Council, the Council shall submit a report to the President, the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, and the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and of the Senate, that proposes the type and scope of activities the Council shall undertake, including the extent to which the Council will coordinate activities with other advisory committees relating to trade and competitiveness in order to maximize the effectiveness of the Council.

**(d) Gifts**

The Council may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

**(e) Use of mails**

The Council may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other Federal agencies.

**(f) Administrative and support services**

The Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Council, on a reimbursable basis, such administrative and support services as the Council may request.

**(g) Subcouncils**

(1) The Council may establish, for such period of time as the Council determines appropriate, subcouncils of public and private leaders to analyze specific competitive issues.

(2) Any such subcouncil shall include representatives of business, labor, government, and other individuals or representatives of groups whose participation is considered by the Council to be important to developing a full understanding of the subject with which the subcouncil is concerned.

(3) Any such subcouncil shall include a representative of the Federal Government.

(4) Any such subcouncil shall assess the actual or potential competitiveness problems facing the industry or the specific policy issues with which the subcouncil is concerned and shall formulate specific recommendations for responses by business, government, and labor—

(A) to encourage adjustment and modernization of the industry involved;

(B) to monitor and facilitate industry responsiveness to opportunities identified under section 4807(b)(1)(B) of this title;

(C) to encourage the ability of the industry involved to compete in markets identified under section 4807(b)(1)(C) of this title; or

(D) to alleviate the problems in a specific policy area facing more than one industry.

(5) Any discussion held by any subcouncil shall not be considered to violate any Federal or State antitrust law.

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.