November 19, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

3125

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the "Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
Congress makes the following findings:
(1) Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President, was one of the Nation's most prominent leaders, demonstrating true courage during the Civil War, one of the greatest crises in the Nation's history.
(2) Born of humble roots in Hardin County, Kentucky, on February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln rose to the Presidency through a legacy of honesty, integrity, intelligence, and commitment to the United States.
(3) With the belief that all men were created equal, Abraham Lincoln led the effort to free all slaves in the United States.
(4) Abraham Lincoln had a generous heart, with malice toward none and with charity for all.
(5) Abraham Lincoln gave the ultimate sacrifice for the country Lincoln loved, dying from an assassin's bullet on April 15, 1865.
(6) All Americans could benefit from studying the life of Abraham Lincoln, for Lincoln's life is a model for accomplishing the "American Dream" through honesty, integrity, loyalty, and a lifetime of education.
(7) The year 2009 will be the bicentennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and a bicentennial celebration should be established to study and recommend to Congress activities that are fitting and proper to celebrate that anniversary in a manner that appropriately honors Abraham Lincoln.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT.
There is established a commission to be known as the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (referred to in this Act as the "Commission").

SEC. 4. DUTIES.
The Commission shall have the following duties:
(1) To study activities that may be carried out by the Federal Government to determine whether the activities are fitting and proper to honor Abraham Lincoln on the occasion of the bicentennial anniversary of Lincoln's birth, including:
(A) the minting of an Abraham Lincoln bicentennial penny;
(B) the issuance of an Abraham Lincoln bicentennial postage stamp;
(C) the convening of a joint meeting or joint session of Congress for ceremonies and activities relating to Abraham Lincoln;
(D) a redesignation of the Lincoln Memorial, or other activity with respect to the Memorial; and
(E) the acquisition and preservation of artifacts associated with Abraham Lincoln.
(2) To recommend to Congress the activities that the Commission considers most fitting and proper to honor Abraham Lincoln on such occasion, and the entity or entities in the Federal Government that the Commission considers most appropriate to carry out such activities.

SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP.
(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of 15 members appointed as follows:
(1) Ten members, each of whom shall be a qualified citizen described in subsection (b), appointed by the President.
(2) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen described in subsection (b), appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Governor of Illinois.
(3) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen described in subsection (b), appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Governor of Indiana.
(4) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen described in subsection (b), appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Governor of Kentucky.
(5) Three members, at least one of whom shall be a Member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(6) Three members, at least one of whom shall be a Senator appointed by the majority leader of the Senate.
(7) Two members, at least one of whom shall be a Member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.
(8) Two members, at least one of whom shall be a Senator, appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.
(b) QUALIFIED CITIZEN.—A qualified citizen described in this subsection is a private citizen of the United States with:
(1) a demonstrated interest in educating others about the importance of historical figures and events; and
(2) substantial knowledge and appreciation of Abraham Lincoln.
(c) APPOINTMENT.—Each initial appointment of a member of the Commission shall be made before the expiration of the 120-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6. DIRECTOR AND STAFF.
(a) DIRECTOR.—The Director of the Commission shall be appointed by the President.
(b) STAFF.—The staff of the Commission shall be selected and shall receive such compensation as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

SEC. 7. POWERS.
(a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers to be appropriate.
(b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any member or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action that the Commission is authorized to take by this Act.

SEC. 8. REPORTS.
(a) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may submit to Congress such interim reports as the Commission considers to be appropriate.
(b) FINAL REPORT.—The Commission shall submit a final report to Congress not later than the expiration of the 4-year period beginning on the date of the formation of the Commission. The final report shall contain:
(1) a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission;
(2) the recommendations of the Commission; and
(3) any other information that the Commission considers to be appropriate.

SEC. 9. BUDGET ACT COLLECTING AGENCY.
Any spending authority provided under this Act shall be effective only to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in appropriation Acts.

SEC. 10. TERMINATION.
The Commission shall terminate 120 days after submitting the final report of the Commission pursuant to section 8.

SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HATCH AMENDMENT NO. 2796

Ms. COLLINS (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the resolution (S. Con. Res. 108) resolving that the month of March each year as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month"; as follows:
On page 2, line 5, strike "March of each year" and insert "March, 2000."