SEC. 1695. COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) Number of Members.—Each member of the Commission who is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay payable to level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which such member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission. All members of the Commission who are officers or employees of the United States shall be compensated without compensation in addition to that received for their services as officers or employees of the United States.

(b) Travel Expenses.—The members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Commission.

(c) Staff.—

(1) In General.—The Chairman of the Commission may, without regard to the civil service laws and regulations, appoint and terminate career executive directors and such other additional personnel as may be necessary to enable the Commission to perform its duties. The employment and termination of an employee by the Commission shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the Commission.

(2) Compensation.—The executive director shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code. The Chairman may fix the compensation of other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for such personnel may not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(3) Detail of Government Employees.—Any Federal Government employee, with the approval of the head of the appropriate Federal agency, may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status, benefits, or privilege.

(d) Procurement of Temporary and Intermittent Services.—The Chairman of the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3199(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

SEC. 1696. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission and any agency of the Federal Government assisting the Commission in carrying out its duties under this subtitle such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subtitle. Any sums appropriated and available may be used without fiscal year limitation, until expended.

SEC. 1697. TERMINATION OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission shall terminate 30 days after the Commission submits the report under section 1698.

Subtitle J—School Safety

SEC. 1698. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “School Safety Act of 1999”.

SEC. 1699. AMENDMENTS TO THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

(a) Placement in Alternative Educational Setting.—Section 619(k) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1415(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A)(ii)(I), by inserting “other than a gun or firearm” after “weapon”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new section:

"(10) Disciplining with Respect to Guns or Firearms.—

(A) Authority of School Personnel with Respect to Guns or Firearms.—

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, school personnel may discipline (including expel or suspend) a child who has a disability who carries or possesses a gun or firearm to or at a school, on school premises, or to or at a school function, under the jurisdiction of a State or a local educational agency, in the same manner in which such personnel may discipline a child without a disability.

(ii) Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to prevent a child with a disability who is disciplined pursuant to the authority provided under paragraph (9) from asserting a defense that the carrying or possession of the gun or firearm was unintentional or innocent.

(B) Free Appropriate Public Education.—

(i) Ceasing to Provide Education.—Notwithstanding section 612(a)(1)(A), a child expelled or suspended under subparagraph (A) shall not be entitled to continued educational services, including a free appropriate public education, under this title, during the term of such expulsion or suspension, if the State in which the local educational agency responsible for providing educational services to such child does not require a child without a disability to receive educational services after being expelled or suspended.

(ii) Providing Education.—Notwithstanding clause (i), the local educational agency responsible for providing educational services to a child with a disability who is expelled or suspended under subparagraph (A) may choose to continue to provide educational services to such child. If the local educational agency so chooses to continue to provide the services—

(I) nothing in this title shall require the local educational agency to provide such child with a free appropriate public education, or any particular level of service; and

(II) the location where the local educational agency provides the services shall be left to the discretion of the local educational agency.

(C) Relationship to Other Requirements.—

(i) Plan Requirements.—No agency shall be considered to be in violation of section 612 or 615 because the agency has provided disciplinary services, or assistance in accordance with this paragraph.

(ii) Procedure.—Actions taken pursuant to this paragraph shall not be subject to the provisions of this part, other than this paragraph.

(D) Firearms.—The term ‘‘firearm’’ has the meaning given the term under section 921 of title 18, United States Code.”.

(b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 615(f)(1) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1415(f)(1)) is amended by striking “Whenever” and inserting the following: “Except as provided in section 615(k)(10), whenever.”

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore pursuant to Public Law 94–201, as amended by Public Law 105–275, appoints the following individuals as members of the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress: Janet L. Brown, of South Dakota, and Mickey Hart, of California.

DECREASE PORTION OF JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA CANAL IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, NONNAVIGABLE WATERS

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 118, H.R. 1034.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1138) to regulate interstate commerce by making provision for dealing with losses arising from Year 2000 Problem-related failures that may disrupt communications, intermodal transportation, and other matters affecting interstate commerce.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I now ask for the second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.