

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1900-1900 00/2

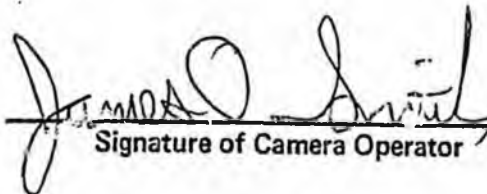
3760 HSTA SB 423 - SCR 32 686



RECORDS CERTIFICATION



I, the undersigned, an employee of the State of Alaska, do hereby certify that the microfilm images on this microform are accurate reproductions of the original records of the State of Alaska as accumulated during the regular course of business, and that it is the established policy and practice of this State to microfilm its records and to dispose of the original records after microfilm reproductions have been made.


Signature of Camera Operator


Date

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Alaska State Legislature

CO-CHAIRMAN
FINANCE COMMITTEE

907-465-3740

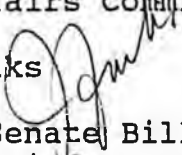
JAN FAIKS
POUCH V
CAPITOL BUILDING
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

Senate

April 25, 1986

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Katie Hurley, Chairman
House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senator Jan Faiks 

SUBJECT: Background on Senate Bill 423, an Act creating a
missing persons information clearinghouse.

The locating of missing persons has been hampered in this state by the lack of consistent procedures for receiving, processing, and sharing information about lost persons. Each law enforcement agency seems to have its own method for handling reports of missing persons, for dealing with relatives of the victim, and for coordinating search efforts with others.

Often, this lack of consistency has resulted in undue expense to the government and needless anxiety for friends and relatives. The problem is aggravated by the vastness of our state. A body washed up on the shores of the Bering Sea is not matched with a missing persons report filed in Ketchikan. Village officials continue to investigate the disappearance of a teenager long after she has been found by authorities in Fairbanks.

By creating a central repository for collecting and handling information about missing persons, Senate Bill 423 should relieve these problems.

Section 1 establishes the Clearinghouse and requires it to create a statewide system for handling information about missing persons. The Clearinghouse will collect and disseminate this information throughout Alaska. It will communicate with the National Crime Information Center

OUT OF SESSION

1024 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, SUITE 302 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501 907-274-6611



about missing persons cases, and will train officials on how to best to use the Clearinghouse.

This section places a duty on all law enforcement agencies to send to the Clearinghouse all reports of missing persons who have not been found within seventy-two.

It also allows agencies to obtain medical and dental records that will help identify bodies. If relatives of the missing persons are available, these records cannot be obtained by a government agency unless they are requested by family members. If no relatives are available, the law enforcement agencies can obtain records on their own initiative. When the agencies obtain these records, they must forward them to the Clearinghouse.

If agencies fail to turn over reports or records to the Clearinghouse, the bill provides a maximum civil penalty of \$10,000.

The bill also requires persons to notify the Clearinghouse once persons who are reported missing are located. The failure to comply with this requirement carries a maximum civil penalty of \$1000.

Section 2 of the bill amends a current statute which deals with procedures for handling missing persons reports within the Department of Public Safety. This section adds the additional duty of filing these reports with the Clearinghouse.

Thank you.

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : CSSB 423 (SA) am
 Title : "An Act creating a missing persons information clearinghouse."

Sponsor : Senator Faiks
 Requestor : House State Affairs
 Date of Request : _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : Public Safety
 BRU : Alaska State Troopers

Components : Detachments and CIB

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS :

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

Costs of implementing this legislation can be absorbed if the fiscal note for CSSB 219 (FIN), which addresses a related subject, is adopted.

Prepared by : Francis C. Allan *F.C.A.*
 Division : Alaska State Troopers

Phone : 465-4336
 Date : 3/25/86

Approved by Commissioner : *[Signature]*
 Agency : Public Safety

Date : 3/26/86

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
POSITION PAPER - CSSB 423 (SA) am

Support

March 25, 1986

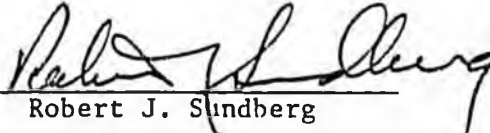
CSSB 423 (SA) am - "An Act creating a missing persons information clearinghouse."

The Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska State Troopers, has on its own initiative implemented a missing persons clearinghouse.

No funds have been appropriated for this purpose. A Sergeant and clerical support are being provided by Detachments and C.I.B.

Special programs have been written for a software product called INQUIRE. An interface has been written to link APSIN (Alaska Public Safety Information Network) with INQUIRE. These products run under different operating systems. Both the interface and the program require maintenance from programmers.

We are submitting a zero fiscal note with this bill. However, if CSSB 219 (FIN) does not pass, we may need to ask the Legislature in the future for a part-time Data Programmer to maintain the missing persons program.


Robert J. Sundberg

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

POUCH N
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 465-4322

March 3, 1986

The Honorable Jan Faiks
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: Senate Bill 423

Dear Senator Faiks:

The Commissioner's office has reviewed Senate Bill 423 with the Division of Alaska State Troopers, and we have submitted a new position paper and fiscal note. You will note that the new fiscal note reflects no impact on the Department of Public Safety, should this bill pass.

A recent article in the Juneau Empire quoted you as stating that the Department of Public Safety had a software package that was developed to help track missing persons, but there was no one in the agency who knew how to work with it. I believe the software you were referring to is a package called "Inquire." We have developed the programs necessary to track missing persons, and have written the interface to the APSIN system. This was necessary as "Inquire" runs on a mainframe in Juneau under CMS, while APSIN runs on a mainframe in Anchorage under MVSXA. Our personnel do have the expertise to develop and maintain programs within "Inquire." It was originally bought several years ago to aid in the investigation of a group of homicides which occurred in Fairbanks. It is an extremely valuable investigative tool.

What our fiscal note originally requested was a programmer who would be responsible for developing new programs within "Inquire," and also to maintain those which were written to support the missing persons clearinghouse.

The Department actually requested two data processing support personnel, one in this bill, and the other in CHSB219. Both positions are not needed; however, we do not know which bill will pass. Our existing personnel simply do not have time to maintain more systems and programs. At present, the Department of Public Safety is the largest user of data processing resources, other than the Department of Administration. We are presently developing and maintaining all of our programs with six programmers and three trainees.

The Honorable Jan Faiks

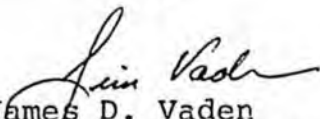
-2-

March 3, 1986

I feel they are doing an excellent job with the limited resources available in this section.

I trust this explains the confusion with our fiscal note on Senate Bill 423. If I can be of further assistance or answer any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,


James D. Vaden
Deputy Commissioner



RECORDS CERTIFICATION



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Signature of Camera Operator

9/11/89
Date

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HOUSE
COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 4/26/86

FURTHER REFERRALS: HESS

DATE: 5/8/86

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee has considered SB 475am

"An Act designating the wooly mammoth (Mammuthus primigenius) as the state fossil."

and recommends:

- do pass
- do not pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- no recommendation
- replace with _____ same title
- replace with _____ new title

and recommends _____

further referral to the _____ Committee

- and attaches:
- letter of intent
 - first fiscal note
 - new fiscal note
 - zero fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

~~Katie Hurley~~
 Betty Cato
 D.A. "Red" Baker
~~_____~~

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Roger Jenkins No Rec
 Mike [unclear] no rec
 [unclear] [unclear]
 Katie Hurley - no rec

Katie Hurley
 Chairman

February 22, 1986

Dear Betty,

Hope this will give you enough information for you to work with. I will very much appreciate whatever you can do to make the Woolly Mammoth the official state fossil.

Sincerely,

Ed McLaughlin

Ed McLaughlin
P.O. Box 19
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

The woolly Mammoth was the largest and one of the most prevalent animals living in Alaska during prehistoric times. Its remains have been found all over the state and especially in the gold mining areas where the dredges operated. Three years ago a skull with the tusks attached was unearthed at a gold camp north of Fairbanks. The UAF Museum preserved and mounted this beautiful specimen and it is now on public display. The Woolly Mammoth was a magnificent animal standing over fourteen feet high at the shoulder with reddish brown Musk Ox type guard hairs over soft underlying hair that kept it warm during the long harsh Alaskan winters. Because the animal was important to the earliest inhabitants of our state and is now extinct, I recommend that the woolly Mammoth be named the Alaska State Fossil.

THE NEW MAMMOTH SKELETON AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM

An unusual mammoth skeleton has been brought to the University of Alaska Museum in Fairbanks. This specimen comes from western Alaska and has been radiometrically dated at $15,090 \pm 170$ years old. The skull, which contains both tusks in their original positions, was put into a protective plaster cast in the field in the fall of 1982 and flown to Fairbanks the following year. Additional bones were excavated from the site in the summer of 1983. For several months the cast has been left undisturbed while it has adjusted to local temperature and humidity conditions. It is now ready for the Museum to prepare the skull for exhibit.

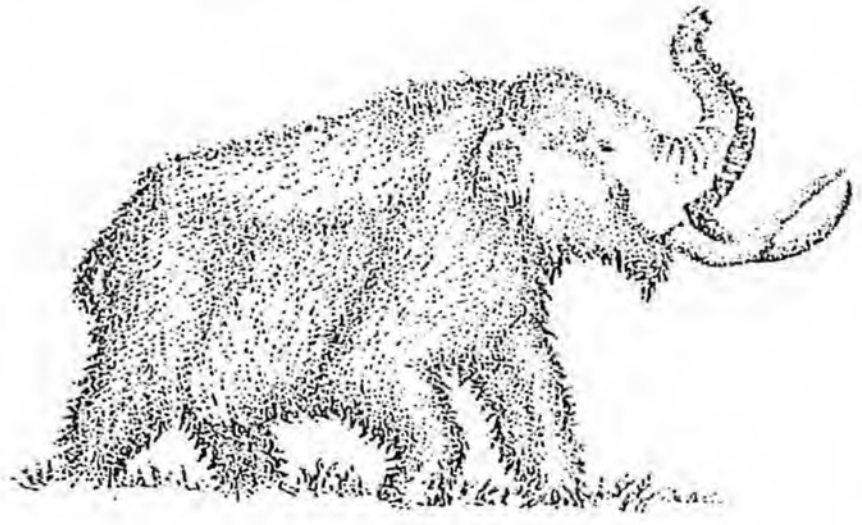
Preparation work will be done in the lobby of the Museum through September and mid November (1983). It will involve step by step removal of the cast, cleaning, and strengthening of the cranium, tusks, and mandible (lower jaw). This work will be under the direction of Dr. R. Dale Guthrie, Professor of Zoology and Museum Affiliate in Vertebrate Paleontology. Dr. Guthrie will work closely with Gary M. Selinger, Museum Technician and specialist in Alaskan Pleistocene vertebrate fossils.

The new mammoth is of special interest because it was preserved at the site where it died. In addition to the skull and other skeletal parts, mammoth hair and fragments of flesh, fossil wood, seeds, pollen, other plant remains, bones of large and small mammals, beetles, bird feathers, and volcanic ash have all been found at the mammoth site. Future research on these various materials should yield a very good picture of the vegetation and animals that existed in this part of Alaska during the late Pleistocene.

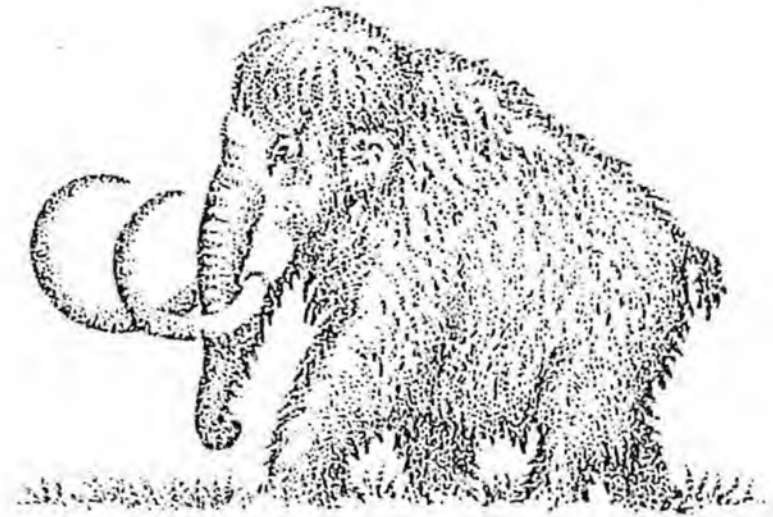
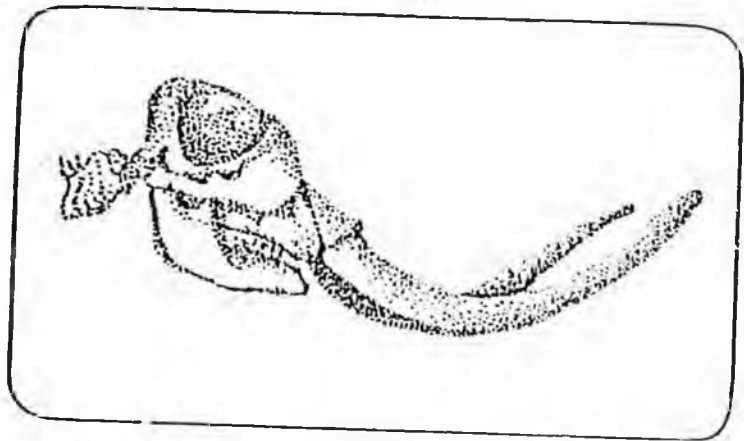
For more information, call Terry Dickey at 474-7305.

