

## S 1651

United States Consensus Council Act of 2002

**Congress:** 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Nov 7, 2001

**Current Status:** By Senator Lieberman from Committee on Governmental Affairs filed written report under authority of

**Latest Action:** By Senator Lieberman from Committee on Governmental Affairs filed written report under authority of the order of the Senate of 10/17/2002. Report No. 107-330. (Nov 4, 2002)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/1651>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** ND • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brownback, Sam [R-KS]	R · KS		Nov 7, 2001
Sen. Conrad, Kent [D-ND]	D · ND		Nov 7, 2001
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Nov 27, 2001
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Jan 23, 2002
Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]	R · PA		Feb 27, 2002
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 3, 2002
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Sep 3, 2002
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		Sep 24, 2002
Sen. Wellstone, Paul D. [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 25, 2002

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Oct 15, 2002

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
107 HR 3305	Identical bill	<b>Nov 28, 2001:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Government Efficiency, Financial Management and Intergovernmental Relations.

## Summary (as of Oct 15, 2002)

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United States Consensus Council Act of 2002 - (Sec. 4) Establishes the United States Consensus Council as an independent nonprofit corporation under the District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act.

(Sec. 5) Authorizes the Council to: (1) develop and conduct processes to build consensus on national policy issues; (2) identify particular public policy issues as to which the Council's expertise would be useful in building a consensus; (3) develop and apply criteria for determining whether the Council will enter into a consensus-building process on a particular issue; and (4) coordinate with, make referrals to, and receive referrals from other U.S. consensus building instrumentalities, including the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Prohibits the Council from taking any action relating to a matter within the authority of the Institute or the Service without their consent.

Allows the Council, for each consensus building process, to: (1) consider congressional interest, issue complexity, cost, ripeness, likelihood of participation by key stakeholders, and other relevant indices in determining whether to enter into a particular consensus process; (2) identify any appropriate facilitator and key stakeholders; (3) publish a common set of facts to inform and assist consensus-building processes; (4) establish ground rules related to confidentiality, representation of counsel, and ex parte communications; (5) work to promote consensus by methods of dispute resolution; (6) build agreements among stakeholders; (7) report the results of consensus-building efforts; and (8) provide issue training and technical assistance.

Directs the Council to develop guidelines on its operating policies and duties, including for the establishment of advisory bodies.

(Sec. 6) Vests the powers of the Council in a Board of Directors. Prohibits any Director from being a Federal officer or employee, including a Member of Congress.

(Sec. 7) Provides for appointment by the Board of a President who shall be the chief executive officer of the Council and subject to the supervision of the Board.

(Sec. 8) Directs the Council to monitor and evaluate programs to ensure compliance with this Act.

Requires annual audits of the Council's accounts and an annual financial report to the President, Congress, and the General Accounting Office on the Council's activities, the audit report, and funds received.

(Sec. 9) Authorizes appropriations.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Nov 4, 2002:** By Senator Lieberman from Committee on Governmental Affairs filed written report under authority of the order of the Senate of 10/17/2002. Report No. 107-330.
- **Oct 15, 2002:** Committee on Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Lieberman with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Oct 15, 2002:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 709.
- **Oct 9, 2002:** Committee on Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Nov 7, 2001:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 7, 2001:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S11559-11561)
- **Jan 7, 2001:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S11559)

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