

**Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act
Public Law 111-13**

PROVISION	CURRENT LAW	SERVE AMERICA ACT
NCSA Purpose Statement	Lists 8 purposes, including meeting community needs, encouraging service, renewing ethic of civic responsibility, and expanding educational opportunity	Adds as purposes focusing national service on improving education, energy conservation, and the health status and economical opportunity for economically disadvantaged individuals; social entrepreneurs; increased public and private investment in nonprofit community organizations; leveraged Federal investments; expanded service learning; coordinated citizen service in emergencies or disasters; increased service opportunities for retiring professionals; continued service of national service alums; service by individuals age 55 or older; engagement of college students in community service; expanded veteran participation in national service.
Definitions		Adds definitions for the following terms: Approved Summer of Service position; Disadvantaged Youth; Community-based Entity; Hispanic-Serving Institution; Predominantly Black Institution; Historically Black College or University; Qualified Organization; Tribally Controlled College or University; Medically Underserved Population; Veteran; Alaska Native-Serving Institution; Approved Silver Scholar Position; Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution; Native American-Serving, Nontribal Institution; Native Hawaiian-Serving Institution; Scientifically valid research; encore service program; principles of scientific research; Territory
Learn & Serve America	Learn & Serve America funding allocation: School-based (includes both formula and competitive) 63.75% Higher Education 25% Community-based 11.25%	School-based is reduced from 63.75% to 60% and includes only formula grants to State Education Agencies. Higher Education remains at 25%. Community-based folded into new Part III, Innovative Service-Learning Program and Research, funded at 15%.
Learn & Serve America: School-Based	No purpose statement for school-based funding under Part I	Adds a purpose statement for school-based funding under Part I, tying service-learning to demonstrating impact on community needs while enhancing student's academic and civic learning, and building infrastructure including the training and professional development of teachers, to expand service opportunities.

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	School-based grants to State Education Agencies only.	School-based grants to State Education Agencies or to a statewide entity designated by the SEA.
		Adds civic engagement programs as eligible within school-based funding.
		Adds authority to conduct joint activities with the Department of Education in research and professional development of teachers
	Of total school-based funding roughly 3/4 provided to State education agencies under a formula allotment, with additional grants made on a competitive basis through several different application processes to national nonprofit organizations and others to support local partnerships of schools, colleges, and community-based organizations.	Formula grants are continued to state education agencies, with a wider variety of eligible applicants for subgrants. States must address needs of public, private, and home school students. If the overall Learn & Serve appropriation is at least \$50 million, the minimum allotment to each State is \$75,000, The bill repeals a requirement that school-based funds be distributed only on a competitive basis if the school-based allotment is less than \$20 million.
	Not more than 3 percent of school-based funds reserved for Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories.	Not less than 2 and not more than 3 percent of school-based funds reserved for Indian Tribes and U.S. Territories.
	Selection criteria for school-based grants set by CEO for sustainability, replicability, innovation, and program quality	CNCS shall give priority in selecting school-based grantees for innovation, sustainability, capacity building, involvement of disadvantaged youth, and program quality, as well as criteria approved by CNCS CEO.
	The Corporation share of school-based grants may not exceed 90% of the total cost for the first year of a grant, 80% for the second year, 70% for the third year, and 50% for the fourth and subsequent years.	The Corporation share of school-based grants may not exceed 80 % of the total cost for the first year of a grant, 65 % for the second year, and 50% for each remaining year, with continuation grants capped at a 50% Corporation share. Grantees may not use Title I of Elementary and Secondary Education Act or Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funds as match.
	School-based grant funds limited to 10-15% (waiver permitted up to 20%) on capacity-building (training, technical assistance, curriculum development, and coordination)	Removes statutory constraint on use of school-based funds for capacity-building.
Learn & Serve America: Higher Education		For higher educations grants, adds language to promote service-learning in elementary and secondary schools; to extend service to underserved urban and rural communities; to tie service projects to housing, economic development, infrastructure, health care, job training, education, crime prevention, urban planning transportation technology, and child welfare.