09/08/83

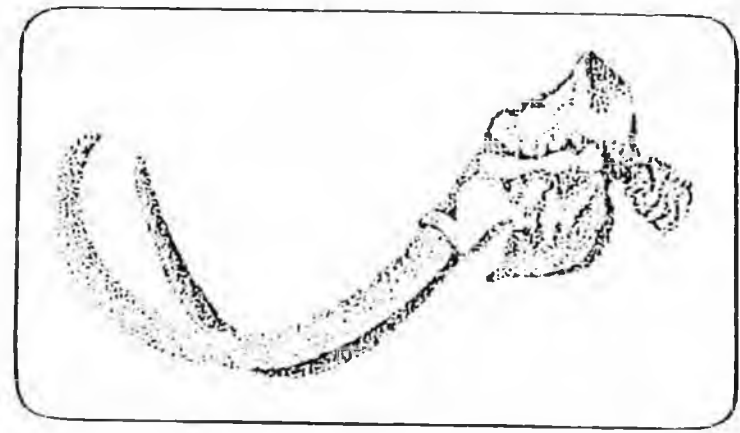
Comparison of mastodon and mammoth



Mastodon and skull



Woolly mammoth and skull



Alaska State Legislature

Advisory Council Members
Senator Bennett, Chairman
Senator Abood
Senator Kerttula
Senator Sackett



PO Box 4
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

Senate Advisory Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Senate

FROM: Carol R. Perryhill *CRB*
Senate Advisory Council

DATE: March 11, 1986

RE: Research Request

As requested, following are states that currently have a state fossil:

California: Saber-Toothed Cat
Nebraska: Mammoth
Nevada: Ichthyosaur

Attached is an excerpt from The Book of the States - 1984-1985 which gives a brief statement about the state bird, flower, gem, etc., for each state.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact us.

CRB;crb
Attachment:

Alaska State Legislature

Advisory Council Members
Senator Bennett, Chairman
Senator Abood
Senator Kerttula
Senator Sackett



PO Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

Senate Advisory Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Legislature

FROM: Carol R. Perryhill,
Researcher

DATE: May 1, 1986

RE: Protection Legislation for State Emblems

As requested, following is additional information regarding protection legislation for state emblems; excluded are state flags, seals, coat of arms, etc. I also located other states, besides those mentioned in Book of the States, that have a state fossil. Attached are copies of the State statutes from which the ensuing information was gathered.

Alabama The Alabama legislature designates as the official state fossil the Species *Basilosaurus Cetoides*. No state fossil may be removed from the State of Alabama, in whole or in part, except by prior written approval of the Governor.

Colorado The Colorado state flower is the Columbine. It is the duty of all citizens of the State to protect the Columbine from needless destruction or waste. There are limitations on picking the state flower and penalties for violating those limitations.

 The Colorado state animal is the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. It is unlawful for any person to pursue, take, hunt, wound, or kill any Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, except as provided in Title 33.

Florida The state tree in Florida is the Sabal Palmetto Palm. This section is different in that it states that "said state tree being now extensively used for commercial purposes, the provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit in any manner said use thereof in business, industry, commerce, for food, or for any other commercial purposes".

Senator: Fahrenkamp
May 1, 1986
Page 2

Georgia	The official Georgia state fossil is the shark tooth.
Louisiana	The official Louisiana state fossil is petrified palmwood.
Maine	The official Maine state fossil is Pertica Quadrifaria.
Maryland	The State of Maryland has an official fossil shell which is the Ecphora Quadricostata.
Massachusetts	The Mayflower is the official flower or floral emblem of the State of Massachusetts. There is legislation to protect the flower and penalties designated for violating the protection law. The official Massachusetts state fossil is the dinosaur track.
Montana	The official Montana state fossil is the duck-billed Maiasaura Peeblesorum.
New Mexico	The official New Mexico state fossil is the Coelophysis.
New York	The official fossil of the State of New York is the Eurypterus.
North Dakota	Teredo petrified wood is the official fossil of the State of North Dakota.
Texas	The Pecan tree is the official state tree of Texas. There is legislation which prevents thrashing pecans and provides for penalty in the event of a violation.

There are two states in which I did not locate official emblems in the statutes; Iowa and West Virginia. If I may be of further assistance, please contact me.

CRB;crb
Attachments:

Alaska State Legislature

Advisory Council Members
Senator Bennett, Chairman
Senator Abood
Senator Kerttula
Senator Sackett



P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

Senate Advisory Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Legislature

FROM: Carol Berryhill
Researcher

DATE: April 28, 1986

RE: Protection Legislation for State Emblems

As requested, following is information regarding protection legislation for state emblems. The three states (California, Nebraska and Nevada) that have a state fossil do not have legislation to protect the state fossil. However, California has legislation that protects the state tree and the state reptile; Nevada has legislation that protects the harvesting of pine nuts from the state tree.

I will forward the remaining 46 states' information as I gather it. If you have any questions, please contact me.

CPB;crb

Attachments: Respective State Statutes

BILL HISTORY

HOUSE CALENDAR: 5-10-86

SB 475

BILL SB0475
 PAGE 02299
 DATE 04/10/86
 CHAMBER SENATE
 TEXT SENATE BILL NO. 475 by the Resources Committee, entitled:
 "An Act designating the woolly mammoth
 as the state fossil."
 was read the first time and referred to the Resources
 Committee.

BILL SB0475
 PAGE 02463
 DATE 04/24/86
 CHAMBER SENATE
 TEXT The Resources Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 475
 (designating the woolly mammoth as the state fossil) and a
 majority of the committee recommended do pass. The report
 was signed by Senator Sturgulewski, Chairman and concurred
 in by Senators Coghill, Halford, Fahrenkamp, Vic Fischer and
 Zharoff.
 Fiscal note is zero.
 SENATE BILL NO. 475 was referred to the Rules Committee.

BILL SB0475
 PAGE 02478
 DATE 04/25/86
 CHAMBER SENATE
 TEXT The Rules Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 475
 (designating the woolly mammoth as the state fossil) and a
 majority of the committee recommended calendar April 25.
 The report was signed by Senator Kelly, Chairman and
 concurred in by Senators Faiks, Josephson and Coghill.
 SENATE BILL NO. 475 is on the calendar.
 SENATE BILL NO. 475 (designating the woolly mammoth as the
 state fossil) was read the second time.
 Senator Zharoff offered Amendment No. 1:
 Page 1, lines 6, 9 and 14: After "mammoth"
 insert "(Mammuthus primigenius) Fahrenkampus)"
 Senator Zharoff moved and asked unanimous consent for the
 adoption of Amendment No. 1. Senator Fahrenkamp objected.
 Senator Zharoff offered an amendment to Amendment No. 1:
 After "primigenius)" delete "Fahrenkampus"
 Senator Zharoff moved and asked unanimous consent that the
 amendment to Amendment No. 1 be adopted. Without objection,
 the amendment to Amendment No. 1 was adopted.
 Senator Fahrenkamp withdrew her objection.
 Senator Zharoff moved and asked unanimous consent that
 Amendment No. 1 as amended be adopted. Without objection,
 Amendment No. 1 as amended was adopted.
 Senator Faiks moved and asked unanimous consent that she be
 allowed to abstain from voting. Senator Fahrenkamp
 objected.

Senator Halford moved and asked unanimous consent that <SENATE BILL NO. 475 am >be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading and placed on final passage. Without objection, it was so ordered.

SENATE BILL NO. 475 am was read the third time. The question being: "Shall SENATE BILL NO. 475 am (designating the woolly mammoth (Mammuthus primigenius) as the state fossil) pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

SB 475 AM 3RD

Yeas: 14 Bennett, Coghill, Fahrenkamp, Faiks, Ferguson, Halford, Josephson, Kelly, Kerttula, Ray, Sackett, Sturgulewski, Zharoff, Ziegler

Nays: 1 Fischer Paul

Excused: 5 Abood, DeVries, Eliason, Fischer Vic, Rodey

and so, SENATE BILL NO. 475 am passed the Senate.

SENATE BILL NO. 475 am was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

SENATE BILL NO. 475 am was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

BILL SB0475
PAGE 02926
DATE 04/26/86
CHAMBER HOUSE
TEXT SENATE BILL NO. 475 amended, by the Resources Committee, entitled:

"An Act designating the woolly mammoth (Mammuthus primigenius) as the state fossil."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs and Health, Education & Social Services Committees.

BILL SB0475
PAGE 03246
DATE 05/08/86
CHAMBER HOUSE
TEXT The Speaker waived the Health, Education & Social Services Committee referral on SENATE BILL NO. 475 amended (designating the woolly mammoth (mammuthus primigenius) as the state fossil) at the request of the Chairman. SB 475am was sent to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar.

7/5

**HOUSE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

(7)

Date referred: 4/26/86

FURTHER REFERRALS: HESS

DATE: 5/8/86

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee has considered SB 475am

"An Act designating the woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) as the state fossil."

and recommends:

- do pass
- do not pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- no recommendation
- replace with _____ same title
- _____ new title

and recommends _____

further referral to the _____ Committee

- and attaches:
- letter of intent
 - first fiscal note
 - new fiscal note
 - zero fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

~~Katie Hurley~~
Betty Cato
W.C. "Red" Barber
~~_____~~

Roger Jackson No Rec
Mike ... no rec
John ... Be
Katie Hurley - no Rec

Katie Hurley
Chairman

Woolly Mammoth SENATE BILL NO. 475, by the Resources Committee. Would
(state fossil) designate the woolly mammoth as the state fossil "to give
recognition to this animal that was the largest and one of the most
prevalent animals in the state but whose remains are now found only
as fossils."

Introduced April 10, 1986 and referred to Resources.

Woolly Mammoth SENATE BILL NO. 475 (AM), (see page 437). Reported back
(state fossil) to the Senate April 24 by Resources recommending it do pass.
Concurring: Sturgulewski (Chair), Coghill, Halford, Fahrenkamp, V.
Fischer and Zharoff.

On April 25 amendment 1 by Zharoff was adopted. It inserts the
genus name "Mammuthus primigenus" where appropriate. The bill then
passed the Senate, 14-1-5. Nay: P. Fischer. Excused: Abood,
DeVries, Eliason, V. Fischer, Rodey.

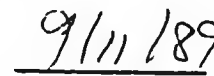
Woolly Mammoth SENATE BILL NO. 475 (AM), (see page 437). Received in the
(state fossil) House April 26, 1986 and referred to State Affairs and HESS.



RECORDS CERTIFICATION

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Signature of Camera Operator


Date

SCR

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**HOUSE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

(7)

Date referred: 3/12/86

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 3/17/86

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee has considered CSSCR 32(SA)

Relating to the bicentenary of the United States Constitution.

and recommends:

- do pass
- do not pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- no recommendation
- replace with _____ same title
- _____ new title

and recommends _____

further referral to the _____ Committee

- and attaches:
- letter of intent
 - first fiscal note
 - new fiscal note
 - zero fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Katie Hurley
Mike Savano
D.A. Bunker
Walter Hall

Katie Hurley
Chairman

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : CSSCR 32 (SA)
 Title : Relating to the bicentenary
of the United States Constitution.

Sponsor : Sen. Vic Fischer
 Requestor : _____
 Date of Request : _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : _____
 BRU : _____
 Components : _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TRAVEL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CONTRACTUAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
SUPPLIES		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
EQUIPMENT		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS :

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

Funding for this resolution will be obtained from private sources.

Prepared by: Rep. Katie Hurley, Chair
 Division : House State Affairs Committee

Phone : 465-4963
 Date : 3/17/86

Approved by Commissioner : _____
 Agency : _____

Date : _____

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

Senator Vic Fischer

Alaska State Legislature • P.O. Box V • Juneau, Alaska 99811 • (907) 465-4954



March 5, 1986

Governor Bill Sheffield
PO Box A
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Governor:

SCR 32, introduced by me, provides for commemoration of the bicentenary of the U.S. Constitution in 1987. The resolution requests the Governor to appoint a commission to help accomplish this purpose.

There is no fiscal note attached to the measure. It is my hope that a commission could be established and would function without appropriation of extra funds.

I believe the time has come when the state is not expected to fund every good idea that comes along. We have plenty of examples of efforts where citizen commission members cover their own expenses and where non-public monies are raised to do so. (The Olympics Organizing Committee and Citizen's Crime Commission are but two such cases.) In the case of public officials participating in the bicentenary commemoration, costs incurred should be covered by regular budgets.

I would greatly appreciate word from you endorsing the bicentennial commemorative effort and agreeing that it can be accomplished without a special appropriation.

Thanks and best regards,


Senator Vic Fischer

Feb. 13, 1986

Sen. Jack Coghill
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Sen. Coghill,

I was pleased to see the introduction of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 32 concerning the bicentenary of the U.S. Constitution. It is, indeed, a marvelous opportunity to increase public understanding of that document and its impact on our lives today.

In June, 1985, I was named chairman of Alaska's representatives to the We the People Project, a national coalition of organizations, including the American Bar Association and the American Newspaper Publishers Association, that is planning a series of programs in celebration of the constitution's bicentennial. I think the enclosed sheets will give you a good idea of the scope, goals, and participants in the project.

If the Governor does indeed create the commission and if you think it would be helpful, I would be willing either to serve on the commission or to work closely with its members to better coordinate efforts in planning and programming.

Again, I congratulate you on your efforts to encourage the celebration of the constitution's bicentenary in Alaska.

Sincerely,

June Pinnell-Stephens

June A. Pinnell-Stephens
President-Elect, Alaska Library Assn.
3140 Roden Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99701
479-5826

cc: Sen. Fischer
Sen. Fahrenkamp
John Hilliard

SYNOPSIS

WE THE PEOPLE
the constitutional bicentennial project
of the
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
and
KQED, INC.

In 1987, Americans will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the writing of the Constitution of the United States. This bicentennial is an opportunity to retell the story of America, for that is also the story of the Constitution we cherish. It continues to play an important role in our everyday lives. The Constitution's bicentennial is an unprecedented opportunity to improve the constitutional literacy of our nation's citizens and help the public rediscover the rich legacy of the constitutional principles that have guided our national experience.

The American Bar Association, through its Commission on Public Understanding About the Law, in conjunction with KQED-TV San Francisco, the American Library Association, the American Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation, the National Community Education Association, the American Association of Adult and Continuing Education, the National Association of Bar Executives, the Office of Smithsonian Symposia and Seminars, and others, plans a major nationwide program designed to recount the story of the Constitution and its role in contemporary American life.

The project's centerpiece will be an eight-part television series on the Constitution. The hour-long programs, to be broadcast during prime-time on the 300 affiliates of the Public Broadcasting Service, will examine the interplay of American history and the Constitution as well as our national charter's effect on the most vital issues of the day. The programs will be coordinated in substance and format with the other project elements.

