

Rules for the 119th Congress

1 RULE 1.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

2 (a) The Rules of the House are the rules of the Com-
3 mittee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except
4 that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion
5 to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or reso-
6 lution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable
7 privileged motions in the Committee. A proposed inves-
8 tigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if
9 it has been available to the members of the Committee
10 for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or
11 legal holidays except when the House is in session on such
12 day).

13 (b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee,
14 and is subject to the authority and direction of the Com-
15 mittee and to its rules so far as applicable.

16 (c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules
17 of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules
18 of the Committee to the extent applicable.

19 (d) The Committee's rules shall be published in the
20 Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the
21 Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

1 (B) the text of any committee reports
2 thereon; and

3 (C) any available letter requesting a rule
4 for the bill or resolution; and

5 (2) for each other bill, resolution, report, or
6 other matter on the agenda a copy of—

7 (A) the bill, resolution, report, or materials
8 relating to the other matter in question; and

9 (B) any report on the bill, resolution, re-
10 port, or any other matter made by any sub-
11 committee of the Committee.

12 EMERGENCY MEETINGS

13 (c)(1) The Chair may call an emergency meeting of
14 the Committee at any time on any measure or matter
15 which the Chair determines to be of an emergency nature;
16 provided, however, that the Chair has made an effort to
17 consult the ranking minority member, or, in such mem-
18 ber's absence, the next ranking minority party member of
19 the Committee.

20 (2) As soon as possible after calling an emergency
21 meeting of the Committee, the Chair shall notify each
22 member of the Committee of the time and location of the
23 meeting.

24 (3) To the extent feasible, the notice provided under
25 paragraph (2) shall include the agenda for the emergency

1 meeting and copies of available materials which would oth-
2 erwise have been provided under subsection (b) if the
3 emergency meeting was a regular meeting.

4 SPECIAL MEETINGS

5 (d) Special meetings shall be called and convened as
6 provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the
7 House.

8 RULE 3.—MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES

9 IN GENERAL

10 (a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall
11 be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in
12 the Chair's absence, by the member designated by the
13 Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the rank-
14 ing majority member of the Committee present as Acting
15 Chair.

16 (2) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be
17 open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause
18 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representa-
19 tives.

20 (3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that
21 is open to the public shall be open to coverage by tele-
22 vision, radio, and still photography in accordance with the
23 provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House
24 (which are incorporated by reference as part of these
25 rules).

(4) Before a motion to report a rule is offered, a copy of the language recommended shall be furnished to each member of the Committee.

QUORUM

(b)(1) For the purpose of hearing testimony on requests for rules, five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

8 (2) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving
9 evidence on measures or matters of original jurisdiction
10 before the Committee, three members of the Committee
11 shall constitute a quorum.

(3) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of: reporting any measure or matter; authorizing a subpoena; closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House (except as provided in clause 2(g)(2)(A) and (B)); or taking any other action.

VOTING

19 (c)(1) No vote may be conducted on any measure or
20 motion pending before the Committee unless a majority
21 of the members of the Committee is actually present for
22 such purpose.

(2) A record vote of the Committee shall be provided on any question before the Committee upon the request of any member.

1 (3) No vote by any member of the Committee on any
2 measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

3 (4) A record of the vote of each member of the Com-
4 mittee on each record vote on any measure or matter be-
5 fore the Committee shall be made publicly available in
6 electronic form within 48 hours, and with respect to any
7 record vote on any motion to amend or report, shall be
8 included in the report of the Committee showing the total
9 number of votes cast for and against and the names of
10 those members voting for and against.

11 HEARING PROCEDURES

12 (d)(1) With regard to hearings on matters of original
13 jurisdiction, to the greatest extent practicable:

14 (A) each witness who is to appear before the
15 Committee shall file with the Committee at least 24
16 hours in advance of the appearance a statement of
17 proposed testimony in written and electronic form
18 and shall limit the oral presentation to the Com-
19 mittee to a brief summary thereof; and

20 (B) In the case of a witness appearing in a
21 nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of
22 proposed testimony shall include—

23 (i) a curriculum vitae;

24 (ii) a disclosure of any Federal grants or
25 contracts, or contracts, or grants, or payments

1 originating with a foreign government, received
2 during the past 36 months by the witness or by
3 an entity represented by the witness and related
4 to the subject matter of the hearing;

5 (iii) a disclosure of whether the witness is
6 a fiduciary (including, but not limited to, a di-
7 rector, officer, advisor, or resident agent) of any
8 organization or entity that has an interest in
9 the subject matter of a hearing.

