

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—112th Cong., 2d Sess.

H. R. 6364

To establish a commission to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I, to provide for the designation of memorials to the service of members of the United States Armed Forces in World War I, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mr. BLUNT

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “World War I Centennial Commission Act”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Establishment of World War I Centennial Commission.
- Sec. 5. Duties of Centennial Commission.
- Sec. 6. Powers of Centennial Commission.
- Sec. 7. Centennial Commission personnel matters.

Sec. 8. Termination of Centennial Commission.

Sec. 9. Prohibition on obligation of Federal funds.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) From 2014 through 2018, the United
4 States and nations around the world will mark the
5 centennial of World War I, including the entry of
6 the United States into the war in April 1917.

7 (2) America's support of Great Britain, France,
8 Belgium, and its other allies in World War I marked
9 the first time in United States history that Amer-
10 ican soldiers went abroad in defense of liberty
11 against foreign aggression, and it marked the true
12 beginning of the "American century".

13 (3) Although World War I was at the time
14 called "the war to end all wars", in fact the United
15 States would commit its troops to the defense of for-
16 eign lands 3 more times in the 20th century.

17 (4) More than 4,000,000 men and women from
18 the United States served in uniform during World
19 War I, among them 2 future presidents, Harry S.
20 Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower. Two million in-
21 dividuals from the United States served overseas
22 during World War I, including 200,000 naval per-
23 sonnel who served on the seas. The United States

1 suffered 375,000 casualties during World War I, in-
2 cluding 116,516 deaths.

3 (5) The events of 1914 through 1918 shaped
4 the world, the United States, and the lives of mil-
5 lions of people.

6 (6) The centennial of World War I offers an op-
7 portunity for people in the United States to learn
8 about and commemorate the sacrifices of their pred-
9 ecessors.

10 (7) Commemorative programs, activities, and
11 sites allow people in the United States to learn
12 about the history of World War I, the United States
13 involvement in that war, and the war's effects on the
14 remainder of the 20th century, and to commemorate
15 and honor the participation of the United States and
16 its citizens in the war effort.

17 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this Act—

19 (1) AMERICA'S NATIONAL WORLD WAR I MU-
20 SEUM.—The term “America's National World War I
21 Museum” means the Liberty Memorial Museum in
22 Kansas City, Missouri, as recognized by Congress in
23 section 1031(b) of the Ronald W. Reagan National
24 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005
25 (Public Law 108–375; 118 Stat. 2045).

1 (2) CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.—The term
2 “Centennial Commission” means the World War I
3 Centennial Commission established by section 4(a).

4 (3) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION.—The
5 term “veterans service organization” means any or-
6 ganization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans
7 Affairs for the representation of veterans under sec-
8 tion 5902 of title 38, United States Code.

9 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL**
10 **COMMISSION.**

11 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a com-
12 mission to be known as the “World War I Centennial
13 Commission”.

14 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

15 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Centennial Commis-
16 sion shall be composed of 12 members as follows:

17 (A) Two members who shall be appointed
18 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

19 (B) One member who shall be appointed
20 by the minority leader of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives.

22 (C) Two members who shall be appointed
23 by the majority leader of the Senate.

24 (D) One member who shall be appointed
25 by the minority leader of the Senate.

1 (E) Three members who shall be appointed
2 by the President from among persons who are
3 broadly representative of the people of the
4 United States (including members of the Armed
5 Forces, veterans, and representatives of vet-
6 erans service organizations).

7 (F) One member who shall be appointed by
8 the executive director of the Veterans of For-
9 eign Wars of the United States.

10 (G) One member who shall be appointed by
11 the executive director of the American Legion.

12 (H) One member who shall be appointed
13 by the president of the Liberty Memorial Asso-
14 ciation.

15 (2) TIME FOR APPOINTMENT.—The members of
16 the Centennial Commission shall be appointed not
17 later than 60 days after the date of the enactment
18 of this Act.

19 (3) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—Each member
20 shall be appointed for the life of the Centennial
21 Commission.

22 (4) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Centennial
23 Commission shall be filled in the manner in which
24 the original appointment was made.

25 (c) MEETINGS.—

1 (1) INITIAL MEETING.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days
3 after the date on which all members of the Cen-
4 tennial Commission have been appointed, the
5 Centennial Commission shall hold its first meet-
6 ing.

7 (B) LOCATION.—The location for the
8 meeting held under subparagraph (A) shall be
9 the America's National World War I Museum.

10 (2) SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Centennial Com-
12 mission shall meet at the call of the Chair.

13 (B) FREQUENCY.—The Chair shall call a
14 meeting of the members of the Centennial Com-
15 mission not less frequently than once each year.

16 (C) LOCATION.—Not less frequently than
17 once each year, the Centennial Commission
18 shall meet at the America's National World
19 War I Museum.

20 (3) QUORUM.—Seven members of the Centen-
21 nial Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a
22 lesser number may hold hearings.

23 (d) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—The Centennial Com-
24 mission shall select a Chair and Vice Chair from among
25 its members.

1 **SEC. 5. DUTIES OF CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The duties of the Centennial
3 Commission are as follows:

4 (1) To plan, develop, and execute programs,
5 projects, and activities to commemorate the centen-
6 nial of World War I.

7 (2) To encourage private organizations and
8 State and local governments to organize and partici-
9 pate in activities commemorating the centennial of
10 World War I.

11 (3) To facilitate and coordinate activities
12 throughout the United States relating to the centen-
13 nial of World War I.

14 (4) To serve as a clearinghouse for the collec-
15 tion and dissemination of information about events
16 and plans for the centennial of World War I.

17 (5) To develop recommendations for Congress
18 and the President for commemorating the centennial
19 of World War I.

20 (b) REPORTS.—

21 (1) PERIODIC REPORT.—Not later than the last
22 day of the 6-month period beginning on the date of
23 the enactment of this Act, and not later than the
24 last day of each 3-month period thereafter, the Cen-
25 tennial Commission shall submit to Congress and

1 the President a report on the activities and plans of
2 the Centennial Commission.

3 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 2
4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
5 Centennial Commission shall submit to Congress
6 and the President a report containing specific rec-
7 ommendations for commemorating the centennial of
8 World War I and coordinating related activities.

9 **SEC. 6. POWERS OF CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.**

10 (a) HEARINGS.—The Centennial Commission may
11 hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places,
12 take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Cen-
13 tennial Commission considers appropriate to carry out its
14 duties under this Act.

15 (b) POWERS OF MEMBER AND AGENTS.—If author-
16 ized by the Centennial Commission, any member or agent
17 of the Centennial Commission may take any action which
18 the Centennial Commission is authorized to take under
19 this Act.

20 (c) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The
21 Centennial Commission shall secure directly from any
22 Federal department or agency such information as the
23 Centennial Commission considers necessary to carry out
24 the provisions of this Act. Upon the request of the Chair
25 of the Centennial Commission, the head of such depart-

1 ment or agency shall furnish such information to the Cen-
2 tennial Commission.

3 (d) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon
4 the request of the Centennial Commission, the Adminis-
5 trator of the General Services Administration shall provide
6 to the Centennial Commission, on a reimbursable basis,
7 the administrative support services necessary for the Cen-
8 tennial Commission to carry out its responsibilities under
9 this Act.

10 (e) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
12 graph (2), the Centennial Commission is author-
13 ized—

14 (A) to procure supplies, services, and prop-
15 erty; and

16 (B) to make or enter into contracts, leases,
17 or other legal agreements.

18 (2) LIMITATION.—The Centennial Commission
19 may not enter into any contract, lease, or other legal
20 agreement that extends beyond the date of the ter-
21 mination of the Centennial Commission under sec-
22 tion 8(a).

23 (f) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Centennial Commission
24 may use the United States mails in the same manner and

1 under the same conditions as other departments and agen-
2 cies of the Federal Government.

3 (g) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.—The Centen-
4 nial Commission shall accept, use, and dispose of gifts,
5 bequests, or devises of services or property, both real and
6 personal, for the purpose of covering the costs incurred
7 by the Centennial Commission to carry out its duties
8 under this Act.

9 **SEC. 7. CENTENNIAL COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

10 (a) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—Members of the
11 Centennial Commission shall serve without compensation
12 for such service.

13 (b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Cen-
14 tennial Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, in-
15 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with
16 the applicable provisions of title 5, United States Code.

17 (c) STAFF.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Chair of the Centennial
19 Commission shall, in consultation with the members
20 of the Centennial Commission, appoint an executive
21 director and such other additional personnel as may
22 be necessary to enable the Centennial Commission to
23 perform its duties.

24 (2) COMPENSATION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
2 graph (B), the Chair of the Centennial Commis-
3 sion may fix the compensation of the executive
4 director and any other personnel appointed
5 under paragraph (1).

6 (B) LIMITATION.—The Chair of the Cen-
7 tennial Commission may not fix the compensa-
8 tion of the executive director or other personnel
9 appointed under paragraph (1) at a rate that
10 exceeds the rate of payable for level IV of the
11 Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title
12 5, United States Code.

13 (C) WORK LOCATION.—If the city govern-
14 ment for Kansas City, Missouri, and the Lib-
15 erty Memorial Association make space available
16 in the building in which the America's National
17 World War I Museum is located, the executive
18 director of the Centennial Commission and
19 other personnel appointed under paragraph (1)
20 shall work in such building to the extent prac-
21 tical.

22 (d) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—Upon
23 request of the Centennial Commission, the head of any
24 Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimburs-
25 able basis, any employee of that department or agency to

1 the Centennial Commission to assist it in carrying out its
2 duties under this Act.

3 (e) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMIT-
4 TENT SERVICES.—The Chair of the Centennial Commis-
5 sion may procure temporary and intermittent services
6 under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

7 (f) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Gifts, bequests, and devises
8 of services or property, both real and personal, received
9 by the Centennial Commission under section 6(g) shall be
10 the only source of funds to cover the costs incurred by
11 the Centennial Commission under this section.

12 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION OF CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Centennial Commission shall
14 terminate on the earlier of—

15 (1) the date that is 30 days after the date the
16 completion of the activities under this Act honoring
17 the centennial observation of World War I; or

18 (2) July 28, 2019.

19 (b) APPLICATION OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-
20 MITTEE ACT.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
22 graph (2), the provisions of the Federal Advisory
23 Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall apply to the
24 activities of the Centennial Commission under this
25 Act.

1 (2) EXCEPTION.—Section 14(a)(2) of such Act
2 shall not apply to the Centennial Commission.

3 **SEC. 9. PROHIBITION ON OBLIGATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS.**

4 No Federal funds may be obligated to carry out this
5 Act.