

Chapter 1 : Congressional odyssey: the saga of a Senate bill

*Congressional Odyssey: The Saga of a Senate Bill [T. R. Reid] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. The two year progress of an inland waterway user charge bill is followed through both houses of Congress.*

A hard-core group of liberal House Democrats is questioning the constitutionality of U. Eleanor Holmes Norton D. Kucinich, who wanted to bring impeachment articles against both former President George W. Larson has called for Obama to seek congressional approval before committing the United States to any anti-Qadhafi military operation. They consulted the United Nations. The validity of American combat operations is a matter of American law, and that means Congress must authorize them. Our Constitution vests Congress with the power to declare war. That authority cannot be delegated to an international tribunal that lacks political accountability to the American people. The decision to go to war is the most significant one a body politic can make. Thus the Framers designed our system to make certain that the responsible officials are answerable to the people whose lives are at stake and who are expected to foot the bills. First, in the case of an imminent threat of attack on the United States it has generally been recognized that the President has the authority, in fact the duty, to act in a manner to defend the country and the homeland. Obviously, if that response results in a sustained conflict then Congress will have to become involved, but that can happen at a later date. Ilya Somin at The Volokh Conspiracy agrees: If all the Obama administration intends is to launch a few Tomahawk missiles, perhaps this action would fall in the same category. However, it seems highly likely that the president plans to go well beyond this. Military operations are likely to continue for some time, perhaps until Gaddafi has either been overthrown or at least compelled to leave the rebel-controlled parts of Libya unmolested. If so, it seems quite clear that congressional authorization for military action on that scale is required. Congressional authorization also might not be needed if all the president is responding to an ongoing or imminent attack. Neither McCarthy nor Somin mention, however, the War Powers Act, which was passed in the wake of the Vietnam War in an effort to reign in Presidential war power, but which actually enhances that power greatly and gives the President the ability to commit U. As long as he notifies Congress, the President has the legal authority to engage in virtually any military action he desires. The main reason congress tends, in practice, not to use this authority is that congress rarely wants to. The other important point, of course, is that what the Constitution says about war powers at this point is largely irrelevant, what matters is nearly years of tradition and history, during which Presidential authority to engage in military action without getting direct Congressional approval has gradually, but incessantly, expanded. It started in when Thomas Jefferson essentially declared war on the Barbary States located, ironically enough, in what we now call Libya for their piracy against American military and merchant vessels. In that instance, Jefferson did inform Congress of his actions, and they did issue what some might call an authorization for the use of force against the pirates. Later, in the 20th Century, Presidents sent forces of various sizes of Latin American nations such as Nicaragua to put down rebellions or maintain control. Then, once the Cold War started, the instances of unilateral action by the President increased exponentially, starting with the Korean War, a three-year long engagement that was never directly authorized by the United States Congress. And, of course, its worth noting that the bloodiest conflict in American history was an undeclared war. They ought to be ashamed of themselves. He joined the staff of OTB in May

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T.R. Reid is a reporter, documentary film correspondent and author. He is also a frequent guest on NPR's Morning calendrierdelascience.comh his reporting for The Washington Post, his syndicated weekly column, and his light-hearted commentary from around the world for National Public Radio, he has become one of America's best-known foreign correspondents.

AEF requirements apply equally to U. Designing a transparent and comprehensive AEF definition has proven difficult and has evolved over the years. The current set of laws and rules governing farm program eligibility—particularly for family members on farm operations—remain subject to considerable scrutiny and criticism from both rural and farm advocacy groups as well as certain Members of Congress. In particular, critics contend that current U. Three major categories of legal entities are subject to AEF requirement for program payment eligibility: An individual must meet three specific AEF criteria. Third, the person shares in the risk of loss from the farming operation. An individual that meets the AEF criteria is eligible for farm program payments but subject to annual payment limits. If a married person meets the AEF requirements, any spouse will also be considered to have met the AEF requirements, thus effectively doubling the individual payment limit. A general partnership is an association of multiple persons whereby each member is treated separately and individually for purposes of determining eligibility and payment limits. Thus, adding a new member can potentially provide an additional payment limit. A corporation is an association of joint owners that is treated as a single person for purposes of determining eligibility and payment limits, provided that the entity meets the AEF and other eligibility criteria. In accordance with a provision in the farm bill P. However, considerable issues remain that may be of interest to Congress. Long-standing concerns remain that some farm operations are organized to overcome program payment limits and maximize the amount of their farm program payments. Department of Agriculture USDA , under the authority of Congress as enunciated in periodic farm legislation, provides support to the U. The concern over program eligibility also derives, in part, from instances where farm payments have accrued to individuals who have never engaged in farming. In particular, eligibility requirements and payment limits determine who receives federal farm program payments and how much they receive. A number of statutory and regulatory requirements govern federal farm program eligibility for benefits under various programs. Not all farm programs are subject to the same criteria, and the criteria often apply differently based on the type of legal entity owning the farm operation. Report Overview This report describes current laws and regulations that define who is eligible to receive payments under the principal commodity programs. In addition, it addresses issues associated with existing eligibility. It is not intended to discuss the merits, or lack thereof, of federal farm program payments. This report begins by briefly discussing the historical development of congressional efforts to define and tighten eligibility criteria for farm program payments. This is followed by a description of all of the key terms and concepts involved in defining a farm business and farm program payment recipient, including the major types of farm business organizations. Then the report discusses current requirements used to define a person or entity as being "actively engaged in farming" AEF by type of legal entity. Finally, the report discusses several issues that may be of potential interest to Congress concerning regulations governing the implementation and monitoring of AEF criteria. Farm program payment limits and eligibility requirements may differ by both type of program and type of participating legal entity i. This report discusses these various factors and their interaction under current law. However, this report is not a legal brief, nor does it represent a CRS legal analysis. A discussion of farm program payment limit and eligibility issues by farmdoc daily states: Payment limits are a technical and legal issue. Any decision on the number of entities receiving payments should be made with due diligence, including careful consideration of the business and legal implications, and should be discussed with both the Farm Service Agency FSA and a lawyer who is an expert on payment limits. This report focuses on current program eligibility requirements—in particular, the requirements to successfully be determined as AEF. This subject is often associated with a discussion of payment limits, but a detailed description of payment limits may be found elsewhere. Designing a transparent and comprehensive definition of what it

means to be AEF has proven difficult. In , GAO contended that USDA regulations failed to specify a measurable standard for what constituted "a significant contribution of active personal management. As a consequence, the definition of AEF has evolved over the years. Congress and USDAâ€”via its regulatory powersâ€”have attempted to tighten payment eligibility criteria. For example, the farm bill P. It limited qualifying payments via direct attribution 12 to persons or legal entities with ownership interests in joint ventures that pooled the resources of multiple payment recipients. It also expanded a separate payment limit to the spouses of qualifying farm payment recipients. What Constitutes a Farm Business? Farming operation means a business enterprise engaged in the production of agricultural products, commodities, or livestock operated by a person or legal entity. A member of a farming operation can be either a person or a legal entity. A person or legal entity may have more than one farming operation if such person or legal entity is a member of one or more joint operations. Person means a single individual, natural person and does not include a legal entity. Legal entity means an entity created under federal or state law that 1 owns land or an agricultural commodity, product, or livestock; or 2 produces an agricultural commodity, product, or livestock. Family membership in a farm business is defined by being a sibling, spouse, lineal ancestor e. In particular, a farm manager personally provides and participates in 1 the general supervision and direction of activities and labor involved in the farming operation, or 2 services whether performed on-site or off-site reasonably related and necessary to the farming operation. Some of the most common ways farmers organize their business and how these business organizations are treated under payment limitation rules are as follows: A sole proprietorship has no legal existence independent of its owner, which means that only the owner, not the farming operation, can be sued. An individual running a sole proprietorship is limited to a single payment limit for the farming operation. A joint venture is an association where two or more individuals pool resources and share profits or losses. As with sole proprietorships, joint ventures have no legal existence independent of their owners. Each member in a joint venture is limited to a single farm program payment limit. Most states permit their formation with just an oral agreement. FSA makes farm program payments directly to the partnership rather than to the partnership members, which may be individuals or entities. However, each partner can qualify the general partnership for a payment limit. Thus, the general partnership can qualify for additional payments by adding more individuals or entities to the partnership. Partners are personally liable for partnership commercial obligations such as loans or taxes. This includes general partnerships, joint ventures, or other similar business organizations in which the members are jointly and severally liable for the obligations of the organization. Each member is treated separately and individually for purposes of determining eligibility and payment limits. Joint operations make up about 6. As a result, some individuals may choose the corporate form of farm business organization to protect their personal assets in case of farm financial difficulties. Unlike joint operations, corporations qualify as a single person under current payment limitation rules. Other refers to those types of legal entities that may also qualify as single persons under current payment limitation rules. This includes trusts, estates, cooperatives, charitable organizations, and state and local governments.

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She is the senior-most woman in U. Congresswoman Kaptur ranks among the most senior Members of the th Congress. Background Congresswoman Kaptur, a native Toledoan, lives in the same modest house where she grew up. She is a Polish-American with humble, working class roots. Her family operated a small grocery store and her mother later served on the original organizing committee of a trade union at the Champion Spark Plug factory in Toledo. After graduating from St. After working for 15 years as a city and regional planner, primarily in Toledo and Chicago, she accepted an appointment as a domestic policy advisor to President Jimmy Carter. During his Administration, she helped maneuver 17 housing and neighborhood revitalization bills through Congress. In Congress In , while pursuing a doctorate in urban planning and development finance at MIT, she was recruited by the Lucas County Democratic Party to run for Congress against a first-term Republican. Although she was outspent by a 3-to-1 margin, Kaptur parlayed a strong economic message during the recession to stage a nationally-recognized upset. Today she is the ranking member on the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, which is fitting given that the Ninth District hugs the Lake Erie coastline from Cleveland to Toledo. Congresswoman Kaptur also is the first Democratic woman ever to serve on the powerful Defense Subcommittee. There, she is a strong advocate for national security, energy independence and adequate support for the armed forces. She is also a member of the Interior Subcommittee where she fights for clean water programs that protect our Great Lakes. Earlier in her congressional career, she served on the Appropriations Financial Services Subcommittee as well as the Banking Committee. She served on the Budget Committee as recently as the th Congress. Federal Investments in Northern Ohio Congresswoman Kaptur is widely credited with bringing back federal dollars to partner with local communities on crucial transportation and infrastructure projects: That dedication was displayed during the long legislative battle she waged to have a World War II memorial built on the National Mall in Washington, D. Congresswoman Kaptur worked together with Mr. Durbin to make his dream a reality. Despite many setbacks and detours, she never relented. Seventeen years later, on a sunny May 29, , Congresswoman Kaptur spoke as a crowd estimated at , people, including three presidents, gathered for the long-awaited dedication of the National World War II Memorial. The memorial today is one of the most popular and beloved attractions in Washington, D. World War II veterans, now in their mid-eighties and nineties, are treated as heroes there every day. She championed the cause of workers who got sick after exposure to beryllium by guiding a major piece of legislation to passage on their behalf. She has secured funding for a pathbreaking study into the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorders and other mental health issues among our armed forces. And she helped lead a community effort to save the th Fighter Wing in Toledo when it was threatened by the base closure commission. A strong supporter of Middle East peace, she directed the first surplus farm commodities in to support the peace process in Lebanon, Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Congresswoman Kaptur remains dedicated to the development of democratic institutions globally. She has spearheaded private charitable efforts to alleviate suffering in nations such as Ukraine and Vietnam. As leader on issues related to international trade and human and labor rights, Kaptur has led the fight for fair trade laws, dating back to her opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement. Awards In , Congresswoman Kaptur was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree by the University of Toledo in recognition of her "effective representation of the community. Ursula Academy named Kaptur Alumna of the Year in She is recipient of the Taubman College Distinguished Alumna award from the University of Michigan, making her the first woman so recognized and the first graduate of the Urban and Regional Planning Program to be so honored. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University for her commitment to increased understanding and appreciation of the peoples and cultures of Eurasia, Russia and East Europe. Kaptur is also the author of a book, *Women in Congress: She refuses to accept Congressional pay raises and donates them to offset the federal deficit and charitable causes in her home community.*

Chapter 4 : Congressional Odyssey: The Saga of a Senate Bill

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Chapter 5 : Book congressional odyssey pdf free download

Executive branch practices in withholding information from congressional committees. Hearing before a subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations, House of Representatives, Eighty-sixth Congress, second session.

Chapter 6 : - Congressional Odyssey: The Saga of a Senate Bill by T.R Reid

Congressional Odyssey: The Saga of a Senate Bill makes fascinating reading for anyone interested in the people and the power struggles in the public eye, and behind closed doors, on Capitol Hill and in the White House.

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Chapter 8 : Congressional District 13

Congressional Odyssey: The Saga Of A Senate Bill by T. R. Reid Washington Post reporter T.R. Reid takes a candid look at Washington personalities and politics, revealing the motives and strategies, the cooperation and rivalry, the honesty and the deceit behind a seemingly minor piece of legislation.

Chapter 9 : Congressional odyssey: the saga of a Senate bill

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