

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4665

To establish the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland memorial fellowship programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 1998

Mr. HALL of Ohio (for himself, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. WOLF, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mrs. EMERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To establish the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland memorial fellowship programs, 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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Congressional Hunger Fellows Act of 1997”.

6 (b) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

7 (1) There is a critical need for compassionate  
8 individuals who are committed to assisting people

1 who suffer from hunger as well as a need for such  
2 individuals to initiate and administer solutions to the  
3 hunger problem.

4 (2) Bill Emerson, the distinguished late Rep-  
5 resentative from the 8th District of Missouri, dem-  
6 onstrated his commitment to solving the problem of  
7 hunger in a bipartisan manner, his commitment to  
8 public service, and his great affection for the institu-  
9 tion and the ideals of the United States Congress.

10 (3) George T. (Mickey) Leland, the distin-  
11 guished late Representative from the 18th District  
12 of Texas, demonstrated his compassion for those in  
13 need, his high regard for public service, and his live-  
14 ly exercise of political talents.

15 (4) The special concern that Mr. Emerson and  
16 Mr. Leland demonstrated during their lives for the  
17 hungry and poor was an inspiration for others to  
18 work toward the goals of equality and justice for all.

19 (5) These two outstanding leaders maintained a  
20 special bond of friendship regardless of political af-  
21 filiation and worked together to encourage future  
22 leaders to recognize and provide service to others,  
23 and therefore it is especially appropriate to honor  
24 the memory of Mr. Emerson and Mr. Leland by cre-  
25 ating a fellowship program to develop and train the

1 future leaders of the United States to pursue careers  
2 in humanitarian service.

3 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT; BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established as an inde-  
5 pendent entity of the executive branch of the United  
6 States Government, the Congressional Hunger Fellows  
7 Program (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “Pro-  
8 gram”).

9 (b) BOARD OF TRUSTEES.—The Program shall be  
10 subject to the supervision and direction of a Board of  
11 Trustees.

12 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The Board shall be com-  
13 posed of 7 voting members appointed under sub-  
14 paragraph (A) and 1 nonvoting ex officio member  
15 designated in subparagraph (B) as follows:

16 (A) VOTING MEMBERS.—(i) The President  
17 in consultation with the Speaker of the House  
18 of Representatives and the minority leader,  
19 shall appoint 4 members.

20 (ii) The President in consultation with the  
21 majority leader and the minority leader of the  
22 Senate shall appoint 2 members.

23 (iii) The President in consultation with the  
24 Secretary of Agriculture shall appoint 1 mem-  
25 ber.

1           (B) NONVOTING MEMBER.—The Executive  
2           Director of the Program shall serve as a non-  
3           voting ex officio member.

4           (2) TERMS.—Members of the Board shall serve  
5           a term of 4 years.

6           (3) VACANCY.—

7           (A) AUTHORITY OF BOARD.—A vacancy in  
8           the membership of the Board does not affect  
9           the power of the remaining members to carry  
10          out this Act.

11          (B) APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSORS.—A  
12          vacancy in the membership of the Board shall  
13          be filled in the manner in which the original ap-  
14          pointment was made.

15          (C) INCOMPLETE TERM.—If a member of  
16          the Board does not serve the full term applica-  
17          ble to the member, the individual appointed to  
18          fill the resulting vacancy shall be appointed for  
19          the remainder of the term of the predecessor of  
20          the individual.

21          (4) CHAIRPERSON.—As the first order of busi-  
22          ness of the first meeting of the Board, the members  
23          shall elect a Chairperson.

24          (5) COMPENSATION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
2 graph (B), members of the Board may not re-  
3 ceive compensation for service on the Board.

4 (B) TRAVEL.—Members of the Board may  
5 be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other  
6 necessary expenses incurred in carrying out the  
7 duties of the Program.

8 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES; AUTHORITY OF PROGRAM.**

9 (a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Program are—  
10 (1) to encourage future leaders of the United  
11 States—

12 (A) to pursue careers in humanitarian  
13 service;

14 (B) to recognize the needs of people who  
15 are hungry and poor; and

16 (C) to provide assistance and compassion  
17 for those in need;

18 (2) to increase awareness of the importance of  
19 public service; and

20 (3) to provide training and development oppor-  
21 tunities for such leaders.

22 (b) AUTHORITY.—The Program is authorized to de-  
23 velop such fellowships, activities, and services to carry out  
24 the purposes of this Act, including the fellowships de-  
25 scribed in subsection (c).

1 (c) FELLOWSHIPS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Program shall establish  
3 and develop the following fellowships:

4 (A) The Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowship  
5 shall address domestic hunger and other hu-  
6 manitarian needs.

7 (B) The Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship  
8 shall address international hunger and other  
9 humanitarian needs.

10 (2) CURRICULUM.—The fellowships established  
11 under paragraph (1) shall provide education and  
12 training to develop the skills and understanding of  
13 the fellows necessary to improve the humanitarian  
14 conditions and the lives of individuals who suffer  
15 from hunger, including—

16 (A) training in direct service to the hungry  
17 in conjunction with community based organiza-  
18 tions through a program of field placement; and

19 (B) experience in policy development  
20 through placement in a governmental entity or  
21 nonprofit organization.

22 (3) EVALUATION.—The Program shall from  
23 time to time conduct an evaluation of the fellowships  
24 under this Act.