10 (C) The disclosure referred to in subdivision
11 (B)(ii) shall include—

12 (i) the amount and source of each Federal
13 grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or sub-
14 contract thereof) related to the subject matter
15 of the hearing originating with a foreign gov-
16 ernment; and

17 (ii) the amount and country of origin of
18 any payment or contract related to the subject
19 matter of the hearing originating with a foreign
20 government.

21 (D) Such statements, with appropriate
22 redactions to protect the privacy or security of the
23 witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic
24 form 24 hours before the witness appears to the ex-

1 tent practicable, but not later than one day after the
2 witness appears.

3 (2) The five-minute rule shall be observed in the in-
4 terrogation of each witness before the Committee until
5 each member of the Committee has had an opportunity
6 to question the witness.

7 (3) The provisions of clause 2(k) of rule XI of the
8 Rules of the House shall apply to any hearing conducted
9 by the Committee.

10 SUBPOENAS AND OATHS

11 (e)(1) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the
12 Rules of the House of Representatives, a subpoena may
13 be authorized and issued by the Committee or a sub-
14 committee in the conduct of any investigation or series of
15 investigations or activities, only when authorized by a ma-
16 jority of the members voting, a majority being present.

17 (2) The Chair may authorize and issue subpoenas
18 under such clause during any period in which the House
19 has adjourned for a period of longer than three days.

20 (3) Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the
21 Chair or by any member designated by the Committee,
22 and may be served by any person designated by the Chair
23 or such member.

1 (4) The Chair, or any member of the Committee des-
2 ignated by the Chair, may administer oaths to witnesses
3 before the Committee.

4 RULE 4.—GENERAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

5 The Committee shall review and study, on a con-
6 tinuing basis, the application, administration, execution,
7 and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the sub-
8 ject matter of which is within its jurisdiction.

9 RULE 5.—SUBCOMMITTEES

10 ESTABLISHMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF

11 SUBCOMMITTEES

12 (a)(1) There shall be two subcommittees of the Com-
13 mittee as follows:

14 (A) Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget
15 Process, which shall have general responsibility for
16 measures or matters related to relations between the
17 Congress and the Executive Branch.

18 (B) Subcommittee on Rules and Organization
19 of the House, which shall have general responsibility
20 for measures or matters related to process and pro-
21 cedures of the House, relations between the two
22 Houses of Congress, relations between the Congress
23 and the Judiciary, and internal operations of the
24 House.

1 (2) In addition, each such subcommittee shall have
2 specific responsibility for such other measures or matters
3 as the Chair refers to it.

4 (3) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall review
5 and study, on a continuing basis, the application, adminis-
6 tration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts
7 of laws, the subject matter of which is within its general
8 responsibility.

9 REFERRAL OF MEASURES AND MATTERS TO
10 SUBCOMMITTEES

11 (b)(1) No special order providing for the consider-
12 ation of any bill or resolution shall be referred to a sub-
13 committee of the Committee.

14 (2) The Chair shall refer to a subcommittee such
15 measures or matters of original jurisdiction as the Chair
16 deems appropriate given its jurisdiction and responsibil-
17 ities.

18 (3) All other measures or matters of original jurisdic-
19 tion shall be subject to consideration by the full Com-
20 mittee.

21 (4) In referring any measure or matter of original
22 jurisdiction to a subcommittee, the Chair may specify a
23 date by which the subcommittee shall report thereon to
24 the Committee.

1 (5) The Committee by motion may discharge a sub-
2 committee from consideration of any measure or matter
3 referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

4 COMPOSITION OF SUBCOMMITTEES

5 (c) The size and ratio of each subcommittee shall be
6 determined by the Committee and members shall be elect-
7 ed to each subcommittee, and to the positions of chair and
8 ranking minority member thereof, in accordance with the
9 rules of the respective party caucuses. The Chair of the
10 full committee may designate a member of the majority
11 party on each subcommittee as its vice chair.

12 SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

13 (d)(1) Each subcommittee of the Committee is au-
14 thorized to meet, hold hearings, receive testimony, mark
15 up legislation, and report to the full Committee on any
16 measure or matter referred to it.

17 (2) No subcommittee of the Committee may meet or
18 hold a hearing at the same time as a meeting or hearing
19 of the full Committee is being held.

20 (3) The chair of each subcommittee shall schedule
21 meetings and hearings of the subcommittee only after con-
22 sultation with the Chair.

23 QUORUM

24 (e)(1) For the purpose of taking testimony, two mem-
25 bers of the subcommittee shall constitute a quorum.

