

## Calendar No. 117

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1014

To establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 3, 2019

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. INHOFE) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and  
Public Works

JUNE 19, 2019

Reported by Mr. BARRASSO, without amendment

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## A BILL

To establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, and for  
other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Route 66 Centennial  
5 Commission Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1           (1) Route 66 was the first all-paved highway in  
2           the United States under the United States Highway  
3           System connecting the Midwest to California, and  
4           has played a major role in the history of the United  
5           States;

6           (2) Route 66 was the symbol of opportunity for  
7           hundreds of thousands of people seeking escape from  
8           the Dust Bowl in the 1930s, serving as a “road to  
9           opportunity” in the West, and providing employment  
10          during the Great Depression, as thousands were put  
11          to work on road crews to pave the road;

12          (3) Route 66 was invaluable in transporting  
13          troops, equipment, and supplies across the country  
14          to the West, where the Federal Government estab-  
15          lished multiple industries and military bases during  
16          World War II, and on the conclusion of the war in  
17          1945, Route 66 was a key route taken by thousands  
18          of troops as they returned home;

19          (4) Route 66 symbolized the positive outlook of  
20          the United States during the postwar economic re-  
21          covery in the 1950s and 1960s, serving as an icon  
22          of free-spirited independence and linking people  
23          across the United States;

24          (5) during the 1950s and 1960s, the tourist in-  
25          dustry along Route 66 grew tremendously, giving

1 rise to countless tourist courts, motels, service sta-  
 2 tions, garages, and diners;

3 (6) since June 27, 1985, when Route 66 was  
 4 decommissioned as a Federal highway, the popu-  
 5 larity and mythical stature of Route 66 has grown  
 6 domestically and internationally, as the road has ex-  
 7perienced a rebirth of interest and support; and

8 (7) the year 2026 will be the centennial anni-  
 9 versary of Route 66, and a commission should be es-  
 10 tablished to study and recommend in a report to  
 11 Congress activities that are fitting and proper to cel-  
 12 ebrate that anniversary in a manner that appro-  
 13 priately honors the Mother Road of the United  
 14 States.

### 15 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT.**

16 There is established a commission to be known as the  
 17 “Route 66 Centennial Commission” (referred to in this  
 18 Act as the “Commission”).

### 19 **SEC. 4. DUTIES.**

20 The Commission shall—

21 (1) plan, develop a list of, and carry out such  
 22 activities as the Commission determines to be appro-  
 23 priate to honor Route 66 on the occasion of its cen-  
 24 tennial anniversary;

1           (2) provide advice and assistance to Federal,  
2       State, and local governmental agencies and civic  
3       groups in carrying out activities to honor Route 66  
4       on the occasion of its centennial anniversary;

5           (3) recommend activities that may be carried  
6       out by the Federal Government to honor Route 66  
7       on the occasion of its centennial anniversary; and

8           (4) submit to Congress reports pursuant to sec-  
9       tion 8.

10 **SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP.**

11       (a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission  
12 shall be composed of 15 members appointed as follows:

13           (1) 3 members, each of whom shall be an eligi-  
14       ble individual described in subsection (b), appointed  
15       by the President on the recommendation of the Sec-  
16       retary of Transportation.

17           (2) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
18       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
19       President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
20       Illinois.

21           (3) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
22       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
23       President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
24       Missouri.

1           (4) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
2       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
3       President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
4       Kansas.

5           (5) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
6       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
7       President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
8       Oklahoma.

9           (6) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
10      vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
11      President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
12      Texas.

13          (7) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
14      vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
15      President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
16      New Mexico.

17          (8) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
18      vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
19      President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
20      Arizona.

21          (9) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
22      vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
23      President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
24      California.

1           (10) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
 2       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
 3       Speaker of the House of Representatives.

4           (11) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
 5       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
 6       Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

7           (12) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
 8       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
 9       Majority Leader of the Senate.

10          (13) 1 member, who shall be an eligible indi-  
 11       vidual described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
 12       Minority Leader of the Senate.

13       (b) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—An eligible individual  
 14 referred to in subsection (a) is an individual with—

15           (1) a demonstrated dedication to educating oth-  
 16       ers about the importance of historical figures and  
 17       events; and

18           (2) substantial knowledge and appreciation of  
 19       Route 66.

20       (c) TIME OF APPOINTMENT.—Each initial appoint-  
 21 ment of a member of the Commission shall be made before  
 22 the expiration of the 120-day period beginning on the date  
 23 of enactment of this Act.

24       (d) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the  
 25 life of the Commission.

1 (e) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall  
2 not affect the powers of the Commission but shall be filled  
3 in the manner in which the original appointment was  
4 made.

5 (f) BASIC PAY.—Members shall serve on the Commis-  
6 sion without pay.

7 (g) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall receive  
8 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,  
9 in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5,  
10 United States Code.

11 (h) QUORUM.—7 members of the Commission shall  
12 constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold hear-  
13 ings.

14 (i) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—The Commission shall  
15 select a Chair and Vice Chair from among the members  
16 of the Commission.

17 (j) MEETINGS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall meet  
19 at the call of the Chair.

20 (2) LOCATION.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
22 subparagraph (B), each meeting and hearing of  
23 the Commission shall be held in a location  
24 along the Route 66 corridor.