A 13-part series of half-hour programs to be broadcast over National Public Radio will supplement the television series by tracing the origins, drafting, implementation, and interpretation of the Constitution. Both the television and radio series will be capable of adaptation to instruction of secondary and college students. Additional five-minute segments, designed for incorporation into "Morning Edition" will also be produced.

A series of eight Sunday supplements with illustrated camera-ready articles covering additional aspects of our constitutional history will be distributed free to all newspapers in the United States. The articles will also be compiled in book form, along with curriculum guides and supplementary materials, for use in all grade levels in the schools. A similar newspaper series during the 1976 bicentennial celebration was used by 200 American newspapers.

In addition to the media programs, a series of community-based programs will give citizens an opportunity to participate in forums examining various aspects of the Constitution, its evolution, the underlying values involved, and its significance in contemporary society and on the individual citizen. Conducted by local organizations using materials and guides from the national project, the forums will give the public an opportunity to speak out on the constitutional issues featured in the project as well as learn more about the citizen's role in the continuing development of the law.

A major international symposium on issues of constitutional dimension will be held at the Smithsonian Institution in May 1987. The conference, which will result in books both for the general public and the scholarly community, will examine how an 18th century Constitution can cope with 21st century challenges. In addition, special events are planned at Independence Hall National Park to commemorate the opening of the Constitutional Convention on May 25, 1787. Other conferences will be held at major universities to highlight specific constitutional issues.

A separate seminar series is planned to introduce educators to the project and enlist their cooperation and support in developing bicentennial programs in the schools. Seminar workshops will provide the educators with substantive training on constitutional topics and guidelines for developing youth-oriented programs complementing the community forums. A symposium on the educational implications of the topics addressed at the Smithsonian symposium will also be conducted.

Publications of the project will include a hardcover, mass-market book to accompany the television series, teachers' and college guides to the television programs, discussion leaders' guides for the community forums, special bicentennial-focused magazines, and compilations of articles based on the project's activities.

Using an extensive information and promotion campaign, this project can reach into virtually every home in America. Underlying the project's potential is a national rededication to the ideals that make us a nation. Through an understanding of the ways the Constitution has contributed to our development both as a nation and as a people, the public will come to understand how a unique American culture based largely on optimism, economic opportunity, human dignity, and a dedication to freedom developed.



National Conference of State Legislatures

*me - read
talk to Fischer*

444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 203
Washington, D.C. 20001
202.624-5400

President David E. Nething
Majority Leader
North Dakota Senate

Executive Director
Earl S. Mackey

January 31, 1986

Honorable Ben F. Grussendorf
Speaker of the House
P O Box 928
Sitka, AK 99835

Dear Speaker Grussendorf:

The 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution is marked in 1987. President Reagan has appointed a Bicentennial Commission to coordinate a three year nation-wide celebration reflecting the historic events which led to the enactment of our Constitution. The celebration will focus on the framing of the Constitution in 1787, ratifying the Constitution in 1788, and establishing a government under the Constitution in 1789.

Chief Justice Warren Burger as Chairman of the Commission, encourages us to assist in developing bipartisan commissions for our individual state's celebration efforts. The Commission's first report in September outlines the commemoration activities.

Because of the critical role played by state legislators and delegates in the establishment of our Nation, I am encouraging you to support the organization of your state's commission. The celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution gives us as state legislators, and citizens of the Nation, a rare opportunity to further appreciate and improve our understanding of government; the interrelatedness of its federal, state, and local components; the services it provides; and how it functions.

NCSL will be participating with the Commission and other national groups in celebrating the Bicentennial. We will be developing and distributing suggestions of ways states can participate in the bicentennial celebration. As stated in NCSL policy, the establishment of a state bicentennial commission is the first start.

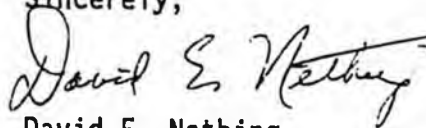
I am enclosing copies of Chief Justice Burger's letter, the Commission's first report and newsletter, a model act for establishing state commissions and the NCSL resolution for your reference. These documents should be helpful as you organize your state's commission and bicentennial activities.

Honorable Ben F. Grussendorf
January 31, 1986
Page Two

Please feel free to contact Mark Cannon or Ronald M. Mann of the Commission if you need more information. Their telephone number is (202) USA-1787.

I look forward to working with you in NCSL's bicentennial efforts and hearing about your state's activities.

Sincerely,



David E. Nething
Majority Leader
North Dakota State Senate
President, NCSL

Enclosures

cc: Honorable Donald E. Clocksin, House Majority Leader
Honorable Terry Martin, House Minority Leader

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the United States of America is only a year away from celebration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution;

Whereas, the past several years have seen fundamental shifts in responsibility from the federal to state governments;

Whereas, the federal government has now enacted an unprecedented mechanism for reducing the federal budget deficit;

Whereas, political institutions at every level of government have been dramatically transformed and modernized over the past two decades;

Whereas, these forces combine to cause the citizens of the United States to reflect on their governments, on how they operate, on the services they provide, and on how they relate to one another;

Therefore, be it resolved, that NCSL develop and distribute suggestions of ways that state legislatures can participate in celebrating the Bicentennial of the Constitution;

And further be it resolved that these suggestions include establishment of commissions in the states to review the responsibilities of the state, local, and federal governments and to review how the governments are organized to perform these responsibilities.

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to our Posterity, do hereby adopt and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

December 18, 1985

Dear President Nething:

As Chairman of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, I thank you for your offer to assist us in the commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

If all Americans are to participate in this important commemoration, through personal activity and through programs set up by organizations, encouragement and opportunities for individual involvement must come from all levels--national, State, and local. The era of the Constitution's Bicentennial is already well upon us, but only 17 States have thus far established commissions on the Bicentennial.

The National Conference of State Legislatures and its members can be key participants to stimulate the Bicentennial activities at the State and local levels. We appreciate the assistance of your group in programs on the Constitution.

We hope all legislators will give speeches about the Constitution and stimulate public programs about the Constitution.

Cordially,

Warren E. Burger

Hon. David E. Nething
President, National
Conference of State
Legislatures
444 N. Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20001

Warren E. Burger
Chairman
Frederick K. Biebel
Lindy Boggs
Herbert Brownell
Lynne V. Cheney
Philip M. Crane
William J. Green
Edward Victor Hill
Cornelia G. Kennedy
Edward M. Kennedy
Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.
William Lucas
Edward P. Morgan
Betsy Southard Murphy
Thomas H. O'Connor
Phyllis Schlally
Bernard H. Siegan
Ted Stevens
Obert C. Tanner
Strom Thurmond
Ronald H. Walker
Charles E. Wiggins
Charles Alan Wright
Mark W. Cannon
Staff Director
Ronald M. Mann
Deputy Staff Director

AN ACT

To provide for the establishment of a Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of _____, that there is established a Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission".

FINDINGS

Sec. 2. The legislature finds that --

- (1) the bicentennial of the Constitutional Convention's adoption of the Constitution occurs on September 17, 1987;
- (2) the Constitution enunciates the limitations on government, the inalienable rights, the timeless principles of individual liberty and responsibility, and equality before law, for the people of the United States of America and the state of _____;
- (3) this document has set an enduring example of representative democracy for the world and served as a model for the Constitution of the state of _____; and
- (4) the maintenance of the common principles that animate our Republic depend upon a knowledge and understanding of their roots and origins.

PURPOSE

Sec. 3. The purpose of this Act is to establish the (state) Commission to promote and coordinate activities to commemorate the bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 4. (a) The Commission shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:

- (1) twenty members appointed by the Governor, four of whom shall be appointed from among the recommendations made by the Speaker of the House of Representatives (in consultation with the minority leader of the House of Representatives), four of whom shall be appointed from among the recommendations made by the President pro tempore of the

appointment. The Chairman may appoint such additional personnel as he deems appropriate;

(d) Each member of the Commission shall serve without being compensated as a member of such Commission, except that each member shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

(e) Upon request of the Commission, the head of any state agency may detail any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties under this Act. Details under this subsection shall be without reimbursement by the Commission to the agency from which the employee concerned was detailed.

(f) The Commission is authorized to procure supplies, services and property, and make contracts, in fulfillment of its purposes.

(g) (1) The Commission is authorized to accept, use, solicit and dispose of donations of money, property, or personal services; and

(2) The Commission shall prescribe regulations under which the Commission may accept donations of money, property or personal services, including procedures for determining the value of donations of property or personal services.

(h) The Commission shall have the authority to design and use a logo as the official state emblem of the bicentennial. The Commission shall issue rules and regulations, including penalties for unauthorized use, regarding the use of such logo.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 6. (a) The Commission shall --

(1) plan and develop activities appropriate to commemorate the bicentennial of the Constitution, including a limited number of projects to be undertaken by the state, seeking to harmonize and balance the important goals of ceremony and celebration with the equally important goals of scholarship and education;

(2) encourage private organizations, and local governments, to organize and participate in bicentennial activities commemorating or examining the drafting, ratification, and history of the Constitution and the specific features of the document;

(c) The Commission shall seek the cooperation, advice, and assistance from both private and governmental agencies and organizations including local governments, learned societies, academic institutions and historical, patriotic, philanthropic, civic, and professional groups, and bar associations.

(d) The Commission shall submit an annual report to the Governor, each House of the legislature, and the Supreme Court of (state) until such Commission terminates. The first annual report shall include specific recommendations of the Commission for commemoration and coordination of the bicentennial and related activities.

TERMINATION

Sec. 7. The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 1991.

Sec. 8. There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of this Act such sums as may be necessary through fiscal year 1991.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 9. This Act shall become effective on the date of enactment.



We the People *of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
 NOVEMBER 1985 YEAR 198 / VOL. 1, NO. 1

From the Chairman

In celebrating the Bicentennial of our Declaration of Independence in 1776, we honored the heroes of our struggle to secure independence from a distant government insensitive to people's needs and to secure the inalienable rights so eloquently described in the Declaration of 1776. In the Bicentennial years ahead, we shall pay tribute to and celebrate the wisdom of our Founders in framing for this Nation a form of government which implements the Declaration of July 4, 1776, and which has for two centuries secured for Americans their natural rights to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

The Commission will seek to encourage a spirit of inquiry for the celebration as we approach the Bicentennial. The Constitution, as the guardian of our liberties, should be honored from the heart as well as the mind. The Constitution was a product of reflection and choice, a work of the mind reflecting the hopes and dreams of philosophers and scholars of government. It embodies the principles constituting us as a self-governing people dedicated to the rule of law.

The Commission regards the approaching commemoration as an historic opportunity for all Americans to learn about and recall the achievements of our Founders and the knowledge and experience that inspired them, the nature of the government they established, its origins, its character, and its ends, and the rights and privileges of citizenship, as well as its attendant responsibilities. The Commission will seek to encourage a truly national celebration that instills in every citizen an awareness of the Constitution's preeminent role in our unique and profound experiment in self-government.

WARREN E. BURGER

Bicentennial Commission Members Sworn In

At a White House ceremony on July 30, Vice President George Bush administered the oath of office to the newly appointed commissioners. They are:

- WARREN E. BURGER, Chairman
- FREDERICK K. BIEBEL
- LINDY BOGGS*
- HERBERT BROWNELL
- LYNNE V. CHENEY
- PHILIP M. CRANE
- WILLIAM J. GREEN
- EDWARD VICTOR HILL
- CORNELIA G. KENNEDY
- EDWARD M. KENNEDY
- HARRY MCKINLEY LIGHTSEY, JR.
- WILLIAM LUCAS*

- EDWARD P. MORGAN
 - BETTY SOUTHARD MURPHY
 - THOMAS H. O'CONNOR
 - PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY
 - BERNARD H. SIEGAN
 - TED STEVENS
 - OBERT C. TANNER
 - STROM THURMOND
 - RONALD H. WALKER
 - CHARLES E. WIGGINS*
 - CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT
- * Sworn in after July 30



Top, from left, Commissioner Wright, Chairman Burger, Staff Director Cannon at the Commission's meeting in Washington, D.C., July 29-30. Bottom, from left, Commissioners Kennedy, Lightsey, Morgan, and Murphy.

Commission Report Delivered on Constitution Day

On September 17, 1985, the 198th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, Chairman Warren Burger presented the First Report of the Bicentennial Commission to President Reagan and to Senate and House officers.

Chairman Burger was accompanied to the White House by staff director Mark Cannon and deputy director Ron Mann. At the Capitol, Strom Thurmond, President *Pro Tem* of the Senate, and Speaker of the House Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. received the report on behalf of Congress.

The report describes the Commission's preliminary plans for stimulating the kinds of programs and events that are appropriate for celebrating the Constitution. As plans are completed or revised, changes will be reported in this newsletter. A comprehensive long range plan will be included in succeeding annual reports.

The report also contains a calendar of key historical dates from 1785-1791 that provides themes for State and local celebrations.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the Commission's office while the supply lasts. □



Chairman Burger presenting the First Report of the Commission to President Reagan at the White House on September 17, 1985.

Important Events!

November 6, 1985: The Center for Democracy, Boston University, has invited all members of the Bicentennial Commission and other government leaders to attend a reception hosted by its Board at the National Archives from 5-8 p.m.

November 24-25, 1985: The next meeting of the Bicentennial Commission, to be held in Washington, D.C. Individuals and groups with items they would like the Commission to consider should contact the Commission Staff at 202-USA-1787. Any materials to be considered for submission to the Commission should be submitted to the office at least five days in advance.

Future dates of Commission meetings:

February 1-2, 1986

April 13-14, 1986

June 27-28, 1986 □

Bicentennial Activities Proposed

Spokesmen for nearly 20 organizations appeared at the Supreme Court on September 17 to give the Commission a preview of their Bicentennial plans. Some projects planned:

- A citizens group from Philadelphia is planning a Constitution Wagon Train. Five horse-drawn wagon trains will travel 12,000 miles over historic wagon trails in every State at a pace of 20 miles a day, stopping in more than 1,000 towns.
- The American Bar Association hopes to produce prime-time TV documentaries on the role of the Constitution in modern life.
- The National Endowment for the Humanities has granted more than \$11 million for Bicentennial activities □

- The Daughters of the American Revolution will produce commemorative medals and other items.
- The National Park Service has designated a Constitution theme in its parks for 1987.
- The National Center for Constitutional Studies is developing a trivia game. "If you play this game seven times, you begin to sound like a Philadelphia lawyer," says W. Cleon Skousen, chairman of the Center.
- Project '87 is producing an array of materials: a magazine, *this Constitution*; a book, *Lessons on the Constitution*; a poster exhibit; and two television series.