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	No statutory relationship between higher education grantees and Federal Work Study.	Eligibility for higher education funds limited to institutions of higher education that meet the FWS minimum of 7 percent of funds expended on community service (unless waived)
	Selection of higher education grantees based on criteria ranked in weight	“Consideration” rather than priority to be given listed factors.
	No specific provision in current law.	Adds special consideration for Alaska Native-serving institutions; Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions; Hispanic-serving institutions; historically black colleges and universities; Native American-serving, nontribal institutions; Native Hawaiian-serving institutions; Predominantly Black Institutions; tribally controlled colleges and universities; and community colleges serving predominantly minority populations.
	No provision in current law.	In Higher Education, L&S Part II, authorizes Corporation, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to designate up to 25 Campuses of Service each year from among institutions nominated by State Commissions. The Corporation is to provide awards to Campuses of Service to promote the dissemination of service-learning best practices.
	No provision in current law.	Creates separate part III entitled “Innovative Service-learning programs and research”, with focus on supporting Youth Engagement Zones to engage secondary school students; integrating service-learning into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) curricula; energy conservation; emergency and disaster preparedness; reducing the digital divide; high school student mentors of middle school youth; and research and evaluation. Includes a semester of service program, under which high school students engage in service-learning for at least 70 hours in a semester to engage economically-disadvantaged students.
	No provision in current law.	Eligible entities under Part III include State education agencies, State Commissions, Territories, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, a public or private nonprofit organization, grant-making entities, public or private elementary or secondary schools, local education agencies, or a consortia of such entities (including a consortia that includes a for-profit organization.) Priority for programs that involve students, community stakeholders, and adult volunteers, in program design; and low-income or rural communities. Authorizes grants, including fixed amount grants.
Learn & Serve America: Part III	No provision in current law.	Part III also authorizes a summer of service program providing a \$500 summer of service education award (up to \$750 education award for disadvantaged youth) for rising 6-12 graders who complete 100 hours in an approved position.

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	No provision in current law.	Authorizes 10-year longitudinal service-learning impact study
	Authorized under subtitle B and funded under subtitle H of the NCSA, the Service-Learning Clearinghouse serves as a repository of best practices for service-learning programs.	Clearinghouse subsumed under more general clearinghouse authority in subtitle H (see below)
AmeriCorps State/National Grants	No provision in current law.	Directs the Corporation to develop a plan to increase AmeriCorps positions to 250,000 annually by fiscal year 2017, beginning with 88,000 positions in 2010, 115,000 in 2011, 140,000 in 2012, 170,000 in 2013, 200,000 in 2014, 210,000 in 2015, 235,000 in 2016, and 250,000 in 2017, with appropriate balance of full-time positions. Implementation tied to availability of appropriations and quality service opportunities.
	Federal agencies are eligible to receive AmeriCorps grants (although annual appropriations have prohibited for past 10 years)	Prohibits AmeriCorps S/N grants to Federal agencies but permits inter-agency agreements to support national service programs. The Corporation may approve national service positions as part of an interagency agreement.
	No provision.	CNCS must report to Congress on grantee (for other than fixed amount grants) use of non-CNCS Federal funds to pay member living allowances
	Statute authorizes national and community service programs that address unmet human, educational, environmental, and public safety needs.	Includes within subtitle C Service Corps in Education, Healthy Futures, Clean Energy, Veterans, and Opportunity, each with described activities and performance indicators. "National Service Programs" capture focus areas not addressed in first five corps, and service models are recognized as eligible.
	Statute includes illustrative list of types of AmeriCorps programs.	Illustrative list of AmeriCorps programs expanded to include programs focusing on access to technology, disaster services, mentoring (including provision of supportive services to direct mentoring service organizations as part of a partnership and mentoring of youth in foster care), disadvantaged youth, higher education service-learning, re-engaging court-involved youth and adults, financial literacy education, building affordable housing, access to health care, access to State and Federal programs, e-Corps, job-training, job-placement, reducing crime, and a musician and artists corps program.
	No provision.	Each year, Corporation to establish priorities for funding for two or more service corps.

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AmeriCorps State/National Grants	No provision.	Directs Corporation to make an effort to allocate not less than 10 percent of subtitle C financial assistance and approved national service positions to organizations proposing to involve a significant number of participants age 55 and older.
	No provision.	High school diploma required for AmeriCorps members serving as tutors, with standards set for curriculum and training.
	No provision.	Directs Corporation to establish guidelines to promote citizenship and civic engagement among participants in approved national service positions and summer of service positions.
	Training and technical assistance for AmeriCorps programs may be funded under subtitle C.	Eliminates authority to use subtitle C funds to support training and technical assistance, in favor of a separate subtitle for all CNCS training and technical assistance.
	Provides for up to up to one-third of AmeriCorps grants for National Direct (but appropriations laws have limited, in FY09 limit is \$55M) After set-aside for Indian tribes and U.S. territories (1 percent each) allocates 1/3 for State formula grants, up to 1/3 for National Direct, and balance to States on a competitive basis. No small state minimum in statute.	After set-aside for Indian tribes (at least one percent) and U.S. territories (one percent), merges State Competitive and National Direct funding at a combined 62.7%. National Direct applications must provide a description of their consultation and coordination with Commissions in States in which they propose to operate. Commissions are to confirm this to the Corporation. State Formula allocation is 35.3 percent, and minimum State formula grant is \$600K, or .5% of the amount allocated for the State formula portfolio, whichever is greater.
	No provision in current law.	Includes references to consultation with municipalities and county governments in application for AmeriCorps funding, as appropriate.
	No provision in current law.	Application for AmeriCorps funding must include measurable goals on one or more performance indicators, and related information.
	States must select subgrantees before submitting application to CNCS.	States may decide whether to select subgrantees before or after submitting application to CNCS.
	No provision in current law.	Codifies cost per member (calculation excludes child care and education award) ceiling for each grant at \$18,000, with waiver authority up to \$19,500 to meet compelling needs of programs, such as disadvantaged youth, individuals with disabilities, Tribal, Territory, and start-up. Ceiling to be adjusted for inflation in future years. Annual report to Congress required.

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AmeriCorps Grants	No specific provision in current law (recent annual appropriations permit funding EAP program with subtitle C funds).	Permits use of subtitle C funds to make Education Awards Only Program fixed amount grants of no more than \$800 per member, with authority to increase to \$1,000 per member for programs supporting at least 50% disadvantaged youth.
	No provision in current law.	Within AmeriCorps grants, directs CNCS to ensure equitable treatment of grant applicants that are urban, rural, States, national nonprofit organizations, and those that are diverse in terms of program size, as reflected in the number of members.
	In selecting AmeriCorps grantees, Corporation to give priority to national service programs that are carried out by another agency, conform to corporation priorities, are well-established, are innovative, are in support of other national service programs, or are professional corps programs.	Removes priority for programs carried out by another agency.
	Full-time term must be at least 9 months.	Eliminates this requirement.
	Member release for compelling personal circumstances, as demonstrated by participant.	Compelling personal circumstances determined by grantee.
	Federal Work Study: No specific statutory provision on relationship between FWS wage and AmeriCorps living allowance	Provides for adjustment of living allowance to members who also participate in Federal Work Study.
	Length of part-time AmeriCorps term may be up to three years if service is sponsored by an institution of higher education.	Limits length of part-time AmeriCorps term of service to no more than two years (conforms to current practice)
	No provision for pro-rating approved living allowance for full-time AmeriCorps member who serves less than 12 months.	Provides for downward adjustment of approved living allowance for full-time AmeriCorps member who serves less than 12 months.
	Prohibits use of federal funds to provide member benefits in a third term within subtitle C.	Eliminates prohibition on using federal funds to provide member benefits for a third term within subtitle C.
	Statute includes list of ineligible member service activities and prohibited use of grant funds.	<p>Expands list of activities prohibited by subtitle C AmeriCorps members to codify long-standing regulations and adds prohibition on abortion services or referrals.</p> <p>Disqualifies from receiving subtitle C assistance any organization that has been convicted of a Federal crime.</p> <p>Reinforces prohibition on duplicating, displacing, or supplanting employees or other volunteers.</p>

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State Commissions	Administrative grants' range is \$125K and \$750K.	Authorizes administrative grants between at least \$250K and up to \$1M to support each Commission's operations.
	Federal share may not exceed 50% for the fifth and subsequent years..	Retains current law, except that the CEO may approve a less stringent match requirement for hardship or for new Commissions, as follows: 0-\$100K: 0%; \$100-250K-50%; and above \$250K -- 100%.
	State plans are required.	Specifies that State plan is subject to approval of Governor. Adds requirement that plan must include measurable outcomes. Plan may serve as basis for considering waivers of administrative (non-statutory) requirements a State identifies as impeding efficiency of service programs. Requires coordination with counties and municipal governments in developing plan.
	No provision in current law.	Eligibility for Learn & Serve and AmeriCorps grants is contingent upon a State submitting to CNCS a comprehensive state service plan for volunteer and paid service by adults age 55 and older.
	Statute directs State Commissions to include particular representative members.	Adds representative of volunteer sector to list of required Commission members.
Disaster Relief	Authorizes support for national service programs engaged in disaster relief.	Adds authority to support nonprofit organizations and public agencies, through FEMA mission assignments, in responding to disasters.
	No provision in authorizing statute.	Authorizes 90-day extension of terms for AmeriCorps members to respond to disasters.
	No provision in authorizing statute.	Authorizes a National Service Reserve Corps of former national service participants to be deployed by the Corporation, in coordination with FEMA, to address disaster needs.
	No specific provision in current law.	Disaster relief priority for Presidentially-declared major disasters.
Challenge Grants	\$1 for \$1 match, up to \$ 10 M authorized.	Adds authority to use non-private, non-federal funds for match at discretion of CEO. Increases match requirement after first grant period.
	Limited to subtitle C (AmeriCorps State/National)	Expands to all national service programs.

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Increasing Service Opportunities For Individuals With Disabilities	Disability placement funds are restricted to AmeriCorps subtitle C competitive programs. (But annual appropriations provisions extend eligibility to all AmeriCorps State/National programs.)	Expands use of placement funds to include participants with disabilities in any national service program assisted by the Corporation.
	At least one percent of combined appropriation for subtitles C, D, and H and up to \$5M, for this purpose	Ties to minimum of two percent of program grant funds and increases maximum amount available to \$20M, with authority to reallocate excess funds.
	No provision.	Nonprofit organizations promoting competitive and noncompetitive sporting events involving individuals with disabilities (including Special Olympics) are eligible for assistance under the national service laws.
National Service Trust	Funds recovered in connection with improperly certified education awards in most cases must be deposited as miscellaneous receipts in the U.S. Treasury.	Funds recovered in connection with improperly certified education awards may be returned to the National Service Trust.
	An individual may earn only two education awards regardless of the length of the term of service.	Allows an individual to receive up to the value of two full-time education awards.
	Amount of full-time education award is fixed at \$4,725.	Ties education award amount to maximum Pell grant level, currently \$5350.
	No authority for summer of service education award for individuals age 16 and under.	Authorizes \$500 summer of service education awards (\$750 for economically disadvantaged students) for rising 6-12 th graders based on 100 hours of service. Sets maximum of two summer of service education awards, neither of which affects an individual's eligibility for AmeriCorps education award. Recipients have 10 years to use award.
	No authority for silver scholar education award for individuals 55 and older.	Authorizes \$1,000 silver scholar education award for individuals 55 and older for 350 hours of service.
	For current educational expenses, education award limited to Title IV institutions of higher education.	Allows education award to be used at educational institutions eligible for GI Bill educational benefits.
	No provision in current law.	Excludes veteran's educational benefits from being considered in determining the amount of an education award that may be disbursed.
	Limits repayment to loans made, insured, or guaranteed by the United States. (Annual appropriations permit repayment of State student loans).	Allows education award to be used to repay loans made by State agencies and other lenders considered eligible under the Higher Education Act or otherwise approved by the Corporation.

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National Service Trust	Statute refers to both cost of attendance (a specific term under the Higher Education Act) as well as educational expenses generally at a Title IV school.	Codifies broader category of educational expenses (e.g., elder hostel) that may be paid with an education award.
	Transfer of education award not permitted.	Transfer of education award earned in a subtitle C position or as a silver scholarship is permitted for individuals 55 or older to the individual's child or grandchild who meets the citizenship eligibility requirements for AmeriCorps and attains a high school degree before using. Recipient must use the education award within 10 years of its being earned.
	Strengthen AmeriCorps Program is not an amendment to the National and Community Service Act.	Makes requirements of the Strengthen AmeriCorps Program Act (timing and recording of Trust obligations) amendments to the National and Community Service Act.
National Civilian Community Corps	Purpose provision describes NCCC as a demonstration program, does not focus specifically on disaster relief activities, and includes focus on demonstrating whether domestic national service programs can substitute for the traditional option of military service.	Strikes reference to "demonstration" and focuses on disaster relief along with infrastructure development, environment, energy conservation, and urban and rural development. Adds reference to residential and other service programs.
	NCCC, including summer program, must be residential.	Provides authority for non-residential program activities.
	Corps member age range is 16-24.	Increases Corps member minimum age to 18 while retaining upper limit of 24.
	NCCC shall endeavor to ensure that participants are from economically, geographically, and ethnically diverse backgrounds. To the extent practicable, at least 50 percent of participants shall be economically disadvantaged youths.	Reinforces goal of disadvantaged youth constituting at least 50 percent of NCCC.
	For summer program, to the extent practicable, at least 50 percent of participants shall be economically disadvantaged youths.	For summer program, to the extent practicable, at least 50 percent of participants shall be from economically and ethnically diverse backgrounds, including youth who are in foster care.
	No specific provision.	Directs NCCC to consult with State Commissions in developing projects.
	Corps member living allowances are capped at 100% of poverty line for family of two.	Authorizes team leaders with prior supervisory experience to receive a living allowance not to exceed 10 percent more than the cap on regular Corps member living allowance.

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National Civilian Community Corps	Authorizes campuses to be located on military installations.	Adds requirement that campuses be cost-effective and directs CNCS to complete feasibility study before locating a campus on a military installation.
	Directs placement of campuses in various regions throughout the U.S.	Directs that placement of campuses ensures ability for rapid deployment to emergencies in the region in which the campus is located.
	Authorizes NCCC Advisory Board to advise NCCC Director.	Focuses NCCC Advisory Board on coordinating Corps as first responders to disasters and mobilizing volunteers. Adds FEMA Administrator, Secretary of Transportation, Chief of U.S. Forest Service, and EPA Administrator.
	Authorizes within CNCS staff a “permanent cadre” of supervisors and training instructors, giving consideration to former members of the Armed Forces, former VISTA, Peace Corps, and youth corps personnel.	Directs that consideration for appointment to the permanent cadre also be given to former law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency personnel, and other individuals with backgrounds in disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery.
	Directs CNCS to conduct an annual evaluation of the NCCC.	Requires periodic evaluations of the NCCC program.
	No funds appropriated under CNCS authorization of appropriations are used to carry out NCCC.	Repealed (technical fix, as NCCC is included in the authorization of appropriations section referenced.)
Administrative Provisions	No specific provision in law.	Authorizes fixed amount grants for national service programs if the grant amount is significantly less than the reasonable and necessary costs of administering the program. Payment will be on the basis of a pre-determined amount and extent of service completed, rather than actual costs incurred. In fiscal year 2010, fixed amount grants may only be used for full-time positions (excluding Education Award Program, which already uses fixed amount grants).
	No specific provision in law.	Prohibits use of grant funds for <u>sole</u> purpose of referring individuals for other Federal assistance.
	Authorizes suspension of funding for emergency situations for 30 days	Authorizes suspension of funding for emergency situations for one or more 30 day periods not to exceed 90 days
	No specific provision in law.	In member grievance, specifies that remedies include the applicant’s selection or reinstatement and other changes in the terms and conditions of service.
	Prohibition on displacement of employees or jobs.	Extends prohibition to displacement of volunteers.
	No specific provision in law.	Adds requirement for national service programs to consult with parents in developing and operating programs that serve children; requires written permission from parents before transporting minor children.

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	Directs CNCS to evaluate funded programs to measure their effectiveness, assess the impact if any of subtitle C programs on recruitment in VISTA, Senior Corps, the armed forces, and Peace Corps, and evaluate the structure of service delivery in CNCS programs.	In place of recruitment assessment, focus is on evaluation of performance measures, with more service delivery evaluation focus on effective use of participants' time and cost-effectiveness.
Administrative Provisions	Evaluation funding not tied to program funding levels.	In addition to funds appropriated under evaluation section 179, authorizes Corporation to reserve up to one percent of NCSA appropriations and DVSA program funds to support program accountability activities.
	No provision in current law.	Directs Corporation to (1) establish performance measures for each grantee, (2) require corrective plans for those not meeting goals, and (3) reduce or terminate assistance if correction is not made. New grantees must receive training and technical assistance relating to performance problems. Annual reports required, beginning two years after enactment.
	No provision in current law.	Authorizes CNCS to compile a Civic Health Assessment of indicators relating to volunteering, voting, charitable giving, interest in public service, among others.
	Directs Federal agencies to establish partnerships under which Federal employees volunteer at schools, with "periodic" reporting.	Directs each Federal agency to report to the Corporation on employee volunteer activities at schools, with the Corporation providing a compilation to Congressional committees.
	Provides for access to grantee and contractor records for Comptroller General, and Chief Financial Officer.	Provides access also for Inspector General.
	No specific provision in current law.	Authorizes CNCS, in collaboration with Commissions and in consultation with grantees, to set sustainability goals relating to grantees' acquiring and leveraging of non-Federal funds.
	Most, but not all, CNCS grants are specified to be up to 3 years.	Specifies that, unless otherwise provided, CNCS grants are up to 3 years.
	Board of Directors terms were initially staggered in length.	All Board of Directors terms five years.
	No Board Member "holdover" authority	Permits Board members to serve for one year beyond expiration of term while awaiting successor.
	Among other duties, Board of Directors approves agency strategic plan, evaluation plan, and proposals regarding grants, contracts, policies, and regulations.	Provides that Board has overall policy responsibility, retains current law operational authorities, and adds authority to review agency's annual budget submission and to review the CEO performance.

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	Authorizes VISTA cost-share agreements with public agencies and nonprofit organizations.	Adds authority for CNCS to enter into cost-share agreements under which other Federal agencies support national service programs.
Administrative Provisions	No provision in current law.	Provides for a Strategic Advisor on Native American Affairs.
	CEO salary set at Executive Level III.	CEO salary set at Executive Level III, plus 3 percent (corresponds to IG salary set in 2008 amendments)
	No specific provision in current law.	Direct CEO to collaborate with State Commissions in preparing the agency's strategic plan.
	No provision in current law.	Directs CEO to include, as part of the strategic plan submitted to the Board of Directors for approval, a plan for achieving 50 percent full time AmeriCorps members (including S/N, NCCC, and VISTA). Directs CEO to submit an annual report to the Board and Congress on actions taken to achieve the 50 percent fulltime goal.
	No specific provision in current law.	Includes specific outreach in CEO duties, including public awareness and recruitment, increasing the diversity of sponsoring organizations, increasing awareness among Indian tribes of the availability of national service assistance, and ensuring the inclusion of economically disadvantaged individuals.
	No specific provision in current law.	Authorizes CNCS to consolidate application procedures and reporting requirements.
	No specific provision in current law.	CNCS may not endorse curriculum for elementary or secondary schools, and funding may not be conditioned on a State having its academic standards approved by the Federal government.
	No specific provision in current law.	Authorizes the CEO to assign to State Commissions specific programmatic functions to increase efficiency in the operation or oversight of national service programs, after consulting with stakeholders, with report to Congress within 2 years on consultative process and any actions taken.
	Chief Financial Officer is appointed by the President, confirmed by the Senate (PAS).	Chief Financial Officer is appointed by the CEO.
	Subtitle C grants subject to peer review.	Authorizes CEO to use peer reviewers in evaluating applications for assistance under title I of the NCSA (including L&S, AmeriCorps, Subtitle H grants)
Administrative Provisions	No specific authority for personal services contracts.	Authorizes personal services contracts for research, evaluation, and public awareness functions.

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	Corporation may accept voluntary services of individuals as well as donations of money and property.	Makes explicit that Corporation may accept donated services from organizations or employed individuals.
	No provision.	No match requirements for any program in a severely economically distressed community.
	CNCS regulations require criminal history checks for AmeriCorps members who have recurring access to vulnerable populations, Senior Companions, Foster Grandparents, and any other individual with recurring access to vulnerable populations who receives a Corporation grant-funded living allowance, stipend, education award, salary, or other remuneration. Disqualifies any registered sex offender from any covered position.	<p>Requires national service programs to conduct, for each grant-supported participant or staff member, (1) a National Sex Offender Registry Check (NSOPR) and (2) <u>either</u> a State criminal registry check OR an FBI fingerprint check.</p> <p>In addition, requires that programs conduct all three checks (NSOPR, State, <u>and</u> FBI fingerprint checks) on individuals serving vulnerable populations (children under the age of 17, people over the age of 60, and individuals with disabilities). This additional requirement will come into effect two years after the enactment of the bill, but will not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individuals whose access to vulnerable populations is episodic or for less than 1 day, • organizations that are not authorized by State or Federal law to conduct an FBI check, • organizations for whom the checks will be prohibitively expensive, or • organizations that the Corporation exempts for good cause. <p>Directs the Attorney General to conduct a feasibility study on the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal history checks with an interim report due in 6 months and a final report due within a year of enactment. The report would examine, among other things, the availability, accessibility, and cost of the checks.</p>
	No provision.	Directs Corporation to study the involvement of veterans in national service programs.

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Administrative Provisions	No provision.	Directs GAO to develop performance measures for each national service program and to make an assessment every five years.
	No provision.	Directs Corporation to study and submit a plan on how best to establish a Volunteer Management Corps under which individuals with experience as managers would participate.
		Directs Corporation to conduct a study on how national service programs could better serve displaced workers, with a report due to Congress one year after enactment. From amounts made available under this section, Corporation is to implement a pilot program based on the report's findings.
		Authorizes a study, in consultation with other agencies, to evaluate feasibility of electronic verification of AmeriCorps member citizenship status, and a pilot program based on the findings.
Subtitle H, Investment for Quality and Innovation	Authorizes H funds to support training and technical assistance to enable entities to apply for CNCS assistance, to conduct high-quality programs, to evaluate such programs, and for other purposes.	Drops authority to use funds for training and technical assistance, outreach, fellowships, intergenerational programming, planning. Authorizes subtitle H funds to address emergent needs, summer programs, service-learning, and other national service programs.
	No specific provision in current law.	Directs CNCS to conduct a nationwide Call to Service Campaign.
	No specific provision in current law.	Authorizes CNCS to organize and carry out ceremonies and activities in conjunction with September 11 th Day of Service, with authority to make grants in furtherance of related service, charity, and remembrance opportunities

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Subtitle H	No specific authority in law.	Authorizes Serve America Fellowships to support individuals selected by State Commissions who serve at service sites that have registered with the Commission and who will receive a living allowance and, upon successful completion of a term of service, an education award. State Commissions are to make an effort to award one-third of the fellowships to support service at small service sponsors.
	Authorizes various demonstration programs.	Repeals several authorities (clearinghouse, military installation conversion, and Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta of Alaska demo).
	No provision in current law.	Authorizes a Social Innovation Funds Pilot program, \$1-10 million grants to expand effective initiatives and seed experimental initiatives and to leverage Federal investments to increase private and philanthropic resources in support of evidence-based programming.
	No provision in current law.	Authorizes a Silver Scholarship program providing a \$1,000 education award to an individual aged 55 or older who performs at least 350 hours of service
	No provision in current law.	Authorizes an Encore Fellowship program to allow Corporation-selected individuals aged 55 or older to serve at organizations on a Corporation-maintained list, supported by \$11K grants (under a \$1 for \$1 match). Organizational matching funds must be from non-federal sources.
	Service-learning clearinghouse authorized in subtitle B to be funded out of subtitle H. Other clearinghouse functions authorized in subtitle H.	Consolidates authority within subtitle H to disseminate information through clearinghouses on service-learning needs assessments, planning, research, evaluation, leadership training, communication, curriculum, accessibility to individuals with disabilities, best practices; mentoring.
	No provision in current law.	Authorizes a Volunteer Generation Fund to support volunteer programs and to support and create new local organizations to generate volunteers. Of the funds allocated, 50 percent to be provided as formula grants to States and 50 percent to be allotted on a competitive basis to State Commissions and nonprofits. 20% match required in first year, increasing to 50 percent for year 4 and thereafter.