1 **SEC. 4. TERMS OF FELLOWSHIPS.**

2 (a) PERIOD OF FELLOWSHIP.—An applicant selected  
3 under subsection (b) shall be awarded a fellowship for a  
4 period not to exceed 24 months.

5 (b) SELECTION OF FELLOWS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—A fellowship shall be award-  
7 ed pursuant to a nationwide competition established  
8 by the Executive Director with the approval of a ma-  
9 jority of the Board. The Executive Director shall es-  
10 tablish the procedure for the competition process.

11 (2) QUALIFICATION.—A successful applicant  
12 shall be an individual who has demonstrated—

13 (A) a desire to pursue a career in humani-  
14 tarian service; and

15 (B) outstanding potential for such a ca-  
16 reer.

17 (3) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—The Board shall de-  
18 termine the amount of an educational award and liv-  
19 ing allowance that a successful applicant will receive  
20 under a fellowship.

21 (4) RECOGNITION OF FELLOWSHIP RECEIPT.—

22 (A) A recipient of a fellowship from the  
23 Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowship shall be  
24 known as an “Emerson Fellow”.

1                   (B) A recipient of a fellowship from the  
2                   Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship shall be  
3                   known as a “Leland Fellow”.

4 **SEC. 5. TRUST FUND.**

5           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Con-  
6 gressional Hunger Fellows Trust Fund (hereinafter in this  
7 Act referred to as the “Fund”) in the Treasury of the  
8 United States, consisting of amounts appropriated to the  
9 Fund under section 9, amounts credited to it under sub-  
10 section (c), and amounts received under section 7(c)(2).

11           (b) INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of the  
12 Treasury shall invest the full amount of the Fund. Each  
13 investment shall be made in an interest bearing obligation  
14 of the United States or an obligation guaranteed as to  
15 principal and interest by the United States that, as deter-  
16 mined by the Secretary in consultation with the Board,  
17 has a maturity suitable for the Fund.

18           (c) RETURN ON INVESTMENT.—Except as provided  
19 in section 6(a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall credit  
20 to the Fund the interest on, and the proceeds from sale  
21 or redemption of, obligations held in the Fund.

22 **SEC. 6. EXPENDITURES; AUDIT.**

23           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury  
24 shall transfer to the Program from the amounts described  
25 in section 5(c) and section 7(c)(2) such sums as the Board

1 determines are necessary to enable the Program to carry  
2 out the provisions of this Act.

3 (b) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of the Treasury  
4 may not transfer to the Program the amounts appro-  
5 priated to the Fund under section 9.

6 (c) AUDIT BY GAO.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of  
8 the United States shall conduct an annual audit of  
9 the accounts of the Program.

10 (2) BOOKS.—The Program shall make available  
11 to the Comptroller General all books, accounts, fi-  
12 nancial records, reports, files, and all other papers,  
13 things, or property belonging to or in use by the  
14 Program and necessary to facilitate such audit.

15 (3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Comptroller  
16 General shall submit a copy of the results of each  
17 such audit to the Congress.

18 **SEC. 7. STAFF; POWERS OF PROGRAM.**

19 (a) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall appoint an  
21 Executive Director of the Program who shall be a  
22 nonvoting member of the Board and who shall ad-  
23 minister the Program. The Executive Director shall  
24 carry out such other functions consistent with the  
25 provisions of this Act as the Board shall prescribe.

1           (2) RESTRICTION.—The Executive Director  
2 may not serve as Chairperson of the Board.

3           (3) COMPENSATION.—The Executive Director  
4 shall be paid at a rate not to exceed the rate of basic  
5 pay payable for level GS–15 of the General Sched-  
6 ule.

7           (b) STAFF.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—With the approval of a ma-  
9 jority of the Board, the Executive Director may ap-  
10 point and fix the pay of additional personnel as the  
11 Executive Director considers necessary and appro-  
12 priate to carry out the functions of the provisions of  
13 this Act.

14           (2) COMPENSATION.—An individual appointed  
15 under paragraph (1) shall be paid at a rate not to  
16 exceed the rate of basic pay payable for level GS–  
17 15 of the General Schedule.

18           (c) POWERS.—In order to carry out the provisions  
19 of this Act, the Program may perform the following func-  
20 tions:

21           (1) GIFTS.—The Program may accept, use, and  
22 dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of services or  
23 property, both real and personal, for the purpose of  
24 aiding or facilitating the work of the Program. Gifts,  
25 bequests, or devises of money and proceeds from

1 sales of other property received as gifts, bequests, or  
2 devises shall be deposited in the Fund and shall be  
3 available for disbursement upon order of the Board.

4 (2) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Pro-  
5 gram may procure temporary and intermittent serv-  
6 ices under section 3109 of title 5, United States  
7 Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the  
8 daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of  
9 basic pay payable for GS-15 of the General Sched-  
10 ule.

11 (3) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—The Program may  
12 contract with and compensate government and pri-  
13 vate agencies or persons without regard to section  
14 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5).

15 (4) OTHER NECESSARY EXPENDITURES.—The  
16 Program shall make such other expenditures which  
17 the Program considers necessary to carry out the  
18 provisions of this Act.

19 **SEC. 8. REPORT.**

20 Not later than December 31 of each year, the Board  
21 shall submit to Secretary of Agriculture and to Congress  
22 a report on the activities of the Program carried out dur-  
23 ing the previous fiscal year.

1 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       For the purpose of carrying out this Act, there is au-  
3 thORIZED to be appropriated \$20,000,000.

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