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ABSTRACT

A bill providing for the creation of a National Fire Academy in order to provide for and encourage training, education, and research and development is discussed. Specific objectives of the bill include: (1) To provide a working knowledge and an understanding of the current problems and difficulties, both administrative and operational, with respect to the fire services, (2) To create an active interest among eligible individuals in the career of firefighting, and in related areas, including the administration of fire protection organizations, (3) To provide a program of continuing education for individuals seeking to further their skills and abilities in the areas of firefighting and administration of fire protection organizations, and (4) To explore with fire departments, related agencies, and professional firefighting organizations, ways in which the National Bureau of Standards and the National Fire Academy can stimulate discussion, conferences, seminars, specialized courses and research to best serve the needs of the country to provide effective fire prevention. (Author/CK)

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92^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 13581

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 1972

Mr. LUJAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on Science and Astronautics

A BILL

To provide for the creation of the National Fire Academy, 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 SHORT TITLE

4 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the "National Fire
5 Education and Training Act of 1972".

6 PURPOSE

7 SEC. 2. It is the purpose of this Act to provide for the
8 creation of a National Fire Academy in order to provide for
9 and encourage training, education, and research and de-
10 velopment in order to—

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1 (1) provide a working knowledge and an under-
2 standing of the current problems and difficulties, both ad-
3 ministrative and operational, with respect to the fire
4 services;

5 (2) create an active interest among eligible in-
6 dividuals in the career of firefighting, and in related
7 areas, including the administration of fire protection
8 organizations;

9 (3) provide a program of continuing education for
10 individuals seeking to further their skills and abilities in
11 the areas of firefighting and the administration of fire
12 protection organizations; and

13 (4) explore with fire departments, related agen-
14 cies, and professional firefighting organizations, ways in
15 which the National Bureau of Standards and its facili-
16 ties, in general, and the National Fire Academy, in par-
17 ticular, can stimulate discussion, conferences, seminars,
18 specialized courses, and research to best serve the needs
19 of this country to provide effective fire prevention, fire
20 protection, and fire suppression.

21 ESTABLISHMENT OF ACADEMY

22 SEC. 3. There is authorized to be established, for the
23 purposes described in section 2, an appropriate nonprofit,
24 nongovernmental instrument to be known as the National
25 Academy of Fire Prevention and Control (hereinafter re-

1 ferred to as the "Academy"), which shall not be an agency
2 or establishment of the United States Government. The
3 Academy shall be subject to the provisions of this Act and,
4 to the extent consistent with this Act, to a charter of the
5 Congress if such a charter is requested and issued or to the
6 District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act if that is
7 deemed preferable.

8 ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACADEMY

9 SEC. 4. (a) The Academy shall have a board of direc-
10 tors (hereinafter referred to as the "board") consisting of
11 fifteen members, appointed initially by the President of the
12 United States, by and with the advice and consent of the
13 Senate. The President shall designate, as Chairman, one of
14 the fifteen members of the board. The board shall be rea-
15 sonably representative of the various regions of the coun-
16 try, of the various segments of the community including
17 private industry and labor, of all levels of government, of
18 consumer interests, and of the various types of experience
19 which are appropriate to the functions and responsibilities of
20 the Academy.

21 (b) The members of the initial board shall serve as
22 incorporators and shall take whatever actions are necessary
23 to establish the Academy as provided for under section 3 (a) .

24 (c) The term of office of each member of the initial
25 and succeeding boards shall be three years; except that (1)

1 any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to
2 the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was
3 appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such
4 term; and (2) the terms of office of members first taking
5 office shall begin on the date of incorporation and shall
6 expire, as designated at the time of their appointment,
7 one-third at the end of three years, one-third at the end
8 of four years, and one-third at the end of five years. No
9 member shall be eligible to serve in excess of three con-
10 secutive terms of three years each. Notwithstanding the
11 preceding provisions of this subsection, a member whose
12 term has expired may serve until his successor has qualified.

13 (d) Any vacancy in the initial and succeeding boards
14 shall not affect its power, but shall be filled in the manner
15 provided for by the organizational rules and procedures of
16 the Academy.

17 (e) (1) The members of the initial or succeeding boards
18 shall not, by reason of such membership, be deemed to be
19 employees of the United States Government. Except as pro-
20 vided in paragraph (2), members shall, while attending
21 meetings of the board or while engaged in duties related
22 to such meetings or in other activities of the board pursuant
23 to this Act, be entitled to receive compensation at the rate
24 of \$100 per day including traveltime.

