

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 264

To amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to require greater disclosure of gifts.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 10, 1995

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (for himself, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. EWING, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LAUGHLIN, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BATEMAN, Mr. MCKEON, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. MYERS of Indiana, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. BAKER of Louisiana, Mr. DORNAN, Mr. CRANE, Mr. KING, Mr. BONO, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. MOORHEAD, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. HAYES, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. PARKER, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. CLAY, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. TEJEDA, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. BISHOP, Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois, Mr. DIXON, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. MFUME, Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. MONTGOMERY, Mr. SCHAEFER, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. BUYER, Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky, Mr. BLILEY, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. HANCOCK, Mrs. VUCANOVICH, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DOOLEY, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. FUNDERBURK, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. MCDADE, and Mr. RADANOVICH) introduced the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

# RESOLUTION

To amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to  
require greater disclosure of gifts.

1       *Resolved,*

2       **SECTION 1. GIFT DISCLOSURE.**

3       (a) NEW RULE.—Rule XLIV of the Rules of the  
4 House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end  
5 the following:

6       “3. Notwithstanding section 102 of the Ethics in  
7 Government Act of 1978, each report filed with the Clerk  
8 under title I of such Act for calendar year 1996 or any  
9 subsequent calendar year shall disclose any gift (including  
10 a meal) with a fair market value in excess of \$50 (other  
11 than personal hospitality of an individual or any gift re-  
12 ceived from a relative of the reporting individual), as ad-  
13 justed under section 102(a)(2)(A) of the Ethics in Govern-  
14 ment Act of 1978.”.

15       (b) EXISTING RULE.—Clause 4 of Rule XLIII of the  
16 Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by  
17 striking “\$100” and inserting “\$50”.

18       **SEC. 2. CONVENTIONS, ETC.**

19       Clause 4 of Rule XLIII of the Rules of the House  
20 of Representatives is amended by striking “A Member”  
21 and inserting “(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b)

1 and (c), a Member” and by adding at the end the follow-  
2 ing:

3 “(b)(1) A Member, officer, or employee may accept  
4 an offer of free attendance at a widely attended conven-  
5 tion, conference, symposium, forum, panel discussion, din-  
6 ner, viewing, reception, or similar event, provided by the  
7 sponsor of the event, if—

8 “(A) the Member, officer, or employee partici-  
9 pates in the event as a speaker or a panel partici-  
10 pant, by presenting information related to Congress  
11 or matters before Congress, or by performing a cere-  
12 monial function appropriate to the Member’s, offi-  
13 cer’s, or employee’s official position; or

14 “(B) attendance at the event is appropriate to  
15 the performance of the official duties or representa-  
16 tive function of the Member, officer, or employee.

17 “(2) A Member, officer, or employee who attends an  
18 event described in subparagraph (1) may accept a spon-  
19 sor’s unsolicited offer of free attendance at the event for  
20 the spouse or dependent of the Member, officer, or em-  
21 ployee.

22 “(3) For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘free  
23 attendance’ may include waiver of all or part of a con-  
24 ference or other fee, the provision of lodging or transpor-  
25 tation or the provision of food, refreshments, entertain-

1 ment, and instructional materials furnished to all  
2 attendees as an integral part of the event. The term does  
3 not include entertainment collateral to the event, nor does  
4 it include food or refreshments taken other than in a  
5 group setting with all or substantially all other attendees.

6 “(c) A Member, officer, or employee, or the spouse  
7 or dependent thereof, may accept a sponsor’s unsolicited  
8 offer of free attendance at a charity event if—

9 “(1) the event is sponsored by an organization  
10 which is listed under section 501(c)(3) of the Inter-  
11 nal Revenue Code of 1986;

12 “(2) all Member, officer, employee, spouse, or  
13 dependent-related expenses are paid by the sponsor-  
14 ing organization and not by another corporation or  
15 individual;

16 “(3) the proceeds to charity from the event ex-  
17 ceed the costs of the event; and

18 “(4) the participation contributes in a tangible  
19 way to the success of the event.”.

○