The Commission is developing a handbook on how to organize projects and events commemorating the Bicentennial and will serve as a clearing-house for information about such activities throughout the country. □

Notes From the Founders

Two hundred years ago this month, there was no thought yet of a new Constitution for the United States. There were many comments, however, from many sources concerning the obvious failure of the government of the United States under the Articles of Confederation.

Among the manifest defects were these: The nation was going bankrupt due to the fact that its only source of revenue was the assessments from the States, and many were chronically late in paying. The nation was in disrespect internationally. Its ambassadors traveled to other countries at their own expense and were treated as the emissaries of a third-rate power.

Also, the nation had no effective leadership. The 4th "President of the United States in Congress Assembled," Richard Henry Lee, was in theory the Chief Executive. But since he held his position for only one year at the pleasure of Congress, he was little more than a figurehead.

Many amendments had been proposed by various States to correct the obvious defects in the Articles of Confederation. Some of them were agreed to by a majority of the States; some by almost all of them. But, under the Articles, amendments had to be approved unanimously. None of the proposals could meet that requirement.

It was the growing awareness of the failure of the Articles that would lead eventually to the Constitutional Convention, the Constitution itself, its ratification, and the new government. Here are some of the comments of two hundred years ago about the failure of the Articles:

George Washington, in a letter to Alexander Hamilton, March 4, 1783:
The predicament in which I stand as Citizen and Soldier, is as critical and delicate as can well be conceived.... The sufferings of a complaining Army on the one hand, and the inability of Congress and the tardiness of the States on the other, are the forebodings of evil and may be productive of events which are more to be deprecated than prevented....

In my opinion...an Adjournment of Congress for a few Months is advisable. The Delegates in that case, if they are in Unison themselves, respecting the great defects of their Constitution, may represent them, fully and boldly to their Constituents.... It appears that such a measure would tend to promote the public



Richard Henry Lee, chosen by the Congress for a 1-year term, the 4th "President of the United States in Congress Assembled."

COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

weal for it is clearly my opinion, unless Congress have powers competent to all general purposes, that ...the blood we have spilt in the course of an Eight years war, will avail us nothing.

Benjamin Franklin, in a letter to John Adams, February 5, 1784, writing about the collapse of American credit in Europe:

I hope these mischievous events will at length convince our people of the truth...that the foundation of credit abroad must be laid at home. When the States have not faith enough in a Congress of their own choosing to trust it with money for...the common debt, how can they expect...Congress... to borrow more money for their use from strangers.

Resolution by Massachusetts, passed by the legislature in 1785:
...the present powers of the Congress of the United States, as contained in the articles of confederation, are not fully adequate to the great purposes they were originally designed to effect.

(Only at the urging of Samuel Adams did Massachusetts retreat from asking its delegates in Congress to call for a general convention.) □

THE BICENTENNIAL BELONGS TO US ALL

We encourage everyone who reads this newsletter, who has any contact with any organization that has plans on the drawing boards, to send detailed information to the Commission. We have only had the office open for a month and a half, and already thought-fathomable presentations for projects ranging from posters to plays, from concerts to computer disks, have come in from all parts of the Nation.

The Commission has no monopoly on good ideas for how to celebrate the Bicentennial. State and local commissions will provide additional ideas. Others will come from the citizenry.

What is especially heartening to the Commission is that hundreds of private organizations and individuals have already come forward with able plans for the Bicentennial. In some instances they add valuable details to ideas the Commission is already considering. In others they propose entirely different, but viable, ideas.

Like the Constitution itself, the Bicentennial belongs to the people of the United States. We urge everyone who has access to any plans for the Bicentennial to send them to us. We will communicate the best of all of these to every State and local commission, and to other organizations that receive our newsletter. We will periodically send out booklets with descriptions of plans and projects. We also expect to circulate even more details on available plans by way of computer communications services.

We have found that Americans in all walks of life and in all parts of the country have spent literally years in developing ideas for the Bicentennial. The more that we can get people in touch with each other, the better the final results for the Bicentennial, and for the Constitution.

Please send us copies of all of your plans and projects, so we can send information on the best of them to the leaders of the Bicentennial effort across the country. Those that are good, but not nationwide in scope, will be forwarded to the appropriate State and local commissions.

Your help is essential, and we are grateful for it. □

Selected Efforts of Organizations

The Commission is working to set up a method for official recognition of projects or events that are national and warrant special encouragement. Until criteria for recognition for projects are accepted by the whole Commission, only unofficial congratulations can be offered for projects already known.

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), an organization of descendants of those who fought in the Revolutionary War, and those who served in the Continental Congress, the Convention, etc., has a national project to have September 17th recognized as Constitution Day by every State and city across the Nation. Among the official proclamations they have obtained in 1985 are those from New Hampshire and Annapolis, Maryland.

Efforts such as those of the SAR contribute to the goal of having September 17, 1987, declared a national holiday for all Americans in honor of the Constitution.

The Congressional Youth Leadership Council has two related projects underway, designed to bring Consti-

tutional ideas to students.

One is a trivia game, based on the Constitution itself, the lives of the Founders, and the first Administration under the Constitution. This game would be keyed to students, and they would use it to prepare for Constitution Question Bees, the second project. These would begin in the local schools, progress to State and then national contests, exactly like spelling bees.

National winners would be brought to Washington as part of the Bicentennial celebrations. It is proposed that State and local winners would be recognized by the State and local commissions.

Virginia has developed a program that involves citizens and scholars in the examination of constitutional issues. The Virginia Court Days Forums are held in historic courthouses around the Commonwealth. Issues such as federalism, democracy, and amendments are previewed in writing by the University of Virginia and then presented by a panel of experts.

Citizens are invited to attend, not just as an audience, but to participate

with their questions and comments. Most of the series has been videotaped and broadcast on public television. For scripts or videotapes of the Forums (which could be done in any State), contact Dr. Timothy O'Rourke at the University of Virginia, tel. 804-924-3396.

Maryland has developed an educational package on the Constitution for 4th graders. It contains a brief story about the Constitution and graphics, maps, quizzes, and other materials. The package costs less than \$2 and may be easily duplicated. Contact Gregory Stivers for details at the Maryland Office for the Bicentennial, tel. 301-269-3914.

The Council of the Thirteen Original States, Inc., is sponsoring a meeting of the U.S. Constitution Council Conference on December 7, 1985 at Wilmington, Delaware to explore opportunities for cooperative activities to celebrate the Constitution. State governors have been invited to participate. Frederick Biebel, Bicentennial Commissioner, will discuss Commission plans. □



At left. Commissioners Crane, Green, and Hill at Commission meeting.



Below left. Commissioners Schlafly, Siegan, Stevens, Tanner, and Thurmond.

The Constitution is what we did with our Independence. This is a unique opportunity for a history and civics lesson for all of us.

WARREN E. BURGER

NEW OFFICES

The Bicentennial Commission has been assigned offices at 734 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503, directly west of Lafayette Park. The telephone number is 202-USA-1787/88/89. □

State Commissions Appointed

State Bicentennial commissions are already operating in 18 States, including two in New Hampshire, one for general projects and the other for educational projects. Other State commissions are in the planning stage.

"These organizations are vitally needed to initiate, coordinate, and supervise Bicentennial celebrations within their jurisdictions," says Chairman Burger.

The Commission will shortly publish a brochure that may help those setting up State commissions. It includes a model legislative bill and executive order, a proposed organization, and 60-70 projects that such a commission can undertake.

Copies will go to Governors, legislative officers, and State Chief Justices. Requests from others will be honored while the supply lasts.

The Commission, working with State commissions, will also encourage the organizing of local commissions. Two have already been established—one in Philadelphia, the other in Knoxville.

The following States have appointed commissions for the Bicentennial:

State	Contact and Tel. No.
ALABAMA	CHARLES CARR 205-261-1698
ARIZONA	WILLIAM HOLOHAN 602-255-4534
CALIFORNIA	KAREN LOWREY 916-445-2522

State	Contact and Tel. No.
COLORADO	BARBARA SUDLER 303-866-2136
DELAWARE	CLAUDIA BUSHMAN 302-652-6662
GEORGIA	TONY DEES 404-656-2358
ILLINOIS	CHERYL NIRO 312-726-4853
KENTUCKY	BETTY SEAY 502-564-2672
MARYLAND	GREGORY STIVERSON 301-269-3914
NEW HAMPSHIRE ..	RUSSELL CHASE 603-271-3321 CHARLES DOUGLAS 603-271-3279 (for education)
NORTH CAROLINA ..	VERNON MORTON 919-733-5811
NORTH DAKOTA	HERBERT MESHKE 701-224-4208
OREGON	CHARLES CROOKHAM 503-248-5198
PENNSYLVANIA	ROBERT WINGERT 717-783-6788
SOUTH CAROLINA ..	WILLIAM DELOACH 803-758-3208
UTAH	ELDON TOLMAN 801-277-5444
VIRGINIA	TIMOTHY O'ROURKE 804-924-3396
WASHINGTON	RUTNAM BARBER 206-753-0177

The following local commissions have been organized:

KNOXVILLE, TN	MILTON KLEIN 615-974-5421
PHILADELPHIA, PA ..	FRED STEIN 215-597-1787

SPONSOR'S CORNER

The Commission anticipates raising much of its operating expenses from private donations. It has already received several contributions (see below) and is actively seeking more.

To enable potential contributors to select specific projects to support, the Commission will publish a list of activities for which funds are needed. Contributions for these projects or unrestricted contributions should be sent to the Commission's offices.

It is also asking Congress to amend its authorizing legislation to raise the ceilings on contributions from individuals to \$250,000 and from corporations to \$1 million. The current ceiling is \$100,000 for corporations and \$25,000 for individuals. All contributions are tax deductible.

The following contributions are gratefully acknowledged:

Beatrice

BEATRICE COMPANIES, INC., approximately \$50,000 to cover the costs of designing, publishing, and distributing a planning brochure for state and local organizations.

Bassett

We're the furniture people.

BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC., providing 18th century reproduction furniture for the Bicentennial headquarters, a Federal townhouse on Jackson Place.

OBERT C. TANNER:

The first individual contribution to the Bicentennial was made by Mr. Tanner, who is one of its Commissioners. The Commission is grateful for his contribution of more than \$15,000.



The FEDERAL EDIFICE.

Journal Highlights the Bicentennial

A special issue of the *National Forum*, the Phi Kappa Phi Journal, presents 17 articles by knowledgeable authors on different aspects of the Constitution as a means of stimulating interest in the Bicentennial. The publication of this issue (Fall, 1984) was co-sponsored by the American Bar Association and several foundations. Copies may be obtained from Phi Kappa Phi, Box 16000, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70893, for \$2.75 each.

Notes From the Founders

Two hundred years ago this month, there was no thought yet of a new Constitution for the United States. There were many comments, however, from many sources concerning the obvious failure of the government of the United States under the Articles of Confederation.

Among the manifest defects were these: The nation was going bankrupt due to the fact that its only source of revenue was the assessments from the States, and many were chronically late in paying. The nation was in disrespect internationally. Its ambassadors traveled to other countries at their own expense and were treated as the emissaries of a third-rate power.

Also, the nation had no effective leadership. The 4th "President of the United States in Congress Assembled," Richard Henry Lee, was in theory the Chief Executive. But since he held his position for only one year at the sufferance of Congress, he was little more than a figurehead.

Many amendments had been proposed by various States to correct the obvious defects in the Articles of Confederation. Some of them were agreed to by a majority of the States; some by almost all of them. But, under the Articles, amendments had to be approved unanimously. None of the proposals could meet that requirement.

It was the growing awareness of the failure of the Articles that would lead eventually to the Constitutional Convention, the Constitution itself, its ratification, and the new government. Here are some of the comments of two hundred years ago about the failure of the Articles:

George Washington, in a letter to Alexander Hamilton, March 4, 1783:

The predicament in which I stand as Citizen and Soldier, is as critical and delicate as can well be conceived....

The sufferings of a complaining Army on the one hand, and the inability of Congress and the tardiness of the States on the other, are the forebodings of evil and may be productive of events which are more to be deprecated than prevented....

In my opinion...an Adjournment of Congress for a few Months is advisable. The Delegates in that case, if they are in Unison themselves, respecting the great defects of their Constitution, may represent them, fully and boldly to their Constituents.... It appears that such a measure would tend to promote the public



Richard Henry Lee, chosen by the Congress for a 1-year term, the 4th "President of the United States in Congress Assembled."

COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

weal for it is clearly my opinion, unless Congress have powers competent to all general purposes, that ...the blood we have spilt in the course of an Eight years war, will avail us nothing.

Benjamin Franklin, in a letter to John Adams, February 5, 1784, writing about the collapse of American credit in Europe:

I hope these mischievous events will at length convince our people of the truth...that the foundation of credit abroad must be laid at home. When the States have not faith enough in a Congress of their own choosing to trust it with money for...the common debt, how can they expect...Congress... to borrow more money for their use from strangers.

Resolution by Massachusetts, passed by the legislature in 1785:

...the present powers of the Congress of the United States, as contained in the articles of confederation, are not fully adequate to the great purposes they were originally designed to effect.

(Only at the urging of Samuel Adams did Massachusetts retreat from asking its delegates in Congress to call for a general convention.) □

THE BICENTENNIAL BELONGS TO US ALL

We encourage everyone who reads this newsletter, who has any contact with any organization that has plans on the drawing boards, to send detailed information to the Commission. We have only had the office open for a month and a half, and already thoughtful, capable presentations for projects ranging from posters to plays, from concerts to computer disks, have come in from all parts of the Nation.

The Commission has no monopoly on good ideas for how to celebrate the Bicentennial. State and local commissions will provide additional ideas. Others will come from the citizenry.