1 (2) For all other purposes, a quorum shall consist
2 of a majority of the members of a subcommittee.

3 EFFECT OF A VACANCY

4 (f) Any vacancy in the membership of a subcommittee
5 shall not affect the power of the remaining members to
6 execute the functions of the subcommittee.

7 RECORDS

8 (g) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall pro-
9 vide the full Committee with copies of such records of
10 votes taken in the subcommittee and such other records
11 with respect to the subcommittee necessary for the Com-
12 mittee to comply with all rules and regulations of the
13 House.

14 RULE 6.—STAFF

15 IN GENERAL

16 (a)(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3),
17 the professional and other staff of the Committee shall
18 be appointed, by the Chair, and shall work under the gen-
19 eral supervision and direction of the Chair.

20 (2) All professional, and other staff provided to the
21 minority party members of the Committee shall be ap-
22 pointed, by the ranking minority member of the Com-
23 mittee, and shall work under the general supervision and
24 direction of such member.

1 (3) The appointment of all professional staff shall be
2 subject to the approval of the Committee as provided by,
3 and subject to the provisions of, clause 9 of rule X of the
4 Rules of the House.

5 ASSOCIATE STAFF

6 (b) Associate staff for members of the Committee
7 may be appointed only at the discretion of the Chair (in
8 consultation with the ranking minority member regarding
9 any minority party associate staff), after taking into ac-
10 count any staff ceilings and budgetary constraints in effect
11 at the time, and any terms, limits, or conditions estab-
12 lished by the Committee on House Administration under
13 clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

14 SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF

15 (c) From funds made available for the appointment
16 of staff, the Chair of the Committee shall, pursuant to
17 clause 6(d) of rule X of the Rules of the House, ensure
18 that sufficient staff is made available to each sub-
19 committee to carry out its responsibilities under the rules
20 of the Committee, and, after consultation with the ranking
21 minority member of the Committee, that the minority
22 party of the Committee is treated fairly in the appoint-
23 ment of such staff.

1 COMPENSATION OF STAFF

2 (d) The Chair shall fix the compensation of all profes-
3 sional and other staff of the Committee, after consultation
4 with the ranking minority member regarding any minority
5 party staff.

6 CERTIFICATION OF STAFF

7 (e)(1) To the extent any staff member of the Com-
8 mittee or any of its subcommittees does not work under
9 the direct supervision and direction of the Chair, the mem-
10 ber of the Committee who supervises and directs the staff
11 member's work shall file with the Chief of Staff of the
12 Committee (not later than the tenth day of each month)
13 a certification regarding the staff member's work for that
14 member for the preceding calendar month.

15 (2) The certification required by paragraph (1) shall
16 be in such form as the Chair may prescribe, shall identify
17 each staff member by name, and shall state that the work
18 engaged in by the staff member and the duties assigned
19 to the staff member for the member of the Committee with
20 respect to the month in question met the requirements of
21 clause 9 of rule X of the rules of the House.

22 (3) Any certification of staff of the Committee, or any
23 of its subcommittees, made by the Chair in compliance
24 with any provision of law or regulation shall be made—

1 (A) on the basis of the certifications filed under
2 paragraph (1) to the extent the staff is not under
3 the Chair's supervision and direction, and

4 (B) on his own responsibility to the extent the
5 staff is under the Chair's direct supervision and di-
6 rection.

7 RULE 7.—BUDGET, TRAVEL, PAY OF WITNESSES

8 BUDGET

9 (a) The Chair, in consultation with other members
10 of the Committee, shall prepare for each Congress a budg-
11 et providing amounts for staff, necessary travel, investiga-
12 tion, and other expenses of the Committee and its sub-
13 committees.

14 TRAVEL

15 (b)(1) The Chair may authorize travel for any mem-
16 ber and any staff member of the Committee in connection
17 with activities or subject matters under the general juris-
18 diction of the Committee. Before such authorization is
19 granted, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing
20 the following:

21 (A) The purpose of the travel.

22 (B) The dates during which the travel is to
23 occur.

24 (C) The names of the States or countries to be
25 visited and the length of time to be spent in each.

1 (D) The names of members and staff of the
2 Committee for whom the authorization is sought.

3 (2) Members and staff of the Committee shall make
4 a written report to the Chair on any travel they have con-
5 ducted under this subsection, including a description of
6 their itinerary, expenses, and activities, and of pertinent
7 information gained as a result of such travel.

8 (3) Members and staff of the Committee performing
9 authorized travel on official business shall be governed by
10 applicable laws, resolutions, and regulations of the House
11 and of the Committee on House Administration.

