

The functions and duties of the Executive Director shall be prescribed by the Commission. The Commission is authorized to appoint and fix the compensation of such other personnel as may be necessary to enable it to carry out its functions. The Commission is authorized to obtain services in accordance with the provisions of section 15 of the Act of August 2, 1946 (5 U.S.C. 55a).

SECTION 4. *Cooperation by Federal Departments and Agencies.*

The Commission is authorized to request from any department, agency, or independent instrumentality of the Federal Government any information deemed necessary to carry out its functions, under this order; and each department, agency, and instrumentality is authorized, to the extent permitted by law and within the limits of available funds, to furnish such information to the Commission.

SECTION 5. *Termination of the Commission.*

The Commission shall terminate ninety days after the submission, pursuant to section 2 of this order, of its final report to the President.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

July 2, 1966

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:36 a.m., July 6, 1966]

NOTE: Executive Order 11289 was not made public in the form of a White House press release.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

On July 2, 1966, the appointment of the following members of the National Advisory Commission on Selective Service was announced at San Antonio, Tex., by the Office of the White House Press Secretary:

- BURKE MARSHALL (Chairman of the Commission), vice president and general counsel, IBM, Armonk, N.Y.
 KINGMAN BREWSTER, JR., president, Yale University
 THOMAS S. GATES, JR., chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, New York, N.Y.
 OVETA CULP HOBBY, president and editor, Houston Post
 ANNA ROSENBERG HOFFMAN, public and industrial relations consultant, New York, N.Y.
 PAUL J. JENNINGS, president, International Union of Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers, AFL-CIO, New York, N.Y.
 JOHN A. McCONE, investment banker and corporate director, San Marino, Calif.
 JAMES HENRY McCROCKLIN, president, Southwest Texas State College, San Marcos, Tex.
 REV. JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY, Jesuit Priest, professor and author, Woodstock, Md.
 JEANNE L. NOBLE, associate professor, Center for Human Relations Studies, New York University
 GEORGE E. REEDY, JR., vice president, Struthers-Wells Company, New York, N.Y.
 DAVID MONROE SHoup, director, U.S. Life Insurance Company, Arlington, Va.
 FIGRINDA R. SIMEONE, professor of surgery, Western Reserve University, Ohio
 JAMES A. SUFFRIDGE, international president, Retail Clerks International Association, Washington, D.C.
 FRANK STANLEY SZYMANSKI, Judge of the Probate Court in Detroit

LUTHER L. TERRY, vice president, University of Pennsylvania
 WARREN G. WOODWARD, vice president of American Airlines, Los Angeles, Calif.

VERNON E. JORDAN, JR., project director, Voter Education Project, Southern Regional Council, Inc., Atlanta, Ga.

DANIEL M. LUEVANO, director, Western Region, Office of Economic Opportunity, Los Angeles, Calif.

JOHN H. JOHNSON, president, Johnson Publishing Company, Chicago, Ill. (*Ebony*, *Hue*, *Jet*) and trustee, Tuskegee Institute

Availability of Government Records and Information

Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Revising Public Information Provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. July 4, 1966

The measure I sign today, S. 1160, revises section 3 of the Administrative Procedure Act to provide guidelines for the public availability of the records of Federal departments and agencies.

This legislation springs from one of our most essential principles: a democracy works best when the people have all the information that the security of the Nation permits. No one should be able to pull curtains of secrecy around decisions which can be revealed without injury to the public interest.

At the same time, the welfare of the Nation or the rights of individuals may require that some documents not be made available. As long as threats to peace exist, for example, there must be military secrets. A citizen must be able in confidence to complain to his Government and to provide information, just as he is—and should be—free to confide in the press without fear of reprisal or of being required to reveal or discuss his sources.

Fairness to individuals also requires that information accumulated in personnel files be protected from disclosure. Officials within Government must be able to communicate with one another fully and frankly without publicity. They cannot operate effectively if required to disclose information prematurely or to make public investigative files and internal instructions that guide them in arriving at their decisions.