What is especially heartening to the Commission is that hundreds of private organizations and individuals have already come forward with able plans for the Bicentennial. In some instances they add valuable details to ideas the Commission is already considering. In others they propose entirely different, but viable, ideas.

Like the Constitution itself, the Bicentennial belongs to the people of the United States. We urge everyone who has access to any plans for the Bicentennial to send them to us. We will communicate the best of all of these to every State and local commission, and to other organizations that receive our newsletter. We will periodically send out booklets with descriptions of plans and projects. We also expect to circulate even more details on available plans by way of computer communications services.

We have found that Americans in all walks of life and in all parts of the country have spent literally years in developing ideas for the Bicentennial. The more that we can get people in touch with each other, the better the final results for the Bicentennial, and for the Constitution.

Please send us copies of all of your plans and projects, so we can send information on the best of them to the leaders of the Bicentennial effort across the country. Those that are good, but not nationwide in scope, will be forwarded to the appropriate State and local commissions.

Your help is essential, and we are grateful for it □

U.S. Constitution Bicentennial

Events to be marked in 1986 and 1987

1986

January 16

Adoption of Thomas Jefferson's Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom. Later it became model for the First Amendment.

January 21

Virginia invites separate states to a commercial conference in Annapolis, Maryland, to revise the Articles of Confederation. James Madison is author of the idea.

February 28

Great Britain indicates it will not honor 1783 Peace Treaty of Paris, that calls for a withdrawal of its troops from the Great Lakes, until debts by former American colonists are settled.

June to September

A major economic depression reaches its deepest point throughout thirteen states.

August 7

Congress agrees to the proposal for revising the Articles of Confederation.

August 31

Armed insurgents prevent the Massachusetts Court from sitting.

September 5

First of a series of violent outbursts over farmers' debts being collected by the courts.

The State Supreme Court sitting in Worcester, Massachusetts is broken up by armed insurgents.

September 11-14

Annapolis Convention. Five states attend, debate revisions of the Articles of Confederation, set May 1787 for a constitutional convention to be held in Philadelphia.

September 26

Armed insurgents, five hundred strong, in Springfield, Massachusetts, force the state's Supreme Court to adjourn over the debt issue.

December

Shays Rebellion is climax of other violence in the year over court-collected debts.

1987

January 25

Shays' rebels attack and seize the Federal Arsenal at Springfield, Massachusetts.

February 4

Shays Rebellion is crushed and his followers scattered.

February 21

Congress adopts resolution calling on states to meet in Philadelphia, May 14, for a Constitutional Convention.

February to May

Delegates are named to the Constitutional Convention.

May 14

Convention delayed with only two state delegations present.

May 25

Convention finally opens with the necessary quorum of seven states present.

May 29

Virginia Plan drawn up by James Madison goes beyond revising the Articles of Confederation and proposes drafting a new document.

June 15

New Jersey submits a nine-point plan to protect smaller states, stressing retention of the Articles of Confederation.

July 5

New York delegation quits the Convention, protesting the historic meeting was going beyond revising the Articles of Confederation. Alexander Hamilton remains as the lone delegate from New York.

July 13

Northwest Ordinance adopted while Convention meets. Act lays groundwork

for political organization of settlements beyond thirteen original states.

July 16

Connecticut's compromise is submitted. Votes in the Senate would be based on equality with one vote for each state, and House votes based on population.

July 24

Convention's Committee of Detail begins work on framing specifics of the document.

August 6

Great Debate on particulars of the Constitution begins over terms of office and powers of Congress to regulate foreign and interstate commerce.

September 17

Final approval of the U.S. Constitution is given and it is signed.

September 19

New Constitution is published for the first time in Philadelphia papers.

September 26 and 28

Calls are heard from dissident Convention delegates to censure Congress for going beyond revision of the Articles of Confederation.

September 28

Congress calls for the states to convene conventions of ratification and sends draft of the document to the separate thirteen state capitals.

October 27

First of the Federalist Papers, authored by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay, is published.

December 7

Delaware becomes the first state to ratify, unanimously, the new Constitution.

December 12

Pennsylvania ratifies the document, 46 to 23.

December 18

New Jersey, by unanimous vote, is the third state to ratify the Constitution.

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

January 28, 1986

Hon. Vic Fischer
Alaska State Senate
Pouch Y
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Dear ~~Senator Fischer~~ ^{Vic.},

A number of us citizens, anticipating the two hundredth anniversary of the American Constitution next year, think we should take the opportunity to celebrate our freedom and to reflect on the frame of government that makes it possible. The Constitution is often cited, less often read, and too often taken for granted by citizens who owe their place in a free government to its wise dispositions.

The State of Alaska exists because of the success of the American government under the Constitution in expanding the horizons of freedom toward the west. The Constitution of our State is based on the American Constitution and shares the same spirit. It seems fitting for our State to observe this bicentenary as an opportunity to rekindle and deepen the appreciation that our citizens share for the American Constitution.

This anniversary offers us a splendid opportunity to examine and strengthen the foundations of our democratic republic by encouraging public discussion and observance of the Constitution in our cities and villages, in our schools and universities. The education in the principles of free government which close attention to the American Constitution affords would have a salutary effect on public deliberations in Alaska.

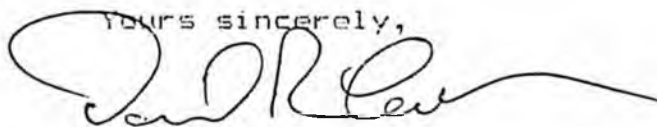
We offer the resolution enclosed and would be very pleased if you were willing to co-sponsor it. The resolution proposes that a commission be named, whose membership might consist of about fifteen Alaskans, one-third to be appointed by each of the three great departments of government--the Legislature, the Executive, and the Supreme Court. Similar commissions have already been formed by many States; and there is also a national commission to observe the anniversary.

The Board of Directors of the Polaris Institute, on which one of us sits, voted unanimously last weekend to make observance of this anniversary its chief project for the coming year, and the Institute has plans for a number of activities in keeping with the occasion. (The Institute is a nonprofit, non-partisan educational foundation incorporated under the laws of the State of Alaska.) A number of programs to celebrate the anniversary are now underway in Alaska, sponsored by the Alaska Humanities Forum, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Department of Political Sci-

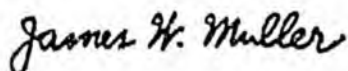
ence at the University of Alaska, Anchorage; but we believe it appropriate for the State of Alaska to take its part as well.

We would be very pleased to talk to you about this proposal and about how the commission might operate. Your support for this idea would help to guarantee that our own respect for constitutional government is passed on to the next generation of Alaskans.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan R. Cowden". The signature is fluid and extends to the right with a long, sweeping tail.

Daniel R. Cowden
1408B Walrus Cir.
Eagle River, Ak. 99577

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James W. Muller". The signature is more compact and less stylized than the one above.

James W. Muller
470 E. 56th Ave., Apt. B
Anchorage, Ak. 99518

encl.

Joint Resolution

Whereas: The Constitution, of the United States, which Gladstone called "the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man," is the oldest written frame of government that has been in continuous use by a free people on earth; and

Whereas: Government under the Constitution in America has provided an example of self-government that has inspired a yearning for freedom all over the world; and

Whereas: The bicentenary of the Constitution is in the year of our era nineteen hundred eighty-seven and of the independence of the United States two hundred eleven; and

Whereas: The State of Alaska proudly takes its place among the Union of States under the Constitution; now therefore

Be it resolved: That the State of Alaska shall appoint a Commission to commemorate the bicentenary of the Constitution of the United States of America; and

That the year 1987 shall be proclaimed the Year of the Constitution of the United States of America, to be commemorated by appropriate public observances for citizens throughout the State of Alaska.

(sample letter)

January 28, 1986

Hon. Don Bennett, President
Alaska State Senate
Fouch Y
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Dear Senator Bennett,

A number of us citizens, anticipating the two hundredth anniversary of the American Constitution next year, think we should take the opportunity to celebrate our freedom and to reflect on the frame of government that makes it possible. The Constitution is often cited, less often read, and too often taken for granted by citizens who owe their place in a free government to its wise dispositions.

The State of Alaska exists because of the success of the American government under the Constitution in expanding the horizons of freedom toward the west. The Constitution of our State is based on the American Constitution, and shares the same spirit. It seems fitting for our State to observe this bicentenary as an opportunity to rekindle and deepen the appreciation that our citizens share for the American Constitution.

This anniversary offers us a splendid opportunity to examine and strengthen the foundations of our democratic republic by encouraging public discussion and observance of the Constitution in our cities and villages, in our schools and universities. The education in the principles of free government which close attention to the American Constitution affords would have a salutary effect on public deliberations in Alaska.

We offer the resolution enclosed and would be very pleased if you were willing to co-sponsor it. The resolution proposes that a commission be named, whose membership might consist of about fifteen Alaskans, one-third to be appointed by each of the three great departments of government--the Legislature, the Executive, and the Supreme Court. Similar commissions have already been formed by many States; and there is also a national commission to observe the anniversary.

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ence at the University of Alaska, Anchorage; but we believe it appropriate for the State of Alaska to take its part as well.

We would be very pleased to talk to you about this proposal and about how the commission might operate. Your support for this idea would help to guarantee that our own respect for constitutional government is passed on to the next generation of Alaskans.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel R. Cowden
1408B Walrus Cir.
Eagle River, Ak. 99577

James W. Muller
470 E. 56th Ave., Apt. B
Anchorage, Ak. 99518

encl.

*Muller
UofA, A
Pol. Sci. Dept.*

Joint Resolution

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Whereas: The bicentenary of the Constitution is in the year of our era nineteen hundred eighty-seven and of the independence of the United States two hundred eleven; and

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Be it resolved: That the State of Alaska shall appoint a Commission to commemorate the bicentenary of the Constitution of the United States of America; and

That the year 1987 shall be proclaimed the Year of the Constitution of the United States of America, to be commemorated by appropriate public observances for citizens throughout the State of Alaska.



REPRESENTATIVE DON CLOCKSIN

Alaska House of Representatives

MAJORITY LEADER

1024 WEST SIXTH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 274-4031

WHILE IN JUNEAU:
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3704

M E M O R A N D U M

FEB 24 1986

TO: Representative Katie Hurley DATE: February 24, 1986
Chair
State Affairs Committee

FROM: Representative Don Clocksin SUBJECT: HCR 45
Majority Leader *Don Clocksin*

I would like to request that the State Affairs Committee consider House Concurrent Resolution 45, "relating to the bicentenary of the United States Constitution."

This legislation would have the Alaska State Legislature request the Governor to appoint a commission to commemorate the bicentenary of the U. S. Constitution and proclaims 1987 the Year of the Constitution of the United States of America to be celebrated by appropriate public observances by citizens throughout the State.

Explanatory materials are attached. If you have any questions, please contact Johnny Ellis at 3704. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Attachment

Introduced: 2/12/86
Referred: State Affairs
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY CLOCKSIN

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to the bicentenary of the

6

United States Constitution.

7

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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WHEREAS the Constitution of the United States is the oldest written

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frame of government that has been in continuous use by a free people on

10

earth; and

11

WHEREAS government under the Constitution in America has provided an

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example of self-government that has inspired a yearning for freedom all

13

over the world; and

14

WHEREAS the bicentenary of the Constitution in 1987 is also the 211th

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year of the independence of the United States; and

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WHEREAS the State of Alaska proudly takes its place among the Union of

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States under the Constitution; and

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WHEREAS in anticipation of the 200th anniversary of the American

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Constitution, we should take the opportunity to celebrate our freedom and

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to reflect on the frame of government that makes it possible; and

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WHEREAS the Constitution is often cited, less often read, and too

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often taken for granted by citizens who owe their place in a free govern-

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ment to its wise dispositions; and

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WHEREAS this anniversary offers us a splendid opportunity to examine

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and strengthen the foundations of our democratic republic by encouraging

26

public discussion and observance of the Constitution in our cities and

27

villages, in our schools and universities;

28

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

29

the Governor to appoint a commission to commemorate the bicentenary of the

1 Constitution of the United States of America; and be it

2 FURTHER RESOLVED that the year 1987 shall be proclaimed the Year of
3 the Constitution of the United States of America, to be commemorated by
4 appropriate public observances for citizens throughout the state.



We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

From the Chairman

In celebrating the Bicentennial of our Declaration of Independence in 1776, we honored the heroes of our struggle to secure independence from a distant government insensitive to people's needs and to secure the inalienable rights so eloquently described in the Declaration of 1776. In the Bicentennial years ahead, we shall pay tribute to and celebrate the wisdom of our Founders in framing for this Nation a form of government which implements the Declaration of July 4, 1776, and which has for two centuries secured for Americans their natural rights to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

The Commission will seek to encourage a spirit of inquiry for the celebration as we approach the Bicentennial. The Constitution, as the guardian of our liberties, should be honored from the heart as well as the mind. The Constitution was a product of reflection and choice, a work of the mind reflecting the hopes and dreams of philosophers and scholars of government. It embodies the principles constituting us as a self-governing people dedicated to the rule of law.

The Commission regards the approaching commemoration as an historic opportunity for all Americans to learn about and recall the achievements of our Founders and the knowledge and experience that inspired them, the nature of the government they established, its origins, its character, and its ends, and the rights and privileges of citizenship, as well as its attendant responsibilities. The Commission will seek to encourage a truly national celebration that instills in every citizen an awareness of the Constitution's preeminent role in our unique and profound experiment in self-government.

WARREN E. BURGER

Bicentennial Commission Members Sworn In

At a White House ceremony on July 30, Vice President George Bush administered the oath of office to the newly appointed commissioners. They are:

- WARREN E. BURGER, Chairman
- FREDERICK K. BIEBEL
- LINDY BOGGS*
- HERBERT BROWNELL
- LYNNE V. CHENEY
- PHILIP M. CRANE
- WILLIAM J. GREEN
- EDWARD VICTOR HILL
- CORNELIA G. KENNEDY
- EDWARD M. KENNEDY
- HARRY MCKINLEY LIGHTSEY, JR.
- WILLIAM LUCAS*

- EDWARD P. MORGAN
 - BETTY SOUTHARD MURPHY
 - THOMAS H. O'CONNOR
 - PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY
 - BERNARD H. SIEGAN
 - TED STEVENS
 - OBERT C. TANNER
 - STROM THURMOND
 - RONALD H. WALKER
 - CHARLES E. WIGGINS*
 - CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT
- * Sworn in after July 30



Top, from left. Commissioner Wright, Chairman Burger, Staff Director Cannon at the Commission's meeting in Washington, D.C., July 29-30. Bottom, from left. Commissioners Kennedy, Lightsey, Morgan, and Murphy.