1 (2) Members of the board who are full-time officers or
2 employees of the United States shall receive no additional
3 pay on account of their service on the board.

4 (3) While away from their homes or regular places of
5 business in the performance of services for the board, mem-
6 bers of the board shall be allowed travel expenses, including
7 per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons
8 employed intermittently in the Government service are al-
9 lowed expenses under section 5703 (b) of title 5 of the
10 United States Code.

11 (f) Eight members of the board shall constitute a
12 quorum.

13 (g) The board shall meet at the call of the chairman or
14 a majority of its members.

15 (h) The Academy shall have a president and such other
16 executive officers and employees as may be appointed by the
17 board at rates of compensation fixed by the board. No such
18 executive officer or employee may receive any salary or other
19 compensation from any source other than the Academy dur-
20 ing the period of his employment by the Academy.

21 **NONPROFIT AND NONPOLITICAL NATURE OF THE ACADEMY**

22 **SEC. 5. (a)** The Academy shall have no power to issue
23 any shares of stock, or to declare or pay any dividends.

24 (b) No part of the income or assets of the Academy
25 shall inure to the benefit of any director, officer, employee, or

1 any other individual except as salary or reasonable compensa-
2 tion for services.

3 (c) The Academy shall not contribute to or otherwise
4 support any political party or candidate for elective public
5 office.

6 FUNCTIONS OF THE ACADEMY

7 SEC. 6. (a) The Academy shall exercise its functions
8 and responsibilities in eight general areas relating to fire edu-
9 cation and training, as follows:

10 (1) recommended actions which can be taken by
11 Federal, State, and local government, and by private
12 individuals and organizations to improve and strengthen
13 fire protection, fire prevention, and fire suppression;

14 (2) promote and encourage eligible individuals to
15 pursue careers as administrators of fire service organiza-
16 tions at all levels;

17 (3) develop a curriculum and carry out programs
18 of instructional assistance and special workshops, semi-
19 nars, conferences, and other such instructional devices
20 that are necessary, for the purpose of introduction and
21 dissemination of information gained from investigation,
22 research, and development concerning the areas of fire
23 protection, fire prevention, and fire suppression;

24 (4) develop fire service extension programs to en-
25 courage and assist States, counties, and local communi-

1 ties to provide continuous training and operational
2 programs in firefighting techniques and procedures con-
3 cerning the utilization of firefighting equipment, fire
4 suppression and other areas related to firefighting in
5 general;

6 (5) promote and assist universities, community col-
7 leges, and other institutions of learning, in planning, de-
8 veloping, strengthening, improving, and carrying out
9 programs and projects concerning fire administration;

10 (6) assist States, counties, and local communities
11 in the development of training programs for firemen;

12 (7) gather data and disseminate information to
13 States, counties, and local communities with respect to
14 firefighting equipment, firefighting techniques, fire serv-
15 ices administration, and other areas related to firefight-
16 ing; and to establish and maintain educational programs
17 for the purpose of informing the public of fire
18 hazards and fire safety techniques, and to encourage
19 avoidance of such hazards and use of such techniques;
20 and

21 (8) establish a voluntary, uniform national testing
22 program for the purpose of enabling States, counties,
23 and local communities to evaluate the skills level of
24 their firefighters and fire administrators.

1 (b) The Academy, in exercising its functions and re-
2 sponsibilities under subsection (a), shall give particular at-
3 tention to the development of methods for encouraging all
4 sectors of the economy to cooperate with the Academy.

5 FINANCING OF THE ACADEMY'S ACTIVITIES

6 SEC. 7. (a) The Academy is authorized to accept con-
7 tracts and grants from Federal, State, and local govern-
8 mental agencies and other entities, and grants and donations
9 from private organizations, institutions, and individuals.

10 (b) The Academy may establish fees and other charges
11 for services provided by the Academy.

12 (c) Amounts received by the Academy under this sec-
13 tion shall be in addition to any amounts which may be ap-
14 propriated to it under section 8.

15 SEC. 8. There are authorized to be appropriated to the
16 Academy such sums as may be necessary to carry out the
17 provisions of this Act.

92^d CONGRESS
2^d Session

H. R. 13581

A BILL

To provide for the creation of the National Fire
Academy, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LUGAN

MARCH 6, 1972

Referred to the Committee on Science and Astronautics

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