

(b) ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS.--

(1) IN GENERAL --The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Alaska Nanuuq Commission, shall designate an alternate commissioner for each member of the United States section.

(2) DUTIES --In the absence of a United States commissioner, an alternate commissioner may exercise all functions of the United States commissioner at any meetings of the Commission or of the United States section.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT --An alternate commissioner--

(A) < < NOTE: President.> > shall be eligible for reappointment by the President; and

(B) may attend all meetings of the United States section.

(c) DUTIES --The members of the United States section may carry out the functions and responsibilities described in article 8 of the Agreement in accordance with this title and the Agreement.

(d) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES --

(1) COMPENSATION --A member of the United States section shall serve without compensation.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES --A member of the United States section shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the United States-Russia Polar Bear Commission.

(e) AGENCY DESIGNATION --The United States section shall, for the purpose of title 28, United States Code, relating to claims against the United States and tort claims procedure, be considered to be a Federal agency.

**VOTES TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES
SECTION ON MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMISSION.**

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Sec. 506 In accordance with paragraph 3 of article 8 of the Agreement, the United States section, made up of commissioners appointed by the President, shall vote on any issue before the United States-Russia Polar Bear Commission only if there is no disagreement between the United States commissioners regarding the vote.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY
THE COMMISSION.**

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