1 (B) EXCEPTION.—The Commission may  
 2 hold a meeting or hearing in a location that is  
 3 not along the Route 66 corridor if, in the deter-  
 4 mination of the Commission, holding the meet-  
 5 ing or hearing in that location is necessary to  
 6 accomplish the duties of the Commission.

7 **SEC. 6. DIRECTOR AND STAFF.**

8 (a) DIRECTOR.—The Commission may appoint and  
 9 fix the pay of a Director and such additional personnel  
 10 as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

11 (b) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE  
 12 LAWS.—

13 (1) DIRECTOR.—The Director of the Commis-  
 14 sion shall—

15 (A) be appointed subject to the provisions  
 16 of title 5, United States Code, governing ap-  
 17 pointments in the competitive service; and

18 (B) be paid at a rate not to exceed the rate  
 19 payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule  
 20 under section 5315 of title 5, United States  
 21 Code.

22 (2) STAFF.—The staff of the Commission  
 23 shall—



1 (A) be appointed subject to the provisions  
2 of title 5, United States Code, governing ap-  
3 pointments in the competitive service; and

4 (B) be paid in accordance with the provi-  
5 sions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chap-  
6 ter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating  
7 to classification and General Schedule pay  
8 rates.

9 **SEC. 7. POWERS.**

10 (a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission  
11 may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and  
12 places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as  
13 the Commission considers to be appropriate to carry out  
14 this Act.

15 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any mem-  
16 ber or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the  
17 Commission, take any action that the Commission is au-  
18 thorized to take under this Act.

19 (c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may secure  
21 directly from any Federal department or agency in-  
22 formation necessary to enable the Commission to  
23 carry out this Act.

24 (2) REQUIREMENT.—Subject to paragraph (3),  
25 on request of the Chair of the Commission, the head

1 of a Federal department or agency shall provide to  
2 the Commission the requested information.

3 (3) EXCEPTION.—Nothing in this subsection  
4 shall require any Federal department or agency to  
5 produce records that are subject to a common law  
6 evidentiary privilege.

7 (d) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United  
8 States mails in the same manner and under the same con-  
9 ditions as other Federal departments and agencies.

10 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—On the request of the Com-  
12 mission, the Administrator of General Services shall  
13 provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis,  
14 the administrative support services necessary for the  
15 Commission to carry out this Act.

16 (2) DETAILEES.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the  
18 Commission, the head of any Federal agency or  
19 department may detail to the Commission, on a  
20 reimbursable basis, any employee of the agency  
21 or department.

22 (B) CIVIL SERVICE STATUS.—The detail of  
23 an employee under subparagraph (A) shall be  
24 without interruption or loss of civil service sta-  
25 tus or privilege.

1 (f) GIFTS.—The Commission may accept, use, and  
2 dispose of gifts, grants, bequests, or devises of money,  
3 services, or property from any public or private source for  
4 the purpose of covering the costs incurred by the Commis-  
5 sion in carrying out this Act.

6 **SEC. 8. REPORTS.**

7 (a) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may sub-  
8 mit to Congress such interim reports as the Commission  
9 considers to be appropriate.

10 (b) COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after  
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission  
13 shall submit to the President and Congress a report  
14 that includes specific recommendations for the com-  
15 memoration of the centennial of Route 66 and re-  
16 lated events.

17 (2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report under  
18 paragraph (1)—

19 (A) shall include recommendations for the  
20 allocation of financial and administrative re-  
21 sponsibility among the public and private au-  
22 thorities and organizations recommended for  
23 participation by the Commission; and

24 (B) may recommend activities such as—

1 (i) the production, publication, and  
2 distribution of books, pamphlets, films,  
3 electronic publications, and other edu-  
4 cational materials focusing on the history  
5 and impact of Route 66 on the United  
6 States and the world;

7 (ii) bibliographical and documentary  
8 projects, publications, and electronic re-  
9 sources;

10 (iii) conferences, convocations, lec-  
11 tures, seminars, and other programs;

12 (iv) the development of programs by  
13 and for libraries, museums, parks, and his-  
14 toric sites, including national traveling ex-  
15 hibitions;

16 (v) ceremonies and celebrations com-  
17 memorating specific events;

18 (vi) the production, distribution, and  
19 performance of artistic works, and of pro-  
20 grams and activities, focusing on the na-  
21 tional and international significance of  
22 Route 66; and

23 (vii) the issuance of commemorative  
24 coins, medals, certificates of recognition,  
25 and postage stamps.

1       (c) FINAL REPORT.—The Commission shall submit  
2 to the President and Congress a final report by not later  
3 than 90 days before the termination of the Commission  
4 under section 9.

5 **SEC. 9. TERMINATION.**

6       The Commission shall terminate not later than June  
7 30, 2027.

8 **SEC. 10. CLARIFICATION REGARDING FUNDING.**

9       (a) IN GENERAL.—No additional funds are author-  
10 ized to carry out the requirements of this Act.

11       (b) USE OF EXISTING FUNDS.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this Act  
13 may be carried out using amounts made available to  
14 the Secretary of Transportation and not otherwise  
15 obligated, from accounts identified pursuant to para-  
16 graph (2).

17           (2) IDENTIFICATION OF EXISTING FUNDS.—  
18 The Secretary of Transportation shall identify any  
19 accounts of the Secretary from which the Secretary  
20 could use funds available in that account and not  
21 otherwise obligated to carry out this Act.

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