

APPENDIX 7


DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE CLEARANCE

Why not in DPC?

General Mission

To coordinate and clear for conformity with the President's program, recommendations of the agencies with respect to all legislation; to make recommendations on legislation and participate in the development of the President's legislative program.

Duties and Responsibilities

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1. To gather and coordinate all comments relating to legislation preparatory to drafting recommendations for the President's consideration.
 2. To make recommendations on proposed, pending and enrolled legislation, both general and private, and set forth their implications.
 3. To disseminate to agencies as directed, information on the President's legislative program.
 4. To schedule and regulate the flow of legislative clearance memoranda through the Domestic Policy Council to the President's office.

Comment

The emphasis in legislative clearance is on the orderly and timely collection and collation of comment on all legislation. The function can be compared to a valve which takes an unpredictable stream and regulates its flow. By valving the responses to legislation in accordance with the

President's wishes, the Division of Legislative Clearance will permit timely and deliberate Presidential consideration of legislation.

The legislative clearing process requires detailed scheduling of responses to legislation. The Legislative Clearance Division, therefore, has an important administrative task in identifying the appropriate parties, scheduling their responses and preparing memoranda for the President.

Key Relationships

1. This Division will work especially closely with the Domestic Policy Council on the President's domestic legislative programs and on proposed and enrolled legislation.
2. Legislative Clearance will have a small staff and will have to rely on the program knowledge and the "institutional memory" of the Budget and Program Evaluation Division. Much of the input for the memoranda written by Legislative Clearance will be provided by these staffs.
3. Legislative Clearance will require inputs from the Executive Personnel Division and Executive Organization Division on the implications of legislation.

Structure and Staffing

The current Office of Legislative Clearance of the BoB has about 15 professionals. This number probably should be increased by about 5-10 professionals. This addition will give Legislative Clearance greater

ability to deal with the increasing complexity of legislation and to serve more effectively when Congressional activity is heavy and when the President's legislative program is being developed.

The staff should be familiar with the legislative process and have relationships with key persons in program areas. All members of the staff should have good analytic and writing skills, and should have had experience in interagency negotiations.

In the proposed organization, a Level III non-career appointee will head this Division. He will report to the Director, Office of Executive Management. The staff will in general be high ranking and experienced civil servants.

The present Office of Legislative Clearance of the BoB will become the Division of Legislative Clearance under a new non-career appointee.

Currently, Wilfred Rommel, a GS-18 career executive heads the Office of Legislative Clearance of the Bureau of the Budget. The position of deputy became vacant when James Frey, the Deputy Director, OLR was appointed Executive Assistant Director of the Bureau.