

Proposed Entitlement Commissions in the 110th Congress

Chart Made 3.5.07

	Conrad-Gregg	Feinstein-Domenici National Commission on Entitlement Solvency	Voinovich-Wolf Securing America's Future Economy ("SAFE")
Proposed	January 11, 2007	January 22, 2007	January 16, 2007
Composition	16-member, bipartisan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Republican lawmakers • 7 Democratic lawmakers • 2 Representatives from Administration 	15-member, bipartisan commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Democrats • 7 Republicans • 1 "Independent" appointed by president 	16-voting member, bipartisan commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 appointed by Senate majority leader • 4 appointed by House speaker • 3 appointed by Senate minority leader • 3 appointed by House minority leader • OMB Director • Treasury Secretary
Tenure	<i>(not specified)</i>	Permanent; reports back to Congress every five years	Disbands after submitting legislation
Scope	Address "long-term fiscal imbalances, including, but not limited to, Medicare and Social Security, also looking at the structural deficit."	"Direct and implement a periodic, comprehensive review of Social Security and Medicare"	"Restore future solvency to entitlement programs"
Actions	Produce legislative package	Produce recommendation within 1 year of law's enactment and then every 5 years thereafter	Evaluate entitlement programs' fiscal problems and conduct town hall meetings over the course of 1 year; Produce report of long-term fiscal situation, public views, available policy options; Send legislation to Congress within 60 days of report
Commission Approval	3/4 of members approval required to move recommendations to Congress	2/3 of members approval required to move recommendations to Congress	3/4 of members approval required to move recommendations to Congress
Congressional Action	Legislation considered on fast-track basis with no amendments allowed; 60-vote majority required in Senate	Senate and House committees would have 60 days to discharge a bill based on recommendation – either the legislation as given or amended; Congress would then have 30 days to consider committee reports	Congress and Administration produce "actuarially equivalent proposals" within 90 days; Congress to vote on legislation "up-or-down"



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