

recommendations have been implemented.

From time to time, the Conference has been given some special tasks. One I am familiar with involves developing and monitoring agency procedures under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504. The Conference has performed yeoman service in this area. The Conference also serves administrative law in other ways—testifying before congressional committees, facilitating inter-agency discussions on regulatory topics, publishing useful desk books on administrative law. The 1985 "Guide to Federal Agency Rule-making" and the more recent "Administrative Procedure Sourcebook" are two examples of ACUS publications that must be at the fingertips of anyone involved in administrative law.

The Administrative Conference has become, in its relatively short history, a valuable policy-neutral, but expert, forum through which members can conduct continuing studies of selected problems implicating the administrative process, and can combine their expertise in cooperative efforts toward improving the fairness and efficiency of such procedures.

In oversight hearings before my Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure on February 4, the Conference amply justified renewal of its authorization.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to insert into the record at this point a copy of the bill and a section-by-section analysis.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2178

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. (a) Section 573(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by deleting "91" and inserting in lieu thereof "101".

(b) Section 573(b)(6) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by deleting "36" and inserting in lieu thereof "40".

SEC. 2. Section 576 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 576. Appropriations

"There are authorized to be appropriated \$2,300,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1986, and such sums not to exceed \$2,300,000 as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter for each fiscal year thereafter up to and including the fiscal year ending September 30, 1990."

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1 of the bill would amend section 573 of title 5, United States Code, which describes the membership of the Administrative Conference of the United States, to increase the maximum membership from 91 to 101. It would also increase from 36 to 40 the maximum number of members from outside the Government appointed pursuant to section 573(b)(6). This change would preserve the present ratio of the Government to public members.

Section 2 of the bill would amend section 576 of title 5, United States Code to authorize the appropriation of \$2,300,000 and such sums as may be necessary, not to exceed

\$2,300,000, for the Administrative Conference for an additional 4 fiscal years through September 30, 1990.

By Mr. GOLDWATER:

S. 2179. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for the reduction in the terms of office of members of the Federal Communications Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REDUCTION OF TERMS OF MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

● Mr. GOLDWATER. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to reduce the terms of the members of the Federal Communications Commission [FCC] from 7 to 5 years. In 1982, Congress reduced the size of the FCC from seven to five members. Congress, however, did not adjust the length of the Commissioners' terms from 7 to 5 years. As a result, no FCC terms will expire in 1989 and 1990.

I am concerned about this for two reasons. First, the new President elected in 1988 might not be able to appoint any member to the FCC until 1991. Second, the FCC nomination hearings provide us with an opportunity to oversee FCC activities as well as to examine the qualifications of a particular candidate. By adjusting the terms, we will be better able to monitor general FCC policies.

The legislation that I am introducing has three basic provisions. First, it shortens the Commissioners' terms from 7 to 5 years. Second, the bill adjusts the terms of two seats to ensure that a term expires in 1989 and 1990. Finally, the bill ensures that these changes do not affect the terms of sitting Commissioners.

This legislation has bipartisan support on the Commerce Committee and is supported by the White House and the FCC. I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill. ●

By Mr. GORTON (for himself, Mr. RIEGLE, Mr. GORE, Mr. MATIAS, and Mr. SARBANES):

S. 2180. A bill to authorize appropriations for activities under the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974; to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

FEDERAL FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT AUTHORIZATION

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to reauthorize for fiscal year 1987 the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974. This bill authorizes the appropriation of \$18.3 million, in fiscal year 1987, for the National Fire Academy and the U.S. Fire Administration, both of which are within the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Reauthorization of this act is critical in treating a serious national problem. Fire is one of the largest causes of accidental death and property damage in the United States. There are close to 2.5 million fires reported in this country every year. The United States has the second worst fire death rate in the in-

dustrialized world. In 1984 alone, fires killed more than 6,000 people, injured 120,000, and destroyed nearly 7.7 billion dollars' worth of property. These deaths were disproportionately high among the poor, the elderly, and the very young. Although these are grim statistics, they have improved greatly since the Federal Fire Program began. Since the beginning of the Federal program in 1974, fire deaths have declined by 30 percent.

Although fire prevention and control is primarily a local concern, the Federal program provides vital support for local activities through research, development, and educational programs. Reauthorization of this bill will provide continued support for fire prevention, arson control, firefighter health and safety, fire data analysis, and other activities at the U.S. Fire Administration, and will provide continued support for the educational activities at the National Fire Academy.

Mr. President, this bill rejects the administration's proposal to eliminate the U.S. Fire Administration. At my February 20, 1986, hearing on the Federal Fire Program, administration witnesses stated the U.S. Fire Administration should be eliminated because its programs would be continued by State and local governments and the private sector. But, Mr. President, at the very same hearing witnesses from States, local government, and the insurance industry unanimously rejected the logic behind the administration's request.

Indeed, all were able to illustrate with specific examples how the U.S. Fire Administration has been a catalyst in starting new and effective fire prevention and safety efforts. Only as a result of the leadership of the U.S. Fire Administration were State and local governments, and the private sector, willing to contribute their own funds and effort to a project. In this case, Mr. President, it is clearly the leadership of the Federal Government that is helping all of us focus on finding solutions to the terrible, and unnecessary, fire problem in this country.

The bill also authorizes appropriations to restore the administration's proposed elimination of the travel stipends and lodging costs for students at the National Fire Academy. Former students have informed us that one of the greatest assets of the academy is the chance to meet firefighters from all over this country, and share ideas and experiences. Without the travel stipends, the academy could turn into a regional training center, thereby eliminating one of its most valuable functions.

All Senators should know that this bill also works toward a reduction of the Federal deficit. It would implement a 17-percent cut below last year's authorized level, and represents a 4-percent reduction from the current spending level.