12 PAY OF WITNESSES

13 (c) Witnesses may be paid from funds made available
14 to the Committee in its expense resolution subject to the
15 provisions of clause 5 of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

16 RULE 8.—COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

17 REPORTING

18 (a) Whenever the Committee authorizes the favorable
19 reporting of a bill or resolution from the Committee—

20 (1) The Chair or acting Chair shall report it to
21 the House or designate a member of the Committee
22 to do so.

23 (2) In the case of a bill or resolution in which
24 the Committee has original jurisdiction, the Chair
25 shall allow, to the extent that the anticipated floor

1 schedule permits, any member of the Committee a
2 reasonable amount of time to submit views for inclu-
3 sion in the Committee report on the bill or resolu-
4 tion. Any such report shall contain all matters re-
5 quired by the Rules of the House of Representatives
6 (or by any provision of law enacted as an exercise
7 of the rulemaking power of the House) and such
8 other information as the Chair deems appropriate.

9 (3) In the case of a resolution providing for
10 consideration of a measure, the Committee report
11 accompanying such resolution shall include an accu-
12 rate explanation of any waivers of points of order,
13 including a detailed explanation of all points of
14 order.

15 RECORDS

16 (b)(1) There shall be a transcript made of each reg-
17 ular meeting and hearing of the Committee, and the tran-
18 script may be printed if the Chair decides it is appropriate
19 or if a majority of the members of the Committee requests
20 such printing. Any such transcripts shall be a substan-
21 tially verbatim account of remarks actually made during
22 the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical,
23 and typographical corrections authorized by the person
24 making the remarks. Nothing in this paragraph shall be

1 construed to require that all such transcripts be subject
2 to correction and publication.

3 (2) The Committee shall keep a record of all actions
4 of the Committee and of its subcommittees. The record
5 shall contain all information required by clause 2(e)(1) of
6 rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and
7 shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times
8 in the offices of the Committee.

9 (3) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts,
10 and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the con-
11 gressional office records of the Chair, shall be the property
12 of the House, and all Members of the House shall have
13 access thereto as provided in clause 2(e)(2) of rule XI of
14 the Rules of the House.

15 (4) The records of the Committee at the National Ar-
16 chives and Records Administration shall be made available
17 for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules
18 of the House. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority
19 member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or
20 clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise
21 available, and the matter shall be presented to the Com-
22 mittee for a determination on written request of any mem-
23 ber of the Committee.

1 AUDIO AND VIDEO COVERAGE

2 (c) The Chair shall provide, to the maximum extent
3 practicable—

4 (1) complete and unedited audio and video
5 broadcasts of all committee hearings and meetings;
6 and

7 (2) for distribution of such broadcasts and un-
8 edited recordings thereof to the public and for the
9 storage of audio and video recordings of the pro-
10 ceedings. Proceedings shall be broadcast live on the
11 Majority Committee website and recordings shall be
12 made available on such website within one calendar
13 day of the proceeding.

14 COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS ON THE INTERNET

15 (d) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee
16 shall make its publications available in electronic form.

17 JOURNAL

18 (e) The proceedings of the Committee shall be re-
19 corded in a journal, which shall, among other things, in-
20 clude a record of the votes on any question on which a
21 record vote is taken. The journal shall be published peri-
22 odically, but in no case less often than once in each session
23 of Congress.

1 SURVEY OF ACTIVITIES REQUIREMENT

2 (f) The Committee's Survey of Activities, filed pursu-
3 ant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House,
4 shall include a compilation of all known waivers of points
5 of order previously disclosed in reports from the Com-
6 mittee on Rules pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) of this rule
7 or included in the Congressional Record.

8 OTHER PROCEDURES

9 (g) The Chair may establish such other Committee
10 procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to
11 carry out these rules or to facilitate the effective operation
12 of the Committee and its subcommittees in a manner con-
13 sistent with these rules.

14 RULE 9.—AMENDMENTS TO COMMITTEE RULES

15 The rules of the Committee may be modified, amend-
16 ed or repealed, in the same manner and method as pre-
17 scribed for the adoption of committee rules in clause 2
18 of rule XI of the Rules of the House, but only if written
19 notice of the proposed change has been provided to each
20 Member at least 48 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays,
21 or legal holidays except when the House is in session on
22 such a day) before the time of the meeting at which the
23 vote on the change occurs. Any such change in the rules

- 1 of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional
- 2 Record within 30 calendar days after their approval.