Commission Report Delivered on Constitution Day

On September 17, 1985, the 198th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, Chairman Warren Burger presented the First Report of the Bicentennial Commission to President Reagan and to Senate and House officers.

Chairman Burger was accompanied to the White House by staff director Mark Cannon and deputy director Ron Mann. At the Capitol, Strom Thurmond, President *Pro Tem* of the Senate, and Speaker of the House Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. received the report on behalf of Congress.

The report describes the Commission's preliminary plans for stimulating the kinds of programs and events that are appropriate for celebrating the Constitution. As plans are completed or revised, changes will be reported in this newsletter. A comprehensive long range plan will be included in succeeding annual reports.

The report also contains a calendar of key historical dates from 1785-1791 that provides themes for State and local celebrations.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the Commission's office while the supply lasts. □



Chairman Burger presenting the First Report of the Commission to President Reagan at the White House on September 17, 1985.

Important Events!

November 6, 1985: The Center for Democracy, Boston University, has invited all members of the Bicentennial Commission and other government leaders to attend a reception hosted by its Board at the National Archives from 5-8 p.m.

November 24-25, 1985: The next meeting of the Bicentennial Commission, to be held in Washington, D.C. Individuals and groups with items they would like the Commission to consider should contact the Commission Staff at 202-USA-1787. Any materials to be considered for submission to the Commission should be submitted to the office at least five days in advance.

Future dates of Commission meetings:

February 1-2, 1986

April 13-14, 1986

June 27-28, 1986 □

Bicentennial Activities Proposed

Spokesmen for nearly 20 organizations appeared at the Supreme Court on September 17 to give the Commission a preview of their Bicentennial plans. Some projects planned:

- A citizens group from Philadelphia is planning a Constitution Wagon Train. Five horse-drawn wagon trains will travel 12,000 miles over historic wagon trails in every State at a pace of 20 miles a day, stopping in more than 1,000 towns.
- The American Bar Association hopes to produce prime-time TV documentaries on the role of the Constitution in modern life.
- The National Endowment for the Humanities has granted more than \$11 million for Bicentennial activities. □

- The Daughters of the American Revolution will produce commemorative medals and other items.
- The National Park Service has designated a Constitution theme in its parks for 1987.
- The National Center for Constitutional Studies is developing a trivia game. "If you play this game seven times, you begin to sound like a Philadelphia lawyer," says W. Cleon Skousen, chairman of the Center.
- Project: '87 is producing an array of materials: a magazine, *this Constitution*; a book, *Lessons on the Constitution*; a poster exhibit; and two television series.

The Commission is developing a handbook on how to organize projects and events commemorating the Bicentennial and will serve as a clearinghouse for information about such activities throughout the country. □

State Commissions Appointed

State Bicentennial commissions are already operating in 18 States, including two in New Hampshire, one for general projects and the other for educational projects. Other State commissions are in the planning stage.

"These organizations are vitally needed to initiate, coordinate, and supervise Bicentennial celebrations within their jurisdictions," says Chairman Burger.

The Commission will shortly publish a brochure that may help those setting up State commissions. It includes a model legislative bill and executive order, a proposed organization, and 60-70 projects that such a commission can undertake.

Copies will go to Governors, legislative officers, and State Chief Justices. Requests from others will be honored while the supply lasts.

The Commission, working with State commissions, will also encourage the organizing of local commissions. Two have already been established—one in Philadelphia, the other in Knoxville.

The following States have appointed commissions for the Bicentennial:

State	Contact and Tel. No.
ALABAMA.....	CHARLES CARR 205-261-3698
ARIZONA.....	WILLIAM HOLOHAN 602-255-4534
CALIFORNIA.....	KAREN LOWREY 916-445-2522

State	Contact and Tel. No.
COLORADO.....	BARBARA SUDLER 303-866-2136
DELAWARE.....	CLAUDIA BUSHMAN 302-652-6662
GEORGIA.....	TONY DEES 404-656-2358
ILLINOIS.....	CHERYL NIRO 312-726-4853
KENTUCKY.....	BETTY SEAY 502-564-2672
MARYLAND.....	GREGORY STIVERSON 301-269-3914
NEW HAMPSHIRE..	RUSSELL CHASE 603-271-3321 CHARLES DOUGLAS 603-271-3279 (for education)
NORTH CAROLINA..	VERNON MORTON 919-733-5811
NORTH DAKOTA....	HERBERT MESHKE 701-224-4208
OREGON.....	CHARLES CROOKHAM 503-248-5198
PENNSYLVANIA.....	ROBERT WINGERT 717-783-6788
SOUTH CAROLINA..	WILLIAM DELOACH 803-758-3208
UTAH.....	ELDON TOLMAN 801-277-5444
VIRGINIA.....	TIMOTHY O'ROURKE 804-924-3396
WASHINGTON.....	RUTNAM BARBER 206-753-0177

The following local commissions have been organized:

KNOXVILLE, TN	MILTON KLEIN 615-974-5421
PHILADELPHIA, PA	FRED STEIN 215-597-1787

SPONSOR'S CORNER

The Commission anticipates raising much of its operating expenses from private donations. It has already received several contributions (see below) and is actively seeking more.

To enable potential contributors to select specific projects to support, the Commission will publish a list of activities for which funds are needed. Contributions for these projects or unrestricted contributions should be sent to the Commission's offices.

It is also asking Congress to amend its authorizing legislation to raise the ceilings on contributions from individuals to \$250,000 and from corporations to \$1 million. The current ceiling is \$100,000 for corporations and \$25,000 for individuals. All contributions are tax deductible.

The following contributions are gratefully acknowledged:



BEATRICE COMPANIES, INC., approximately \$50,000 to cover the costs of designing, publishing, and distributing a planning brochure for state and local organizations.



BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC., providing 18th century reproduction furniture for the Bicentennial headquarters, a Federal townhouse on Jackson Place.

OBERT C. TANNER: The first individual contribution to the Bicentennial was made by Mr. Tanner, who is one of its Commissioners. The Commission is grateful for his contribution of more than \$15,000.

Selected Efforts of Organizations

The Commission is working to set up a method for official recognition of projects or events that are national and warrant special encouragement. Until criteria for recognition for projects are accepted by the whole Commission, only unofficial congratulations can be offered for projects already known.

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), an organization of descendants of those who fought in the Revolutionary War, and those who served in the Continental Congress, the Convention, etc., has a national project to have September 17th recognized as Constitution Day by every State and city across the Nation. Among the official proclamations they have obtained in 1985 are those from New Hampshire and Annapolis, Maryland.

Efforts such as those of the SAR contribute to the goal of having September 17, 1987, declared a national holiday for all Americans in honor of the Constitution.

The Congressional Youth Leadership Council has two related projects underway, designed to bring Consti-

tutional ideas to students.

One is a trivia game, based on the Constitution itself, the lives of the Founders, and the first Administration under the Constitution. This game would be keyed to students, and they would use it to prepare for Constitution Question Bees, the second project.

These would begin in the local schools, progress to State and then national contests, exactly like spelling bees.

National winners would be brought to Washington as part of the Bicentennial celebrations. It is proposed that State and local winners would be recognized by the State and local commissions.

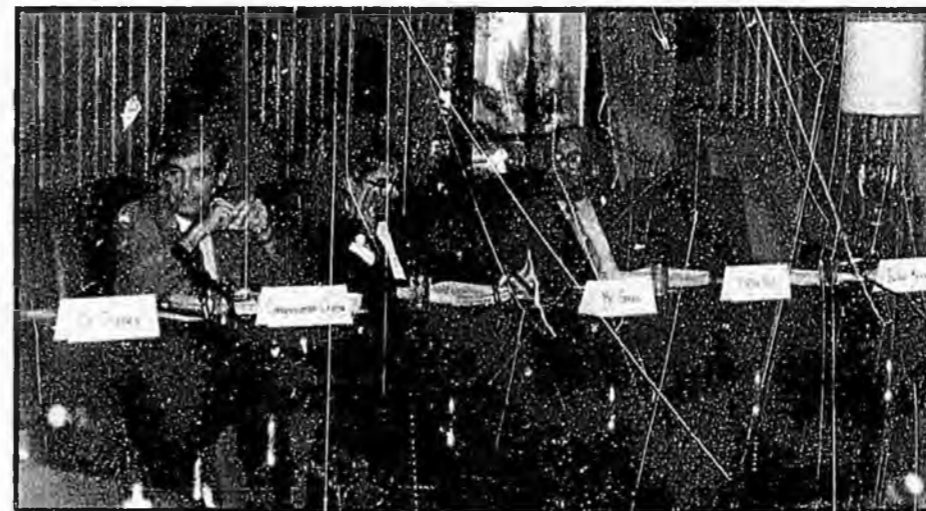
Virginia has developed a program that involves citizens and scholars in the examination of constitutional issues. The Virginia Court Days Forums are held in historic courthouses around the Commonwealth. Issues such as federalism, democracy, and amendments are previewed in writing by the University of Virginia and then presented by a panel of experts.

Citizens are invited to attend, not just as an audience, but to participate

with their questions and comments. Most of the series has been videotaped and broadcast on public television. For scripts or videotapes of the Forums (which could be done in any State), contact Dr. Timothy O'Rourke at the University of Virginia, tel. 804-924-3396.

Maryland has developed an educational package on the Constitution for 4th graders. It contains a brief story about the Constitution and graphics, maps, quizzes, and other materials. The package costs less than \$2 and may be easily duplicated. Contact Gregory Stiverson for details at the Maryland Office for the Bicentennial, tel. 301-269-3914.

The Council of the Thirteen Original States, Inc., is sponsoring a meeting of the U.S. Constitution Council Conference on December 7, 1985 at Wilmington, Delaware to explore opportunities for cooperative activities to celebrate the Constitution. State governors have been invited to participate. Frederick Biebel, Bicentennial Commissioner, will discuss Commission plans.



At left, Commissioners Crane, Green, and Hill at Commission meeting.



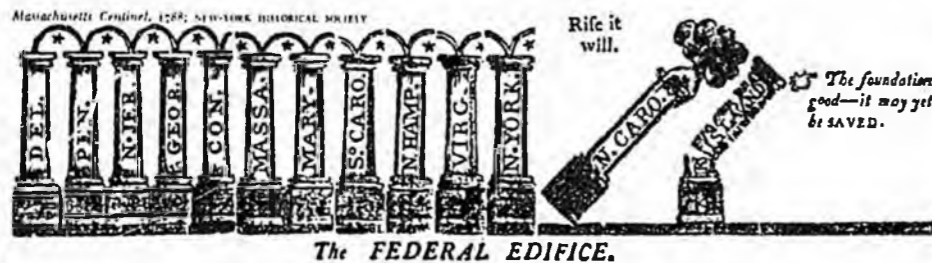
Below left, Commissioners Schlafly, Siegan, Stevens, Tanner, and Thurmond.

The Constitution is what we did with our Independence. This is a unique opportunity for a history and civics lesson for all of us.

WARREN E. BURGER

NEW OFFICES

The Bicentennial Commission has been assigned offices at 734 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503, directly west of Lafayette Park. The telephone number is 202-USA-1787/88/89.



Journal Highlights the Bicentennial

A special issue of the National Forum, the Phi Kappa Phi Journal, presents 17 articles by knowledgeable authors on different aspects of the Constitution as a means of stimulating interest in the Bicentennial. The publication of this issue (Fall, 1984) was co-sponsored by the American Bar Association and several foundations. Copies may be obtained from Phi Kappa Phi, Box 16000, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70893, for \$2.75 each.

Notes From the Founders

Two hundred years ago this month, there was no thought yet of a new Constitution for the United States. There were many comments, however, from many sources concerning the obvious failure of the government of the United States under the Articles of Confederation.

Among the manifest defects were these: The nation was going bankrupt due to the fact that its only source of revenue was the assessments from the States, and many were chronically late in paying. The nation was in disrespect internationally. Its ambassadors traveled to other countries at their own expense and were treated as the emissaries of a third-rate power.

Also, the nation had no effective leadership. The 4th "President of the United States in Congress Assembled," Richard Henry Lee, was in theory the Chief Executive. But since he held his position for only one year at the sufferance of Congress, he was little more than a figurehead.

Many amendments had been proposed by various States to correct the obvious defects in the Articles of Confederation. Some of them were agreed to by a majority of the States; some by almost all of them. But, under the Articles, amendments had to be approved unanimously. None of the proposals could meet that requirement.

It was the growing awareness of the failure of the Articles that would lead eventually to the Constitutional Convention, the Constitution itself, its ratification, and the new government. Here are some of the comments of two hundred years ago about the failure of the Articles:

George Washington, in a letter to Alexander Hamilton, March 4, 1783: *The predicament in which I stand as Citizen and Soldier, is as critical and delicate as can well be conceived.... The sufferings of a complaining Army on the one hand, and the inability of Congress and the tardiness of the States on the other, are the forebodings of evil and may be productive of events which are more to be deprecated than prevented....*

In my opinion...an Adjournment of Congress for a few Months is advisable. The Delegates in that case, if they are in Unison themselves, respecting the great defects of their Constitution, may represent them, fully and boldly to their Constituents.... It appears that such a measure would tend to promote the public



Richard Henry Lee, chosen by the Congress for a 1-year term, the 4th "President of the United States in Congress Assembled."
COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

weal for it is clearly my opinion, unless Congress have powers competent to all general purposes, that...the blood we have spilt in the course of an Eight years war, will avail us nothing.

Benjamin Franklin, in a letter to John Adams, February 5, 1784, writing about the collapse of American credit in Europe:

I hope these mischievous events will at length convince our people of the truth...that the foundation of credit abroad must be laid at home. When the States have not faith enough in a Congress of their own choosing to trust it with money for...the common debt, how can they expect...Congress... to borrow more money for their use from strangers.