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	No provision in current law.	Authorizes Corporation to spend up to \$5 million of subtitle H funds to support grants of not less than \$200,000 to provide training and technical assistance in organizational development to small and mid-size nonprofit organization. Federal share not to exceed 50 percent.
New Funding Streams	Training and technical assistance is authorized in subtitles C and H of NCSA and DVSA.	Authorizes a new subtitle J for Training and Technical Assistance for programs under the national service laws. Priority for programs where services are needed most, where programs don't currently exist or don't meet community needs, in underserved rural and urban communities, and programs developing a service component that combines students, out-of-school youth, and older adults as participants.
	No provision in current law.	2.5 percent reserved from program funds to fund dissemination of service-learning research and best practices, Civic Health Assessment, and training and technical assistance, with \$1M for Civic Health Assessment.
Points of Light Foundation	Authorizes noncompetitive annual grants to Points of Light Foundation.	Repeals Title III authority to make noncompetitive grants to Points of Light Foundation.
Authorization Levels for National and Community Service Act	No authorization provided after 1996.	L&S: \$97M for 2010, including up to \$10M for summer of service grants and up to \$10M for summer of service education awards, up to \$20M for youth engagement zones, \$7M for Campuses of Service, and such sums as may be necessary 2011-2014
	No authorization provided after 1996.	Subtitles C, D, & H, and audits/evaluations: Such sums as may be necessary 2010-2014.
	No authorization provided after 1996.	Subtitle E, NCCC: such sums as may be necessary for 2010- 2014
	No provision.	Serve America Fellowships, such sum as may be necessary for 2010-2104
	No provision.	Silver Scholars and Encore Fellows, \$12 million for 2010 and such sums 2011-2014
	No provision.	National Service Reserve Corps, such as may be necessary for 2010-2014
	No provision.	Social Innovation Funds Pilot, \$50 million for 2010, \$60 million for 2011, \$70 million for 2012, \$80 million for 2013, and \$100 million for 2014.

PROVISION	CURRENT LAW	SERVE AMERICA ACT
Authorization of Appropriations, NCSA	No provision.	Volunteer Generation Fund, \$50 million for 2010, \$60 million for 2011, \$70 million for 2012, \$80 million for 2013, and \$100 million for 2014.
	No authorization provided after 1996 for Administration, with up to 60 percent for the Corporation and the balance to State Commissions administrative grants.	Such sums for 2010-2014 for Administration, a portion of which is for State Commission administrative grants.
AmeriCorps VISTA		In VISTA purpose statement, adds emphasis on long-term sustainability of projects and strengthening local agencies and community organizations.
		Includes additional programming models: re-entry; financial skills for low-income communities, before- and after-school programming, micro-enterprises, veterans, childhood obesity and other health issues
	No provision.	Adds priority in recruitment to disadvantaged youth.
	VISTA members not covered by Family & Medical Leave Act.	Provides for FMLA coverage for VISTA members (amendment to Subtitle F, Admin Provisions)
	Directs CNCS to undertake recruitment and placement of VISTA members, and specifies that Corporation is to maintain an office for volunteer placement.	Drops recruitment language and reference to placement office.
	VISTA assignments subject to Governor approval.	Eliminates this approval process.
	The Board of Directors has authority to enter into cost-share agreements under which public agencies and nonprofit organizations underwrite the costs of VISTA members.	Gives this authority to the Director of VISTA with minor changes in language.
	Post-service monthly stipend range between \$100-\$125, with up to \$200 for leaders.	Increase post-service monthly stipend to range of \$125-150, with up to \$250 for leaders.
	Authorizes VISTA Literacy Corps, VISTA Challenge Grants, and University Year for VISTA.	Repeals VISTA Literacy Corps, VISTA Challenge Grants, and University Year for VISTA.
Senior Corps	Title II is entitled "National Senior Volunteer Corps"	Changes to "National Senior Service Corps"
	Purpose of all three programs is to empower older individuals to contribute to their communities through volunteers service and enhance the lives of the volunteers and those whom they serve.	Purpose of all three programs is to provide opportunities for senior service to meet unmet needs, to empower people 55 years and older to contribute to their communities through service, enhancing the lives of those who serve and those whom they serve, and provide communities with valuable services.

PROVISION	CURRENT LAW	SERVE AMERICA ACT
Senior Corps	RSVP-specific purpose is to utilize talents of older individuals to respond to a wide variety of community needs.	RSVP-specific purpose is to provide opportunities for older volunteers to share their knowledge, experiences, abilities, and skills for the betterment of their communities and themselves.
	FGP-specific purpose is to afford low-income older individuals an opportunity to provide supportive, individualized services to children with exception or special needs.	FGP-specific purpose is to provide opportunities for older volunteers to have a positive impact on the lives of children in need.
	SCP-specific purpose is to afford low-income older individuals an opportunity to provide personal assistance and companionship to other older individuals through volunteer service.	SCP-specific purpose is to provide opportunities for older volunteers to provide critical support services and companionship to adults at risk of institutionalization and who are struggling to maintain a dignified independent life.
	Only RSVP has a minimum age of 55.	Lowers minimum age from 60 to 55 in FGP and SCP
	RSVP (and other DVSA grantees) are assured continued refunding unless the Corporation provides 75 days advance notice and other procedural protections.	For RSVP, institutes competition for new and existing programs beginning fiscal year 2013, provided that service areas maintain level volunteer service years, program distribution remains similar, and disruption of volunteers is minimized. Competition selections must incorporate performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria established in regulation by the Corporation. Implementation of this evaluation process may result in non-renewal of under-performing grantees prior to 2013. The Corporation must provide online resources for the RSVP program, including examples of high-performing programs, corrective actions for under-performing programs, and examples of meaningful outcome-based performance measures.
	FGP authorized to serve children “having special or exceptional needs.”	FGP authorized to serve children “having special or exceptional needs or with conditions or circumstances identified as limiting their academic, social, or economic development.”
	SCP and FGP stipends are set at a uniform rate (currently \$2.65 per hour).	Increases SCP and FGP stipend to \$3.00 (while retaining current law requirement that any increase take effect only if prior year volunteer levels are maintained)
	SCP and FGP stipend may be provided only to individuals at or below 125 percent of the poverty line.	Individuals up to 200 percent of poverty may be eligible for stipend.
	RSVP, FGP, and SCP have separate funding streams, and existing projects receive 1/3 set-aside out of any funding increases under “Programs of National Significance”.	At least 25 percent of grants under Programs of National Significance must be to organizations currently not receiving CNCS assistance and when possible in locations where no Senior Corps projects operate. Adds to list of programs: respite care, mentoring disadvantaged youth, before- and after-school programs serving low-income children, clean energy activities, prisoner re-entry

PROVISION	CURRENT LAW	SERVE AMERICA ACT
Senior Corps		Removes from list of programs: Boarder babies, child care, environmental needs, outreach to labor unions and other national organizations, criminal justice, augmenting State human service agency work
	Prohibits sponsors from receiving any compensation from volunteers or beneficiaries for services of volunteers	Sponsors may accept donations, except from beneficiaries.
	No provision in current law.	Directs CNCS to carry out DVSA in accordance with the DVSA and the relevant provisions of the NCSA, particularly section 122 (AmeriCorps grants) and subtitle F of title I (Administrative Provisions).
Authorization of Appropriations. DVSA	Authorizes appropriations at \$56M for 1994 and such sums through 1996	VISTA: \$100M for 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for 2011-2014
	Authorizes appropriations at such sums through 1996	Title I Special Volunteer Programs: Such sums as may be necessary for 10-2014
	RSVP: \$45M for 1994, such sums through 1996	RSVP: \$70M for 2010, such sums for 2011-2014
	FGP: \$85M for 1994, such sums through 1996	FGP: \$115M for 2010, such sums for 2011-2014
	SCP: \$40M for 1994, such sums through 1996	SCP: \$55M for 2010, such sums for 2011-2014
	Authorizes appropriations at such sums through 1996,	Senior Demo: such sums for 2010-2014
	DVSA Administration, such sums through 2006	DVSA Administration, such sums 2010-2014
Volunteers for Prosperity Program	Established through executive order 13317 – no specific statutory authority	Establishes within USAID a program to mobilize skilled American professionals to perform international volunteer service. Authorizes \$10M for 2010, and such sums as necessary 2011-2014
Sense of Senate	No provision.	Expresses a Sense of the Senate “that Congress should preserve the income tax deduction for charitable contributions through the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and look for additional ways to encourage charitable giving.”
Effective Date		October 1, 2009