

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To establish the Commission on the State of U.S. Olympics and Paralympics.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GARDNER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish the Commission on the State of U.S. Olympics and Paralympics.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening U.S.
5 Olympics Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMISSION ON THE STATE OF U.S. OLYMPICS AND**
7 **PARALYMPICS.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within
9 the legislative branch a commission, to be known as the
10 “Commission on the State of U.S. Olympics and

1 Paralympics” (referred to in this section as the “Commis-
2 sion”).

3 (b) COMPOSITION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be
5 composed of 16 members, of whom—

6 (A) 4 members shall be appointed by the
7 majority leader of the Senate;

8 (B) 4 members shall be appointed by the
9 minority leader of the Senate;

10 (C) 4 members shall be appointed by the
11 Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

12 (D) 4 members shall be appointed by the
13 minority leader of the House of Representa-
14 tives.

15 (2) CO-CHAIRS.—Of the members of the Com-
16 mission—

17 (A) 1 co-chair shall be designated by the
18 majority leader of the Senate; and

19 (B) 1 co-chair shall be designated by the
20 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

21 (3) QUALIFICATIONS.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each member ap-
23 pointed to the Commission shall have experience
24 in—

25 (i) amateur or professional athletics;

1 (ii) athletic coaching;

2 (iii) professional advocacy on behalf of
3 victims of bullying, harassment, hazing, or
4 sexual assault;

5 (iv) public service relating to sports;

6 or

7 (v) professional advocacy for increased
8 minority participation in sports.

9 (B) OLYMPIC OR PARALYMPIC ATH-
10 LETES.—Not fewer than 8 members appointed
11 under paragraph (1) shall be Olympic or
12 Paralympic athletes.

13 (c) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after
14 the date on which the last member is appointed under
15 paragraph (1), the Commission shall hold an initial meet-
16 ing.

17 (d) QUORUM.—11 members of the Commission shall
18 constitute a quorum.

19 (e) NO PROXY VOTING.—Proxy voting by members
20 of the Commission shall be prohibited.

21 (f) STAFF.—The co-chairs of the Commission shall
22 appoint an executive director of the Commission, and such
23 staff as appropriate, with compensation.

24 (g) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—The Commission shall hold
25 1 or more public hearings.

1 (h) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the Commis-
2 sion shall serve without pay, but shall receive travel ex-
3 penses in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title
4 5, United States Code.

5 (i) DUTIES OF COMMISSION.—

6 (1) STUDY.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall
8 conduct a study on matters relating to the state
9 of United States participation in the Olympic
10 and Paralympic games.

11 (B) MATTERS STUDIED.—The study under
12 subparagraph (A) shall include—

13 (i) a description of proposed reforms
14 to the structure of the United States
15 Olympic Committee;

16 (ii) an assessment of whether the
17 board of the United States Olympic Com-
18 mittee includes diverse members, including
19 athletes;

20 (iii) an assessment of United States
21 athlete participation levels in the Olympics
22 and Paralympics;

23 (iv) a description of the status of any
24 United States Olympic Committee licens-
25 ing arrangement;

1 (v) an assessment of whether the
2 United States is achieving the goals for the
3 Olympics and Paralympics set by the
4 United States Olympic Committee;

5 (vi) an analysis of the participation in
6 amateur athletics of—

7 (I) women;

8 (II) disabled individuals; and

9 (III) minorities;

10 (vii) a description of ongoing efforts
11 by the United States Olympic Committee
12 to recruit the Olympics and Paralympics to
13 the United States;

14 (viii) an evaluation of the function of
15 the national governing bodies (as defined
16 in section 220502 of title 36, United
17 States Code) and an analysis of the re-
18 sponsiveness of the national governing bod-
19 ies to athletes;

20 (ix) an assessment of whether the
21 United States Center for Safe Sport effec-
22 tively handles reported cases of bullying,
23 hazing, harassment, and sexual assault;
24 and

1 (x) an assessment of the finances and
2 the financial organization of the United
3 States Olympic Committee.

4 (2) REPORT.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270
6 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
7 the Commission shall submit to Congress a re-
8 port on the results of the study under para-
9 graph (1), including a detailed statement of
10 findings, conclusions, recommendations, and
11 suggested policy changes.

12 (B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The report
13 required by subparagraph (A) shall be made
14 available to the public on an internet website of
15 the United States Government that is available
16 to the public.

17 (j) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—

18 (1) SUBPOENA AUTHORITY.—The Commission
19 may subpoena an individual the testimony of whom
20 may be relevant to the purpose of the Commission.

21 (2) FURNISHING INFORMATION.—On request by
22 the executive director of the Commission, the head
23 of a Federal agency shall furnish information to the
24 Commission.

1 (k) **TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.**—The Commis-
2 sion shall terminate 90 days after the date on which the
3 Commission submits the report under subsection (i)(2).

4 (l) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
5 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
6 essary to carry out this section.