

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 856

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 16, 2005

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pensions

AN ACT

To establish a Federal Youth Development Council to improve the administration and coordination of Federal programs serving youth, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Youth Coordi-
3 nation Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERSHIP.**

5 (a) MEMBERS AND TERMS.—There is established the
6 Federal Youth Development Council (in this Act referred
7 to as the “Council”) composed of members as follows:

8 (1) The Attorney General, the Secretary of Ag-
9 riculture, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of
10 Health and Human Services, Secretary of Housing
11 and Urban Development, the Secretary of Edu-
12 cation, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary
13 of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Sec-
14 retary of Homeland Security, the Director of Na-
15 tional Drug Control Policy, the Director of the Of-
16 fice of Management and Budget, the Assistant to
17 the President for Domestic Policy, the Director of
18 the U.S.A. Freedom Corps, the Deputy Assistant to
19 the President and Director of the Office of Faith-
20 Based and Community Initiatives, and the Chief Ex-
21 ecutive Officer of the Corporation for National and
22 Community Service, or a designee of each such indi-
23 vidual who holds significant decision-making author-
24 ity, and other Federal officials as directed by the
25 President, to serve for the life of the Council.

1 (2) Any additional members as the President
2 shall appoint from among representatives of faith-
3 based organizations, community based organizations,
4 child and youth focused foundations, universities,
5 non-profit organizations, youth service providers,
6 State and local government, and youth in disadvan-
7 taged situations. In making the appointments under
8 this paragraph, the President shall consult with the
9 Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall
10 take into account the recommendations of the Ma-
11 jority Leader and the Minority Leader of the House
12 of Representatives, and the president pro tempore of
13 the Senate, who shall take into account the rec-
14 ommendations of the Majority Leader and the mi-
15 nority Leader of the Senate. Each member ap-
16 pointed under this paragraph shall serve for 1 term
17 of 2 years.

18 (b) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Council
19 shall be the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

20 (c) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at the call
21 of the Chairperson, not less frequently than 4 times each
22 year. The first meeting shall be not less than 4 months
23 after the date of enactment of this Act.

24 **SEC. 3. DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.**

25 (a) The duties of the Council shall be—

1 (1) to ensure communication among agencies
2 administering programs designed to serve youth, es-
3 pecially those in disadvantaged situations;

4 (2) to assess the needs of youth, especially
5 those in disadvantaged situations, and those who
6 work with youth, and the quantity and quality of
7 Federal programs offering services, supports, and
8 opportunities to help youth in their educational, so-
9 cial, emotional, physical, vocational, and civic devel-
10 opment;

11 (3) to recommend objectives and quantifiable 5-
12 year goals for such programs;

13 (4) to make recommendations for the allocation
14 of resources in support of such goals and objectives;

15 (5) to identify areas of overlap or duplication in
16 purpose and operation of programs serving youth
17 and recommend ways to better facilitate coordination
18 and consultation, improve efficiency, and streamline
19 such programs;

20 (6) to identify target populations of youth who
21 are disproportionately at risk and assist agencies in
22 focusing additional resources on them;

23 (7) to develop a recommended plan, including
24 common indicators of youth well-being, and assist

1 agencies, at the request of 1 or more agency, in co-
2 ordinating to achieve such goals and objectives;

3 (8) to assist Federal agencies, at the request of
4 1 or more such agency, in collaborating on model
5 programs and demonstration projects focusing on
6 special populations, including youth in foster care,
7 migrant youth, projects to promote parental involve-
8 ment, and projects that work to involve young people
9 in service programs;

10 (9) to solicit and document ongoing input and
11 recommendations from—

12 (A) youth, especially those in disadvan-
13 taged situations;

14 (B) national youth development experts,
15 researchers, parents, faith and community-
16 based organizations, foundations, business lead-
17 ers, youth service providers, and teachers; and

18 (C) State and local government agencies,
19 particularly agencies serving children and
20 youth; and

21 (10) to work with Federal agencies to conduct
22 high-quality research and evaluation, identify and
23 replicate model programs and best practices, provide
24 technical assistance, and coordinate the collection

1 and dissemination of youth services-related data and
2 research.

3 (b) The Council may provide technical assistance to
4 a State at the request of a State to support State-funded
5 councils for coordinating State youth efforts.

6 **SEC. 4. ASSISTANCE OF STAFF.**

7 (a) DIRECTOR.—The Chairperson, in consultation
8 with the Council, shall employ and set the rate of pay for
9 a Director.

10 (b) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request
11 of the Council, the head of any Federal department or
12 agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the
13 personnel of that department or agency to the Council to
14 assist it in carrying out its duties under this Act.

15 **SEC. 5. POWERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

16 (a) MAILS.—The Council may use the United States
17 mails in the same manner and under the same conditions
18 as other departments and agencies of the United States.

19 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon
20 the request of the Council, the Administrator of General
21 Services shall provide to the Council, on a reimbursable
22 basis, the administrative support services necessary for the
23 Council to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

1 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

2 Not later than 1 year after the Council holds its first
3 meeting, the Council shall transmit to Congress an interim
4 report of its findings, and not later than 2 years after the
5 Council holds its first meeting, the Council shall transmit
6 to Congress a final report including its findings and rec-
7 ommendations. The report shall—

8 (1) include a comprehensive list of recent re-
9 search and statistical reporting by various Federal
10 agencies on the overall well-being of youth, including
11 the ratings of the Program Assessment Ratings Tool
12 (PART) of Federal programs serving youth used by
13 the Office of Management and Budget, if applicable;

14 (2) include the assessment of the needs of
15 youth and those who serve them;

16 (3) include a summary of the plan called for in
17 section 3(a)(7);

18 (4) recommend ways to coordinate and improve
19 Federal training and technical assistance, informa-
20 tion sharing, and communication among the various
21 programs and agencies serving youth;

22 (5) include recommendations to better integrate
23 and coordinate policies across agencies at the Fed-
24 eral, State, and local levels, including recommenda-
25 tions for legislation and administrative actions;

1 (6) include a summary of actions the Council
2 has taken at the request of Federal agencies to fa-
3 cilitate collaboration and coordination on youth serv-
4 ing programs and the results of those collaborations,
5 if available;

6 (7) include a summary of the action the Council
7 has taken at the request of States to provide tech-
8 nical assistance under section 3(b), if applicable; and

9 (8) include a summary of the input and rec-
10 ommendations from the groups identified in section
11 3(a)(9).

12 **SEC. 7. TERMINATION.**

13 The Council shall terminate 60 days after transmit-
14 ting its final report under section 6.

15 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 There is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000
17 for each of fiscal years 2007 and 2008 to carry out this
18 Act.

 Passed the House of Representatives November 15,
2005.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk.