S. REP. 84-44, S. Rep. No. 44, 84TH Cong., 1ST Sess. 1955, 1955 U.S.C.C.A.N. 1797, 1955 WL 3751 (Leg.Hist.)

**\*1797** P.L. 84-11, ARMED FORCES-- iNTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS

Senate Report No. 84-44,

Mar. 4, 1955 (To accompany S. 829)

House Report No. 84-196,

Mar. 10, 1955 (To accompany H.R. 3014)

The Senate bill was passed in lieu of the House bill.

The Senate Report is set out.

                                                                                  (CONSULT NOTE FOLLOWING TEXT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OMITTED MATERIAL.  EACH     COMMITTEE REPORT IS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT ON WESTLAW.)

Senate Report No. 84-44

Mar. 4, 1955

THE Committee on Armed Services, to whom was referred the bill (S. 829) to authorize personnel of the Armed Forces to train for, attend, and participate in the Second Pan-American Games, the Seventh Olympic Winter Games, Games of the XVI Olympiad, future Pan-American Games and Olympic Games, and certain other international amateur-sports competitions, and for other purposes, having considered the same report favorable thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

This bill was introduced by the junior Senator from Ohio, Mr. Bender, for the purpose of authorizing participation by personnel of the Armed Forces of the United States in international amateur sports competitions.

**\*1798** The act of July 1, 1947 (Public Law 159, 80th Cong.; 61 Stat. 243) authorizes participation in Olympic games by the Armed Forces but does not authorize any expenditures therefor. The instant bill, in addition to affording the necessary expenditure authorization for the Olympic games, broadens the authority for military personnel of the United States to train for and participate in the Second Pan-American Games, the Seventh Olympic Winter Games, Games of the XVI Olympiad, future Pan-American Games and Olympic Games, and certain other international sports competitions if the Secretary of State determines that the interests of the United States will be served by participation therein.

Physical fitness activities are a regular and necessary part of the military training programs. The Department of Defense maintains that competitive athletic activities are conducive to, and are helpful in, keeping our military manpower mentally alert and physically strong. In view of our military interests in athletic activities and competitive sports, it appears that the Department of Defense should be authorized and encouraged to give active support to those international sport competitions in which the United States desires to be represented.

In the past the United States has achieved a position of prominence in international amateur sports competitions through the excellence and sportsmanship of its young men and women. Many of these young men and women are now performing service in the Armed Forces of this country. There is no sound reason why those persons who are now in military service and who are excellent athletes should be denied an opportunity to compete as representatives of this country in international sports competitions.

The committee is of the opinion that the authority granted in this bill would contribute to the demonstration of American standards of sportsmanship and fair play to the peoples of the world and that this action may enhance our efforts for world peace.

The expenditure of funds that would be authorized by this measure is for the purpose of preliminary training, equipping, and tryout costs that are generated within the Armed Forces. After a military athlete has been selected for a team representing the United States in international sports competitions he will be equipped, transported, and subsisted by the sponsoring agency (e.g., the United States Olympic Committee) in the same manner as are civilian members of the team.

EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENTS

Since the Second Pan-American competitions will begin in Mexico City on March 12 of this year, it is desirable that action be completed on this measure before that date. A subcommittee of the House Committee on Armed Services has recommended amendments limiting the total expenditures that may be made for this purpose. In the interest of expediting action on this bill, the committee has adopted those amendments that seem likely to be approved by the House.

The amendments establish a limitation of $800,000 during each 4-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this act, to be apportioned among the 3 military departments by the Secretary of Defense and a **\*1799** limitation of $100,000 during each 4-year period dating from this act for participation by members of the Coast Guard.

Since the committee was advised that after a military athlete has been selected for a team representing the United States in international sports competition his travel and living expenses are borne by the sponsoring agency, amendments have been added to provide that entitlement to per diem allowances, and in the case of persons without dependents, the basic allowances for quarters and subsistence, shall be suspended during such periods as the sponsoring agency is bearing the costs of travel, quarters, and subsistence.

Another committee amendments is addressed to the authority that would be granted in this bill for personnel of the Armed forces to participate in international amateur sports competition not specified in the bill, upon a determination by the Secretary of State that the interests of the United States will be served thereby. The committee has amended the bill to provide that before military personnel of the United States are committed to participation in international sports competitions other than those specifically set forth in the bill, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House and Senate a report with respect to the nature and extent of the desired participation.

COST DATA

The maximum that can be expended for the purpose of this bill within any 4-year period is $900,000, which averages $225,000 per year. Appropriations available to the Department of Defense and the Department of the Treasury are authorized to be utilized to carry out the purposes of this bill.

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

This bill as amended is recommended by the Department of Defense and the Department of the Treasury, as is evidenced by letters from the Acting Secretary of the Air Force and the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, which appear below and are hereby made a part of this report.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,

Washington, February 17, 1955.

Hon. RICHARD B. RUSSELL,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,

United States Senate.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I refer to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense with respect to S. 829, a bill to authorize personnel of the Armed Forces to train for, attend, and participate in the Second Pan-American Games the Seventh Olympic Winter Games, Games of the XVI Olympiad, future Pan-American Games and Olympic Games, and certain other international amateur sports competitions, and for other purposes. The Secretary of Defense has assigned to the Department of the Air Force the responsibility for providing your committee with a report on this legislation on behalf of the Department of Defense.

The purpose of S. 829 is to amend the act of July 1, 1947 (Public Law 159, 80th Cong.; 61 Stat 243). Public law 159, 80th Congress, is the present authority for participation in Olympic Games by the Armed **\*1800** Forces. When Public Law 159, 80th Congress, was enacted the Air Force was not a separate service, however, the Judge Advocate General of the Air Force believes that Public Law 159, 80th Congress, is applicable to the Air Force by reason of the provisions of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and therefore does authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to permit participation of Air Force personnel in the Olympic Games. However, neither Public Law 159 nor current appropriation acts afford the necessary expenditure authorization.

During the 82d Congress the Department of Defense sponsored legislation similar to S. 829. This legislation was introduced as H.R. 1184 and S. 317, 82d Congress. These bills were not enacted and were not carried over to the Department of Defense legislative program for the 83d Congress because the question would not arise until the next holding of the Olympic Games.

Section 2(a) of S. 829 would provide the Secretaries of the services concerned with authority to permit personnel of the Armed Forces to train for, attend, and participate in the coming Pan-American and Olympic Games. It would also authorize participation in future Pan-American and Olympic Games and certain other international amateur sports competitions. The extension of participation authority to Pan-American Games and other international sports competitions has become a necessity for full participation in and selection of top athletes to represent our country in the Olympiad.

Section 2(b) of S. 829 would provide authority for the Secretary concerned to spend funds and acquire and utilize such supplies, material, and equipment as he determines necessary to provide training of armed forces personnel for these competitions.

Section 3 of S. 829 would provide authority for the utilization of appropriations available to the Department of Defense necessary to carry out the purposes of the act. While the present basic authority, i.e., Public Law 159, 80th Congress, authorized expenses in amounts not to exceed $75,000 for the Army and $50,000 for the Navy for training, attendance, and participation in the seventh winter sports Olympic games and the XIV Olympic games, it did not provide authority for expenditure of appropriated funds in connection with training for and participation in future Olympic games. S. 829 provides the necessary authorization on a continuing basis.

Participation in the Olympic Games by members of the Armed Forces has been traditional. The Department of the Army has been represented by many outstanding athletes during its participation over a period of more than 50 years. Participation in Olympic Games encourages athletic participation at all levels which in turn improves the physical stamina of the Armed Forces. It contributes to esprit de corps and reflects credit upon character, prowess, and sportsmanship of competing personnel.

S. 829 would provide proper authority for and authorize the use of appropriated funds for participation in future Olympic Games. The Department of Defense strongly recommends enactment of S. 829.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES H. DOUGLAS,

Acting Secretary.

**\*1801** TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Washington, February 18, 1955.

Hon. RICHARD B. RUSSELL,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,

United States Senate, Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Treasury Department on S. 829, a bill to authorize personnel of the Armed Forces to train for, attend, and participate in the Second Pan-American Games, the Seventh Olympic Winter Games, Games of the XVI Olympiad, future Pan-American Games and Olympic Games, and certain other international amateur sports competitions, and for other purposes.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the Coast Guard, to (1) permit personnel of the Armed Forces to train for and participate in Olympic and other international games, and (2) expend funds for training, transportation, and purchase of necessary equipment required incident to such training and participation.

It is understood that the House Committee on Armed Services proposes to recommend that H.R. 3014, a companion bill, be amended to impose a monetary limitation on expenditures to carry out the purposes of the bill if enacted-- the limitation to be $800,000 for the Department of Defense, and $100,000 for the Treasury Department, for a 4-year period.

The Treasury Department would favor the enactment of either S. 829 or H.R. 3014 with this proposed amendment.

The Department has been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Very truly yours,

M. B. FOLSOM,

Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

                                                                                  (Note:  1.  PORTIONS OF THE SENATE, HOUSE AND CONFERENCE REPORTS, WHICH ARE     DUPLICATIVE OR ARE DEEMED TO BE UNNECESSARY TO THE INTERPRETATION OF THE LAWS, ARE OMITTED.  OMITTED MATERIAL IS INDICATED BY FIVE ASTERISKS:  \*\*\*\*\*.                  2.  TO RETRIEVE REPORTS ON A PUBLIC LAW, RUN A TOPIC FIELD SEARCH       USING THE PUBLIC LAW NUMBER, e.g., TO(99-495))

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