

May 24, 1973

OPINION LETTER NO. 191
Answer by letter-Klaffenbach

Dr. Richard S. Brownlee, Chairman
American Revolution Bicentennial
Commission of Missouri
Elmer Ellis Library
Columbia, Missouri 65201



Dear Dr. Brownlee:

This letter is in answer to your question asking:

"Is the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Missouri authorized to employ staff personnel additional to a secretary?"

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Missouri was created by House Bill No. 1559, 76th General Assembly, Second Regular Session.

Section 1 of the bill provides that the Commission is to serve without compensation although the members are to "be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties." Subsections 4 and 5 of Section 1 provide:

"4. The commission may recommend additional persons to assist in its work and the governor may appoint such persons, and any others he deems necessary, to serve as honorary members. Honorary members shall serve without compensation and shall not be reimbursed for expenses.

"5. The commission shall employ a secretary to perform the duties designated by the commission."

Dr. Richard S. Brownlee

In addition, we note that Section 3 of the bill provides for cooperation between the Commission and state departments, agencies and various officers.

It is our view that the above provisions indicate that the legislature intended to authorize the employment of only one employee, a secretary, and that such other persons as are required to assist in the work of the Commission may be appointed by the Governor to serve without compensation and without reimbursement for expenses.

Yours very truly,

JOHN C. DANFORTH
Attorney General