Resolution by Massachusetts, passed by the legislature in 1785: *...the present powers of the Congress of the United States, as contained in the articles of confederation, are not fully adequate to the great purposes they were originally designed to effect.*

(Only at the urging of Samuel Adams did Massachusetts retreat from asking its delegates in Congress to call for a general convention.)

THE BICENTENNIAL BELONGS TO US ALL

We encourage everyone who reads this newsletter, who has any contact with any organization that has plans on the drawing boards, to send detailed information to the Commission. We have only had the office open for a month and a half, and already thoughtful, capable presentations for projects ranging from posters to plays, from concerts to computer disks, have come in from all parts of the Nation.

The Commission has no monopoly on good ideas for how to celebrate the Bicentennial. State and local commissions will provide additional ideas. Others will come from the citizenry.

What is especially heartening to the Commission is that hundreds of private organizations and individuals have already come forward with able plans for the Bicentennial. In some instances they add valuable details to ideas the Commission is already considering. In others they propose entirely different, but viable, ideas.

Like the Constitution itself, the Bicentennial belongs to the people of the United States. We urge everyone who has access to any plans for the Bicentennial to send them to us. We will communicate the best of all of these to every State and local commission, and to other organizations that receive our newsletter. We will periodically send out booklets with descriptions of plans and projects. We also expect to circulate even more details on available plans by way of computer communications services.

We have found that Americans in all walks of life and in all parts of the country have spent literally years in developing ideas for the Bicentennial. The more that we can get people in touch with each other, the better the final results for the Bicentennial, and for the Constitution.

Please send us copies of all of your plans and projects, so we can send information on the best of them to the leaders of the Bicentennial effort across the country. Those that are good, but not nationwide in scope, will be forwarded to the appropriate State and local commissions.

Your help is essential, and we are grateful for it.

Three Phase Celebration

The Commission recommends that activities scheduled during the Bicentennial years (1987-89) by State and local organizations, public and private, reflect the historical events of 200 years ago. It offers the following thematic framework:

1987: Framing the Constitution. The celebrations during 1986 and 1987 should focus on events leading up to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787 and on the memory of the Founders. September 17, 1987—Constitution Day—is expected to be the highlight of this period. It was on this day in 1787 that the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution after four months of debate.

1988: Ratifying the Constitution: The People Consent. The great national debate on the merits of the Constitution following the adjournment of the Philadelphia Convention is an appropriate theme. In those States that ratified the Constitution, celebrations can be

planned around the dates of ratification. **1989: Establishing a Government Under the Constitution.** In 1789, the federal government was established and George Washington inaugurated. The commemoration in 1989 should focus primarily on the 200 years of historical development of the three branches of government under the Constitution.

"While we recommend this general framework," says Chairman Burger, "we also welcome the diversity of activities that is a hallmark of American society."

Key historical dates on which to peg commemorative activities are found in the First Report of the Bicentennial Commission, which is available from the Commission's offices.

List of Commission Projects

"The Commission will try to stimulate massive activity by thousands of organizations to celebrate the Bicentennial," says Chairman Burger.

"The success of the Bicentennial will depend on the grass-roots involvement of citizens and their organizations."

Projects to be undertaken or encouraged by the Commission to promote local participation include:

- A clearinghouse for information about Bicentennial plans and events around the country.
- A calendar of commemorative dates and events, especially those of national interest.
- A handbook of Bicentennial planning to enable State and local commissions and private groups to organize commemorative activities.
- A newsletter.
- A national Constitution speakers bureau to make available those individuals who are knowledgeable about constitutional history and law and willing to speak. The Commission encourages speakers bureaus to be established at the State level as well.
- Development of appropriate educational materials for schools and libraries.
- Writing contests, debates, and other educational competitions.

THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, 734 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20503 ■ (202) USA-1787

Please pass this newsletter on to others who are interested in the Bicentennial, and feel free to copy and reuse any of this information as you or your company or organization choose. For the Bicentennial to be a success, hundreds of thousands of citizens, and thousands of businesses and organizations will have to get involved. To take your first step in being part of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution, fill out and return this form:

Name.....
 Organization..... Title.....
 Address.....
 City..... State..... Zip Code.....
 Phone (Office)..... (Home).....

- Please add me (us) to the mailing list for the Newsletter.
- Please tell me (us) how to assist in the
- national, State Bicentennial activities.
- Enclosed is information about plans for the Bicentennial that you may not have, and that might be of interest to others.

When you contact us, you can be certain that either the national Commission, or your State commission, will get back to you with information on how you might help, and with requests for specific types of assistance from you or your organization.

THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
 734 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20503

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Feb. 13, 1986

Sen. Jack Coghill
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Sen. Coghill,

I was pleased to see the introduction of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 32 concerning the bicentenary of the U.S. Constitution. It is, indeed, a marvelous opportunity to increase public understanding of that document and its impact on our lives today.

In June, 1985, I was named chairman of Alaska's representatives to the We the People Project, a national coalition of organizations, including the American Bar Association and the American Newspaper Publishers Association, that is planning a series of programs in celebration of the constitution's bicentennial. I think the enclosed sheets will give you a good idea of the scope, goals, and participants in the project.

If the Governor does indeed create the commission and if you think it would be helpful, I would be willing either to serve on the commission or to work closely with its members to better coordinate efforts in planning and programming.

Again, I congratulate you on your efforts to encourage the celebration of the constitution's bicentenary in Alaska.

Sincerely,

June Pinnell-Stephens

June A. Pinnell-Stephens
President-Elect, Alaska Library Assn.
3140 Roden Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99701
479-5826

cc: Sen. Fischer
Sen. Fahrenkamp
John Hilliard

SYNOPSIS

WE THE PEOPLE
the constitutional bicentennial project
of the
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
and
KQED, INC.

In 1987, Americans will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the writing of the Constitution of the United States. This bicentennial is an opportunity to retell the story of America, for that is also the story of the Constitution we cherish. It continues to play an important role in our everyday lives. The Constitution's bicentennial is an unprecedented opportunity to improve the constitutional literacy of our nation's citizens and help the public rediscover the rich legacy of the constitutional principles that have guided our national experience.

The American Bar Association, through its Commission on Public Understanding About the Law, in conjunction with KQED-TV San Francisco, the American Library Association, the American Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation, the National Community Education Association, the American Association of Adult and Continuing Education, the National Association of Bar Executives, the Office of Smithsonian Symposia and Seminars, and others, plans a major nationwide program designed to recount the story of the Constitution and its role in contemporary American life.

The project's centerpiece will be an eight-part television series on the Constitution. The hour-long programs, to be broadcast during prime-time on the 300 affiliates of the Public Broadcasting Service, will examine the interplay of American history and the Constitution as well as our national charter's effect on the most vital issues of the day. The programs will be coordinated in substance and format with the other project elements.

A 13-part series of half-hour programs to be broadcast over National Public Radio will supplement the television series by tracing the origins, drafting, implementation, and interpretation of the Constitution. Both the television and radio series will be capable of adaptation to instruction of secondary and college students. Additional five-minute segments, designed for incorporation into "Morning Edition" will also be produced.

A series of eight Sunday supplements with illustrated camera-ready articles covering additional aspects of our constitutional history will be distributed free to all newspapers in the United States. The articles will also be compiled in book form, along with curriculum guides and supplementary materials, for use in all grade levels in the schools. A similar newspaper series during the 1976 bicentennial celebration was used by 200 American newspapers.

In addition to the media programs, a series of community-based programs will give citizens an opportunity to participate in forums examining various aspects of the Constitution, its evolution, the underlying values involved, and its significance in contemporary society and on the individual citizen. Conducted by local organizations using materials and guides from the national project, the forums will give the public an opportunity to speak out on the constitutional issues featured in the project as well as learn more about the citizen's role in the continuing development of the law.

A major international symposium on issues of constitutional dimension will be held at the Smithsonian Institution in May 1987. The conference, which will result in books both for the general public and the scholarly community, will examine how an 18th century Constitution can cope with 21st century challenges. In addition, special events are planned at Independence Hall National Park to commemorate the opening of the Constitutional Convention on May 25, 1787. Other conferences will be held at major universities to highlight specific constitutional issues.

A separate seminar series is planned to introduce educators to the project and enlist their cooperation and support in developing bicentennial programs in the schools. Seminar workshops will provide the educators with substantive training on constitutional topics and guidelines for developing youth-oriented programs complementing the community forums. A symposium on the educational implications of the topics addressed at the Smithsonian symposium will also be conducted.

Publications of the project will include a hardcover, mass-market book to accompany the television series, teachers' and college guides to the television programs, discussion leaders' guides for the community forums, special bicentennial-focused magazines, and compilations of articles based on the project's activities.

Using an extensive information and promotion campaign, this project can reach into virtually every home in America. Underlying the project's potential is a national rededication to the ideals that make us a nation. Through an understanding of the ways the Constitution has contributed to our development both as a nation and as a people, the public will come to understand how a unique American culture based largely on optimism, economic opportunity, human dignity, and a dedication to freedom developed.



National Conference of State Legislatures

*me - read
talk to Fischer*

444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 203
Washington, D.C. 20001
202/624-5400

President David E. Nething
Majority Leader
North Dakota Senate

Executive Director
Earl S. Mackey

January 31, 1986

Honorable Ben F. Grussendorf
Speaker of the House
P O Box 928
Sitka, AK 99835

Dear Speaker Grussendorf:

The 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution is marked in 1987. President Reagan has appointed a Bicentennial Commission to coordinate a three year nation-wide celebration reflecting the historic events which led to the enactment of our Constitution. The celebration will focus on the framing of the Constitution in 1787, ratifying the Constitution in 1788, and establishing a government under the Constitution in 1789.

Chief Justice Warren Burger as Chairman of the Commission, encourages us to assist in developing bipartisan commissions for our individual state's celebration efforts. The Commission's first report in September outlines the commemoration activities.

Because of the critical role played by state legislators and delegates in the establishment of our Nation, I am encouraging you to support the organization of your state's commission. The celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution gives us as state legislators, and citizens of the Nation, a rare opportunity to further appreciate and improve our understanding of government; the interrelatedness of its federal, state, and local components; the services it provides; and how it functions.

NCSL will be participating with the Commission and other national groups in celebrating the Bicentennial. We will be developing and distributing suggestions of ways states can participate in the bicentennial celebration. As stated in NCSL policy, the establishment of a state bicentennial commission is the first start.

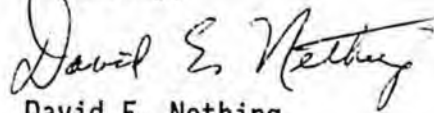
I am enclosing copies of Chief Justice Burger's letter, the Commission's first report and newsletter, a model act for establishing state commissions and the NCSL resolution for your reference. These documents should be helpful as you organize your state's commission and bicentennial activities.

Honorable Ben F. Grussendorf
January 31, 1986
Page Two

Please feel free to contact Mark Cannon or Ronald M. Mann of the Commission if you need more information. Their telephone number is (202) USA-1787.

I look forward to working with you in NCSL's bicentennial efforts and hearing about your state's activities.

Sincerely,



David E. Nething
Majority Leader
North Dakota State Senate
President, NCSL

Enclosures

cc: Honorable Donald E. Clocksin, House Majority Leader
Honorable Terry Martin, House Minority Leader

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the United States of America is only a year away from celebration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution;

Whereas, the past several years have seen fundamental shifts in responsibility from the federal to state governments;

Whereas, the federal government has now enacted an unprecedented mechanism for reducing the federal budget deficit;

Whereas, political institutions at every level of government have been dramatically transformed and modernized over the past two decades;

Whereas, these forces combine to cause the citizens of the United States to reflect on their governments, on how they operate, on the services they provide, and on how they relate to one another;

Therefore, be it resolved, that NCSL develop and distribute suggestions of ways that state legislatures can participate in celebrating the Bicentennial of the Constitution;

And further be it resolved that these suggestions include establishment of commissions in the states to review the responsibilities of the state, local, and federal governments and to review how the governments are organized to perform these responsibilities.

We the People

of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

December 18, 1985

Dear President Nething:

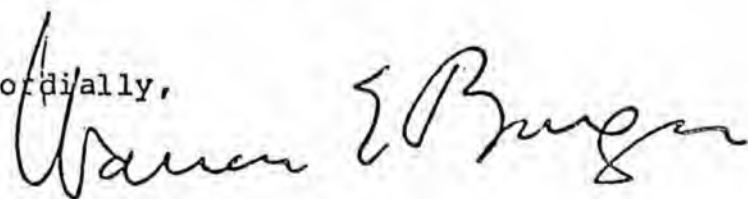
As Chairman of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, I thank you for your offer to assist us in the commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

If all Americans are to participate in this important commemoration, through personal activity and through programs set up by organizations, encouragement and opportunities for individual involvement must come from all levels--national, State, and local. The era of the Constitution's Bicentennial is already well upon us, but only 17 States have thus far established commissions on the Bicentennial.

The National Conference of State Legislatures and its members can be key participants to stimulate the Bicentennial activities at the State and local levels. We appreciate the assistance of your group in programs on the Constitution.

We hope all legislators will give speeches about the Constitution and stimulate public programs about the Constitution.

Cordially,



Hon. David E. Nething
President, National
Conference of State
Legislatures
444 N. Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20001

- Warren E. Burger
Chairman
- Frederick K. Biebel
- Lindy Boggs
- Herbert Brownell
- Lynne V. Cheney
- Philip M. Crane
- William J. Green
- Edward Victor Hill
- Cornelia G. Kennedy
- Edward M. Kennedy
- Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.
- William Lucas
- Edward P. Morgan
- Betty Southard Murphy
- Thomas H. O'Connor
- Phyllis Schlaily
- Bernard H. Siegan
- Ted Stevens
- Obert C. Tanner
- Strom Thurmond
- Ronald H. Walker
- Charles E. Wiggins
- Charles Alan Wright
- Mark W. Cannon
Staff Director
- Ronald M. Mann
Deputy Staff Director

AN ACT

To provide for the establishment of a Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of _____, that there is established a Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission".

