

responsibilities to White House and other executive positions; many of the persons filling these positions have come to be referred to in the media and even within your administration as policy “czars.” I heard firsthand about this issue on several occasions from my constituents in recent town hall meetings in Wisconsin.

The Constitution gives the Senate the duty to oversee the appointment of Executive officers through the Appointments Clause in Article II, section 2. The Appointments Clause states that the President “shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise proved for, and which shall be established by law.” This clause is an important part of the constitutional scheme of separation of powers, empowering the Senate to weigh in on the appropriateness of significant appointments and assisting in its oversight of the Executive Branch.

As a member of the Senate with the duty to oversee executive appointments and as the Chairman of the Senate Constitution Subcommittee, I respectfully urge you to disclose as much information as you can about these policy advisors and “czars.” Specifically, I ask that you identify these individuals’ roles and responsibilities, and provide the judgment(s) of your legal advisors as to whether and how these positions are consistent with the Appointments Clause. I hope that this information will help address some of the concerns that have been raised about new positions in the White House and elsewhere in the Executive Branch, and will inform any hearing that the Subcommittee holds on this topic.

Thank you for considering my views on this important matter. I very much appreciate your commitment to transparency and open government and look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD,
United States Senator.

EXHIBIT 3
CZARS

POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT (10)

Central Region Czar: Dennis Ross
Official Title: Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for the Central Region

Reports to: National Security Adviser Gen. James L. Jones

Cybersecurity Czar: TBD
Reported Duties: Will have broad authority to develop strategy to protect the nation’s government-run and private computer networks.

Reports to: National Security Adviser Gen. James L. Jones and Larry Summers, the President’s top economic advisor

Domestic Violence Czar: Lynn Rosenthal
Official Title: White House Advisor on Violence Against Women

Reported Duties: Will advise the President and Vice President on domestic violence and sexual assault issues.

Reports to: President Obama and Vice President Biden

Economic Czar: Paul Volcker
Official Title: Chairman of the President’s Economic Recovery Advisory Board

Reported Duties: Charged with offering independent, nonpartisan information, analysis and advice to the President as he formulates and implements his plans for economic recovery.

Reports to: President Obama

Energy and Environment Czar: Carol Browner

Official Title: Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change

Reported Duties: Coordinate energy and climate policy, emphasizing regulation and conservation.

Reports to: President Obama

Health Czar: Nancy-Ann DeParle

Official Title: Counselor to the President and Director of the White House Office of Health Reform

Reported Duties: Coordinates the development of the Administration’s healthcare policy agenda.

Reports to: President Obama

Senior Director for Information Sharing
Official Title: Mike Resnick

Reported Duties: Lead a comprehensive review of information sharing and lead an interagency policy process to identify information sharing and access priorities going forward. (Perhaps performing functions statutorily assigned to the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment).

Reports to: Unknown

Urban Affairs Czar: Adolfo Carrion Jr.

Official Title: White House Director of Urban Affairs

Reported Duties: Coordinating transportation and housing initiatives, as well as serving as a conduit for federal aid to economically hard-hit cities.

Reports to: President Obama

WMD Policy Czar: Gary Samore

Official Title: White House Coordinator for Weapons of Mass Destruction, Security and Arms Control

Reported Duties: Will coordinate issues related to weapons of mass destruction across the government, including: proliferation, nuclear and conventional arms control, threat reduction, and terrorism involving weapons of mass destruction.

Reports to: National Security Adviser Gen. James L. Jones

Green Jobs Czar: TBD (Van Jones—Resigned)

Official Title: Special Adviser for Green Jobs, Enterprise, and Innovation at the White House Council on Environmental Quality

Reported Duties: Will focus on environmentally-friendly employment within the administration and boost support for the idea nationwide.

Reports to: Head of Council on Environmental Quality

POSITIONS IN A DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY (8)

Afghanistan Czar: Richard Holbrooke
Official Title: Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan

Reported Duties: Will work with CENTCOM head to integrate U.S. civilian and military efforts in the region.

Reports to: Secretary of State (position is within the Department of State)

Auto Recovery Czar: Ed Montgomery
Official Title: Director of Recovery for Auto Communities and Workers

Reported Duties: Will work to leverage government resources to support the workers, communities, and regions that rely on the American auto industry.

Reports to: Labor Secretary and Larry Summers, the President’s top economic advisor (position is within the Department of Labor)

Car Czar (Manufacturing Policy): Ron Bloom

Official Title: Counselor to the Secretary of the Treasury

Reported Duties: Leader of the White House task force overseeing auto company bailouts; worked on the restructuring of General Motors and Chrysler LLC.

Reports to: Treasury Secretary and Larry Summers, the President’s top economic advisor (position is within the Department of Treasury)

Great Lakes Czar: Cameron Davis

Official Title: Special advisor to the U.S. EPA overseeing its Great Lakes restoration plan

Reported Duties: Oversees the Administration’s initiative to restore the Great Lakes’ environment.

Reports to: Environmental Protection Agency Administrator (position is within the Environmental Protection Agency)

Pay Czar: Kenneth Feinberg

Official Title: Special Master on executive pay

Reported Duties: Examines compensation practices at companies that have been bailed out more than once by the federal government.

Reports to: Treasury Secretary (position is within the Department of the Treasury)

Guantanamo Closure Czar: Daniel Fried
Official Title: Special Envoy to oversee the closure of the detention center at Guantanamo Bay

Reported Duties: Works to get help of foreign governments in moving toward closure of Guantanamo Bay.

Reports to: Secretary of State (position is within the Department of State)

International Climate Czar: Todd Stern
Official Title: Special Envoy for Climate Change

Reported Duties: Responsible for developing international approaches to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.

Reports to: Secretary of State (position is within the Department of State)

Special Representative for Border Affairs and Assistant Secretary for International Affairs (dubbed “Border Czar”): Alan Bersin
Official Title: Assistant Secretary for International Affairs

Reported Duties: Will coordinate all of the Department’s border security and law-enforcement efforts.

Reports to: Homeland Security Secretary (position is within the Department of Homeland Security)

CONCLUSION OF MORNING
BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I am informed that there is 12 minutes remaining on the Democratic side for morning business. I yield back that time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Time is yielded back, and morning business is closed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2996, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2996) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.