

S 908

United States Consensus Council Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Apr 11, 2003

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 221.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 221. (Jul 22, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/908

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]

Party: Republican • State: ME • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

| Cosponsor                      | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Conrad, Kent [D-ND]       | D · ND        |      | Apr 11, 2003 |
| Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]   | D · ND        |      | Apr 11, 2003 |
| Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]     | R · PA        |      | Apr 11, 2003 |
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]  | D · VT        |      | Apr 30, 2003 |
| Sen. Daschle, Thomas A. [D-SD] | D · SD        |      | Jun 5, 2003  |

Committee Activity

| Committee  | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee | Senate  | Reported By | Jul 22, 2003 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 108 HR 2459 | Related bill | Jul 2, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census. |

United States Consensus Council Act of 2003 - Establishes the United States Consensus Council to develop and conduct processes to build consensus on national policy issues.

Authorizes the Council to: (1) enter into formal relationships with other institutions; (2) identify particular public policy issues for which the Council's expertise would be useful in building a consensus; (3) coordinate with, make referrals to, and receive referrals from other conflict or dispute resolution instrumentalities, including the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution or the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service; and (4) develop and apply criteria for determining whether the Council will enter into a consensus-building process on a particular issue. Prohibits the Council from: (1) taking any action relating to a matter within the authority of the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution or the Federal Mediation Service without the consent of the Institute or Service; or (2) duplicate or interfere with the activities and responsibilities of the Institute or Service. Requires: (1) the Institute or Service to respond to a Council consent request within 30 days; and (2) the Council, Institute, and Service to consult with one another to identify opportunities for collaboration in fulfilling their respective purposes and programs.

Vests Council powers in a Board of Directors. Prohibits any Director from being a Federal officer or employee, including a Member of Congress. Provides for a Council President appointed by the Board.

Requires the Council to report annually to the President and each House of Congress on prior-year activities and audits.

Prohibits the Council from engaging in lobbying activities or being a client.

Authorizes appropriations for FY 2003 through 2008.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Jul 22, 2003:** Committee on Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Collins with amendments. With written report No. 108-110.
- **Jul 22, 2003:** Committee on Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Collins with amendments. With written report No. 108-110.
- **Jul 22, 2003:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 221.
- **Jun 17, 2003:** Committee on Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Apr 11, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 11, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.