FINDINGS

Sec. 2. The legislature finds that --

- (1) the bicentennial of the Constitutional Convention's adoption of the Constitution occurs on September 17, 1987;
- (2) the Constitution enunciates the limitations on government, the inalienable rights, the timeless principles of individual liberty and responsibility, and equality before law, for the people of the United States of America and the state of _____;
- (3) this document has set an enduring example of representative democracy for the world and served as a model for the Constitution of the state of _____; and
- (4) the maintenance of the common principles that animate our Republic depend upon a knowledge and understanding of their roots and origins.

PURPOSE

Sec. 3. The purpose of this Act is to establish the (state) Commission to promote and coordinate activities to commemorate the bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 4. (a) The Commission shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:

- (1) twenty members appointed by the Governor, four of whom shall be appointed from among the recommendations made by the Speaker of the House of Representatives (in consultation with the minority leader of the House of Representatives), four of whom shall be appointed from among the recommendations made by the President pro tempore of the

Senate, in consultation with the majority leader and minority leader of the Senate, and four of whom shall be appointed from among the recommendations made by the Chief Justice of (state);

- (2) the Chief Justice of _____, or his designee;
- (3) the President pro tempore of the Senate, or his designee; and
- (4) the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.

(b) Each of the individuals making recommendations to the President regarding appointments shall seek to achieve a balanced membership representing, to the maximum extent practicable, the state of _____ as a whole. The Commission members shall be chosen from among individuals who have demonstrated scholarship, a strong sense of public service, expertise in the learned professions, and abilities likely to contribute to the fulfillment of the duties of the Commission.

(c) Members of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(d) One of the members shall be designated as Chairman by, and shall serve in the position of Chairman at the pleasure of, the Governor.

(e) Twelve members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may conduct meetings.

(f) A vacancy in the Commission resulting from the death or resignation of a member shall not affect its powers, and shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS AND POWERS

Sec. 5. (a) The Commission shall appoint a staff director who shall be paid at a rate to be set by the Commission.

(b) The Commission is authorized to appoint and fix the compensation of such additional publicly paid personnel up to five persons, as the Chairman finds necessary to carry out the purposes of this title.

(c) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the Commission may appoint and fix the pay of additional personnel to be paid out of private donations. An individual appointed to a position funded in such manner shall be so designated at the time of such individual's

appointment. The Chairman may appoint such additional personnel as he deems appropriate;

(d) Each member of the Commission shall serve without being compensated as a member of such Commission, except that each member shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

(e) Upon request of the Commission, the head of any state agency may detail any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties under this Act. Details under this subsection shall be without reimbursement by the Commission to the agency from which the employee concerned was detailed.

(f) The Commission is authorized to procure supplies, services and property, and make contracts, in fulfillment of its purposes.

(g) (1) The Commission is authorized to accept, use, solicit and dispose of donations of money, property, or personal services; and

(2) The Commission shall prescribe regulations under which the Commission may accept donations of money, property or personal services, including procedures for determining the value of donations of property or personal services.

(h) The Commission shall have the authority to design and use a logo as the official state emblem of the bicentennial. The Commission shall issue rules and regulations, including penalties for unauthorized use, regarding the use of such logo.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 6. (a) The Commission shall --

(1) plan and develop activities appropriate to commemorate the bicentennial of the Constitution, including a limited number of projects to be undertaken by the state, seeking to harmonize and balance the important goals of ceremony and celebration with the equally important goals of scholarship and education;

(2) encourage private organizations, and local governments, to organize and participate in bicentennial activities commemorating or examining the drafting, ratification, and history of the Constitution and the specific features of the document;

- (3) coordinate, generally, activities throughout all of the state;
 - (4) serve as a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of information about bicentennial events and plans in this state; and
 - (5) cooperate and coordinate its efforts with the United States Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution.
- (b) In planning and implementing appropriate activities to commemorate the bicentennial, the Commission shall give due consideration to --
- (1) the historical setting in which the Constitution was developed and ratified, including such antecedents as the Federalist Papers, the Articles of Confederation, and the ratification in this and other states;
 - (2) the contribution of diverse ethnic and racial groups;
 - (3) the relationship and historical development of the three branches of the government;
 - (4) the importance of activities concerning the Constitution and citizenship education throughout the state;
 - (5) the unique achievements and contributions of the participants in the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and the state ratification proceedings;
 - (6) the diverse legal and philosophical views regarding the Constitution;
 - (7) the need for reflection upon both academic and scholarly views of the Constitution and the principle that the document must be understood by the general public;
 - (8) the substantive provisions of the Constitution itself;
 - (9) the impact of the Constitution on American life and government; and
 - (10) the need to encourage appropriate educational curriculums designed to educate students at all levels of learning on the drafting, ratification, and history of the Constitution and the specific provisions of that document.

(c) The Commission shall seek the cooperation, advice, and assistance from both private and governmental agencies and organizations including local governments, learned societies, academic institutions and historical, patriotic, philanthropic, civic, and professional groups, and bar associations.

(d) The Commission shall submit an annual report to the Governor, each House of the legislature, and the Supreme Court of (state) until such Commission terminates. The first annual report shall include specific recommendations of the Commission for commemoration and coordination of the bicentennial and related activities.

TERMINATION

Sec. 7. The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 1991.

Sec. 8. There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of this Act such sums as may be necessary through fiscal year 1991.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 9. This Act shall become effective on the date of enactment.

Introduced: 2/7/86
Referred: State Affairs

BY V. FISCHER, COGHILL,
JOSEPHSON AND DEVRIES

1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to the bicentenary of the

6

United States Constitution.

7

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8

WHEREAS the Constitution of the United States is the oldest written
9 frame of government that has been in continuous use by a free people on
10 earth; and

11

WHEREAS government under the Constitution in America has provided an
12 example of self-government that has inspired a yearning for freedom all
13 over the world; and

14

WHEREAS the bicentenary of the Constitution in 1987 is also the 211th
15 year of the independence of the United States; and

16

WHEREAS the State of Alaska proudly takes its place among the Union of
17 States under the Constitution; and

18

WHEREAS in anticipation of the 200th anniversary of the American
19 Constitution, we should take the opportunity to celebrate our freedom and
20 to reflect on the frame of government that makes it possible; and

21

WHEREAS the Constitution is often cited, less often read, and too
22 often taken for granted by citizens who owe their place in a free govern-
23 ment to its wise dispositions; and

24

WHEREAS this anniversary offers us a splendid opportunity to examine
25 and strengthen the foundations of our democratic republic by encouraging
26 public discussion and observance of the Constitution in our cities and
27 villages, in our schools and universities;

28

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
29 the Governor to appoint a commission to commemorate the bicentenary of the

1 Constitution of the United States of America; and be it

2 FURTHER RESOLVED that the year 1987 shall be proclaimed the Year of
3 the Constitution of the United States of America, to be commemorated by
4 appropriate public observances for citizens throughout the state.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

Joint Meeting
HSA & HESS
3/17/86 3pm

**FIRST REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE
UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

September 17, 1985

Second Printing with minor revisions

Executive Summary of First Report

Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution

September 17, 1985

The twenty-three member Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution was established by Act of Congress, Public Law 98-101. The President designated Chief Justice Warren E. Burger as Chairman of the Commission, and 20 members of the Commission were sworn in by Vice President Bush on July 30, 1985. The Commission appointed Mark W. Cannon as Staff Director and Ronald Mann as Deputy Staff Director.

The Commission met July 29-30 in Washington, D.C., and August 22-23 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Today, September 17, the Commission conducts public hearings at the Supreme Court of the United States at which 19 public and private organizations describe their plans and activities to commemorate the Bicentennial of the Constitution. This meeting helps inform the Commission as well as interested groups about current and contemplated Bicentennial activities.

The Commission will emphasize the educational opportunities afforded by the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. The most lasting honor we can bestow upon the generation that gave us our form of government is to foster among the people of the United States a just appreciation and a clearer understanding of their constitutional heritage. In the words of the Commission's Chairman it is an occasion for "a history and civics lesson for all of us." This commemoration can help us understand better the conditions that underlie human freedom, and it can enlighten our approaches to constitutional and policy issues that lie ahead.

The Commission proposes that the celebration of the historical aspects of the Constitution's Bicentennial have three phases, corresponding to the three-year period from 1987 through 1989. From now until September 17, 1987--the Bicentennial of the signing of the Constitution in the Philadelphia Convention--some emphasis will be placed on the events leading up to the Convention, the writings of the Founders, and analysis of the Constitution itself. The year 1988 should be one of public enlightenment about the deliberations during 1788 by the people in every State on the merits of the proposed Constitution, which led to ratification. The year 1989 will be dedicated to the formation of the first government and to the 200 years of the historical development of the three branches of government under the Constitution, and will prepare the way for a celebration of the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights.

The success of the commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution depends in a major way on the widespread and enthusiastic involvement of private groups and organizations to enlarge public understanding and appreciation of the Constitution. Accordingly, a major goal of the Commission will be to stimulate pervasive activity by thousands of organizations at the grass roots level that will educate their members and others about the Constitution and the unique aspects of that document to ensure freedom under law. The Commission will also work closely with State Bicentennial Commissions, federal agencies, and Congress in planning and coordinating government support and involvement.

Contents

Establishment of the Commission	1
Membership of the Commission	1
Commission Headquarters	2
Commission Meetings	2
Commission Staff	2
Committees of the Commission	3
Recommendations for Amendment of Public Law 98-101	3
General Framework for the Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Formation of the Constitution of the United States	5
Significance of the Occasion	5
Scope of Celebration	6
Cooperation of the States and Their Subdivisions	9
Participation of Private Associations and Organizations	10
Cooperation and Participation of the Government of the United States	11
Creation of National Holiday	11
Provisional List of Projects to be Undertaken or Encouraged by the Commission	12
Major Commemorative Dates of the Bicentennial of the Constitution of the United States	14
Conclusion	18
Appendix: Calendar of Commemorative Dates for the Celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution	A1

Establishment of the Commission

The Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution was established by Act of Congress, Public Law 98-101, signed by the President on September 29, 1983. In accordance with Section 6(e) of the Act, the Commission hereby submits this Report on its activities.

Membership of the Commission

The Act calls for the Commission to consist of twenty-three members, with twenty members appointed by the President, including four from recommendations made by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, four from recommendations made by the President pro tempore of the Senate, and four from recommendations made by the Chief Justice of the United States. Members named by the Act are the Chief Justice of the United States, or his designee; the President pro tempore of the Senate, or his designee; and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.

On June 25, 1985, the President announced his intention to appoint members of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. The President designated Chief Justice Warren E. Burger as Chairman. Commission members were sworn in and given their commissions by the Vice President of the United States in a White House ceremony on the morning of July 30. Members of the Commission are:

Warren E. Burger, Chairman	Edward P. Morgan
Frederick K. Biebel	Betty Southard Murphy
Lindy Boggs	Thomas H. O'Connor
Herbert Brownell	Phyllis Schlafly
Lynne V. Cheney	Bernard H. Siegan
Philip M. Crane	Ted Stevens
William J. Green	Obert C. Tanner
Edward Victor Hill	Strom Thurmond
Cornelia G. Kennedy	Ronald H. Walker
Edward M. Kennedy	Charles E. Wiggins
Harry McKinley Lightsey, Jr.	Charles Alan Wright
William Lucas	

Commission Headquarters

The Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution has been assigned offices at 734 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. These offices will support no more than 25 staff members. Obviously a much larger space will be required. We are informed that the 1976 American Revolution Bicentennial Administration had 250 staff members at the height of its operations. The Chairman has met with the Administrator of the General Services Administration and requested that the necessary space be assigned.

Commission Meetings

The Commission has held two meetings: July 29-30, in Washington, D.C., and August 22-23, 1985, in Salt Lake City, Utah. On September 17, the date of this Report, the Commission conducts public hearings at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, D.C., at which nineteen public and private organizations are testifying about their plans for commemorating the Bicentennial of the Constitution. This is a first step to inform the Commission about all pending or contemplated activities by other governmental bodies and private entities as well as receive recommendations for Commission activities.

The Commission has scheduled future meetings for November 24-25, 1985; February 1-2, 1986; April 13-14, 1986; and June 27-28, 1986.

Commission Staff

Public Law 98-101 provides that the Commission shall appoint a Staff Director and may appoint up to five additional staff members paid with appropriated funds.

On July 16, 1985, after the President's announcement of the Commission's membership and prior to the first meeting of the Commission, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, as Chairman of the Commission, appointed a Search Committee to recommend to the Commission a candidate for Staff Director. Commissioners Biebel, Cheney, Morgan, and Walker were appointed to the Search Committee, with Betty Southard Murphy appointed to chair the Committee.

After an extended search and review of numerous persons, the Commission, upon unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee, appointed Mark W. Cannon as Staff Director and Ronald Mann as Deputy Staff Director.

Committees of the Commission

The following committees and subcommittees of the Commission have been created to date:

Personnel/Administration Committee

Finance Committee

Projects and Events Committee

- Subcommittee on Education
- Subcommittee on Private Associations and Organizations
- Subcommittee on the Media

Committee on Government Liaison

- Subcommittee on Federal Liaison
- Subcommittee on State/Local Liaison
- Subcommittee on International Liaison

Recommendation for Amendment of Public Law 98-101

The purpose of the Commission, as described in Section 3 of Public Law 98-101, is to "promote and coordinate activities to commemorate the bicentennial of the Constitution," which was signed at the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787. In its general language, this is similar to the charge that was given to the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission (ARBC) and to its successor, the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA), for the commemoration of the American Revolution Bicentennial. The challenge facing this Commission in performing its statutory responsibilities perhaps is best illustrated by a few comparative statistics:

(1) **Timing:** ARBC was established on July 4, 1966, fully ten years prior to the commemoration date of the American Revolution Bicentennial. While ARBC encountered subsequent delays, culminating in its reorganization as ARBA in 1974, there was nonetheless early opportunity for planning the American Revolution Bicentennial. The Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution has been in effect for less than two months as of the date of this Report and will have met three times before the due date of this Report. The time pressures place the Commission under great handicaps with its mandate to promote and coordinate our country's commemoration of its fundamental law. The Commission will therefore proceed with great expedition to enlist a staff and advisory bodies.