I know that the sponsors of this bill recognize these important interests and intend to provide for both the need of the public for access to information and the need of Government to protect certain categories of information. Both are vital to the welfare of our people. Moreover, this bill in no way impairs the President's power under our Constitution to provide for confidentiality when the national interest so requires. There are some who have expressed concern that the language of this bill will be construed in such a way as to impair Government operations. I do not share this concern.

I have always believed that freedom of information is so vital that only the national security, not the desire of public officials or private citizens, should determine when it must be restricted.

I am hopeful that the needs I have mentioned can be served by a constructive approach to the wording and spirit and legislative history of this measure. I am instructing every official in this administration to cooperate to this end and to make information available to the full extent consistent with individual privacy and with the national interest.

I signed this measure with a deep sense of pride that the United States is an open society in which the people's right to know is cherished and guarded.

NOTE: As enacted S. 1160 is Public Law 89-487.
The statement was released at San Antonio, Tex.

Handicapped Children and Child Development

Statement by the President Upon Announcing a Special Task Force To Study Existing Health and Education Programs and Recommend Legislation.
July 4, 1966

Health surveys indicate that many children in our Nation have serious physical handicaps. Over 400,000 children have epilepsy; over 500,000 have a hearing loss; nearly 3 million have speech defects; and 10 million have eye conditions requiring specialist care.

Other children will join the ranks of the 1 million school dropouts each year or become juvenile delinquents. Many other children have special health, education, and welfare needs.

There are more than 50 different programs in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare which relate to the needs and problems of handicapped youth.

In order to better develop more comprehensive health and education programs for children, I have directed the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to establish a special task force on handicapped children and child development. This group will review all existing programs and recommend to the Secretary, for my consideration, legislation for the next Congress.

There has been very little attempt to detect and correct problems that might cause children to fail in later life. If the resources of the school and the community can be brought to bear on these problems before they become damaging, the child and the Nation will be greatly benefited. We must expand our national resources to help the handicapped and to prevent "failures" among our children.

NOTE: The statement was released at San Antonio, Tex.

Federal Employees Disabled in the Line of Duty

Statement by the President Upon Signing the Federal Employees Compensation Act Amendments of 1966. July 4, 1966

Fifty years ago a landmark piece of social legislation was enacted: the Federal Employees Compensation Act of 1916. Today I am happy to sign the Federal Employees Compensation Act Amendments of 1966, which modernize and strengthen this historic measure.

These amendments, the most significant improvement in the law in nearly 20 years, will provide expanded benefits for Federal employees who are disabled in the line of duty.

This law represents important progress in our national effort to provide working Americans and their families better protection against the economic hardship which accompanies work injuries and fatalities.

I am proud that the Federal Government is taking this forward step on behalf of its own employees, but the great majority of the Nation's workers are not covered by this law. They are covered instead by 50 State workmen's compensation laws. Many of these were modeled upon the original Federal Employees Compensation Act—but they have fallen behind.

As I sign this act, I strongly urge each State, in the light of these new Federal amendments, to examine its workmen's compensation law and act to assure that workers disabled by work injuries are properly compensated for the loss of their earnings.

We want not only the best system to compensate our Federal employees injured on duty—we want an adequate system for all American workers.

NOTE: As enacted, the Federal Employees Compensation Act Amendments of 1966 (H.R. 10721) is Public Law 89-488.
The statement was released at San Antonio, Tex.

Federal Employment of the Mentally Retarded

Memorandum to the President From John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman, U.S. Civil Service Commission, Transmitting His Report. July 5, 1966

The attached report presents the successful achievements in Federal employment of the mentally retarded through May 31, 1966.

This record is a tribute to the retarded as well as those who have assured them an opportunity to become "taxpayers rather than tax burdens." A measure of the program's success is revealed in the following statistics: