



74TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES } REPORT  
1st Session } } No. 1506

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AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF A CHIEF ACCOUNTANT AND  
OTHER ACCOUNTING OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES BY THE  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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JULY 12, 1935.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. RAYBURN, from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Com-  
merce, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 1336]

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to whom  
was referred the bill (S. 1336) to amend paragraph (f) of section 4  
of the Communications Act of 1934, having considered the same,  
report thereon with a recommendation that it pass.

The object of this bill is to authorize the employment by the  
Federal Communications Commission a chief accountant and not  
more than three assistants.

Paragraph (f) of the Communications Act, authorizes a chief engi-  
neer and not more than three assistants and a general counsel and  
not more than three assistants, but makes no provision for a chief  
accountant or three assistants.

Under the Radio Act of 1927 the matters of rate making or rate  
regulation were not involved. Hence the chief need was for legal  
and engineering departments. The Communications Act, having  
provided for rate regulation and utility investigations, has created a  
need for an accounting department. The Federal Communications  
Commission in its report to Congress recommended an early amend-  
ment to the law so as to provide for this necessary department.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION,  
Washington, D. C., March 11, 1935.

HON. SAM RAYBURN,  
*Chairman Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN RAYBURN: I call your attention to Senate bill No. 1336  
which passed the Senate on the same day that Senate Joint Resolution No. 46  
was adopted by that body. Senate Joint Resolution No. 46, authorizing and  
directing a telephone investigation, was adopted by the House on March 4, 1935.  
This bill (S. 1336) merely gives the Federal Communications Commission author-

ity to hire a chief accountant and three assistants on the same basis it employs engineers and counsel. The provision was omitted from the original law, apparently, through oversight.

Senate bill no. 1336 is now before your committee. It may be said to be a companion bill to Senate Joint Resolution No. 46 for the reason that it would give this Commission a better opportunity to coordinate the telephone accounting work of the investigation with that of the regular accounting work of the Commission. It would give the Commission opportunity to employ competent accountants, without undue delay.

It is impossible to attract the best accountants in the United States under the present law for permanent employment with this Commission. There would be a question as to the legality of employing accountants for the general work of the Commission out of the telephone investigation funds.

Senate bill no. 1336 calls for no additional appropriation. It merely gives the Commission authority to employ high-class accountants on the same basis as it employs engineers.

We hope it may be possible to get this bill speedily enacted so that we may take advantage of it in the beginning of the telephone investigation, and so that we may very early coordinate all the accounting work of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

ANNING S. PRALL, *Chairman.*

#### CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows (new matter proposed to be added to existing law being printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed being shown in roman):

(Sec. 4.) (f) Without regard to the civil-service laws or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, (1) the Commission may appoint and prescribe the duties and fix the salaries of a secretary, a director for each division, a chief engineer and not more than three assistants, *a chief accountant and not more than three assistants*, a general counsel and not more than three assistants, and temporary counsel designated by the Commission for the performance of special services, and (2) each commissioner may appoint and prescribe the duties of a secretary at an annual salary not to exceed \$4,000. The general counsel and the chief engineer *and the chief accountant* shall each receive an annual salary of not to exceed \$9,000; the secretary shall receive an annual salary of not to exceed \$7,500; the director of each division shall receive an annual salary of not to exceed \$7,500; and no assistant shall receive an annual salary in excess of \$7,500. The Commission shall have authority, subject to the provisions of the civil-service laws and the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, to appoint such other officers, engineers, *accountants*, inspectors, attorneys, examiners, and other employees as are necessary in the execution of its functions.