

PROVIDING AMOUNTS FOR THE EXPENSES OF CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH
CONGRESS

MARCH 10, 1995.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. Res. 107]

The Committee on House Oversight, to whom was referred the resolution (H. Res. 107) providing amounts for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fourth Congress, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the resolution as amended be agreed to.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert following:

SECTION 1. COMMITTEE EXPENSES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the One Hundred Fourth Congress, there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives, in accordance with this primary expense resolution, not more than the amount specified in subsection (b) for the expenses of each committee named in that subsection, including—

(1) the expenses of all staff salaries;

(2) the expenses of consultant services under section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i)); and

(3) the expenses of staff training under section 202(j) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 72a(j)).

(b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, \$7,406,899; Committee on Banking and Financial Services, \$8,645,054; Committee on the Budget, \$9,912,000; Committee on Commerce, \$13,686,823; Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, \$9,621,539; Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, \$13,520,037; Committee on House Oversight, \$6,177,608; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, \$4,519,890; Committee on International Relations, \$10,028,093; Committee on the Judiciary, \$9,553,190; Committee on National Security, \$9,085,743; Committee on Resources, \$9,588,953; Committee on Rules, \$4,433,817; Committee on Science, \$8,411,326; Committee on Small Business, \$3,791,580; Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, \$1,981,150; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, \$10,878,981; Committee on Veterans' Affairs, \$4,220,605; and Committee on Ways and Means, \$10,219,358.

SEC. 2. FIRST SESSION LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount provided for in section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not more than the amount specified in such subsection

shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 1995, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 1996.

(b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, \$3,866,148 (of which \$30,000 may be used for consultant services and \$1,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Banking and Financial Services, \$4,161,579; Committee on the Budget, \$4,940,000; Committee on Commerce, \$6,663,227 (of which \$25,000 may be used for consultant services); Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, \$4,777,196 (of which \$5,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, \$6,576,369 (of which \$25,000 may be used for consultant services and \$5,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on House Oversight, \$3,092,920 (of which \$400,000 may be used for consultant services and \$20,000 may be used for staff training); Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, \$2,226,210 (of which \$3,200 may be used for staff training); Committee on International Relations, \$4,953,472 (of which \$10,000 may be used for consultant services); Committee on the Judiciary, \$4,577,187 (of which \$8,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on National Security, \$4,245,134 (of which \$40,000 may be used for consultant services and \$12,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Resources, \$4,795,970 (of which \$45,000 may be used for consultant services and \$1,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Rules, \$2,199,567 (of which \$500 may be used for staff training); Committee on Science, \$3,991,154 (of which \$20,000 may be used for consultant services and \$15,800 may be used for staff training); Committee on Small Business, \$1,863,290; Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, \$1,009,450 (of which \$50,000 may be used for consultant services and \$500 may be used for staff training); Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, \$5,386,171 (of which \$5,000 may be used for consultant services and \$5,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Veterans' Affairs, \$2,024,500 (of which \$10,000 may be used for staff training); and Committee on Ways and Means, \$4,916,740.

SEC. 3. SECOND SESSION LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount provided for in section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not more than the amount specified in such subsection shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 1996, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 1997.

(b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, \$3,540,751 (of which \$15,000 may be used for consultant services and \$1,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Banking and Financial Services, \$4,483,475; Committee on the Budget, \$4,972,000; Committee on Commerce, \$7,023,596 (of which \$25,675 may be used for consultant services); Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, \$4,844,343 (of which \$5,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, \$6,943,668 (of which \$25,000 may be used for consultant services and \$5,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on House Oversight, \$3,084,688 (of which \$130,000 may be used for consultant services and \$22,000 may be used for staff training); Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, \$2,293,680 (of which \$3,200 may be used for staff training); Committee on International Relations, \$5,074,621 (of which \$10,000 may be used for consultant services); Committee on the Judiciary, \$4,976,003 (of which \$10,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on National Security, \$4,840,609 (of which \$40,000 may be used for consultant services and \$15,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Resources, \$4,792,983 (of which \$1,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Rules, \$2,234,250 (of which \$500 may be used for staff training); Committee on Science, \$4,420,172 (of which \$20,000 may be used for consultant services and \$16,500 may be used for staff training); Committee on Small Business, \$1,928,290; Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, \$971,700 (of which \$50,000 may be used for consultant services and \$600 may be used for staff training); Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, \$5,492,810 (of which \$5,000 may be used for consultant services and \$5,000 may be used for staff training); Committee on Veterans' Affairs, \$2,196,105 (of which \$10,000 may be used for staff training); and Committee on Ways and Means, \$5,302,618.

SEC. 4. VOUCHERS.

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the committee involved, signed by the chairman of such committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Oversight.

SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.

Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Oversight.

SEC. 6. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.

The Committee on House Oversight shall have authority to make adjustments in amounts under section 1, if necessary to comply with an order of the President issued under section 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or to conform to any reduction in appropriations for the purposes of such section 1.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On March 8, 1995, by voice vote, a quorum being present, the Committee agreed to a motion to report the resolution favorably to the House, as amended.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 2(l)(3)(A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee states that the findings and recommendations of the Committee, based on oversight activities under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, are incorporated in the descriptive portions of this report.

STATEMENT ON BUDGET AUTHORITY AND RELATED ITEMS

The resolution does not provide new budget authority, new spending authority, new credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures and a statement under clause 2(l)(3)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is not required.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

In compliance with clause 2(l)(3)(C) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee states, with respect to the resolution, that the Director of the Congressional Budget Office did not submit a cost estimate and comparison under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

OVERSIGHT FINDINGS OF COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

The Committee states, with respect to clause 2(l)(3)(D) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight did not submit findings or recommendations based on investigations under clause 4(c)(2) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

ROLLCALL VOTES

In compliance with clause 2(l)(2)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, with respect to each rollcall vote on a motion to report the resolution and on any amendment offered to the resolution, the total number of votes cast for and against, and the names of those Members voting for and against, are as follows:

COMMITTEE ROLLCALL NO. 1

Amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. Boehner. The amendment provides for a 30 percent reduction in committee funding from the total in the One Hundred Third Congress.

| Name | Aye | No | Present |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|---------|
| Mr. Thomas | X | ..... | ..... |
| Mr. Ehlers | X | ..... | ..... |
| Mr. Roberts | X | ..... | ..... |
| Mr. Boehner | X | ..... | ..... |
| Ms. Dunn | X | ..... | ..... |
| Mr. Diaz-Balart | X | ..... | ..... |
| Mr. Fazio | X | ..... | ..... |
| Total | 7 | 0 | 0 |

GENERAL DISCUSSION

H. Res. 107, as amended, provides \$155,682,646 for committee salaries and expenses for all standing committees of the House of Representatives (except the Committee on Appropriations) and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the 104th Congress. In a separate action, the Committee on House Oversight established franked mail allocations for these committees for a total of \$649,483 for the 104th Congress. Including the franked mail allocation, the combined total for committee funding for the 104th Congress is \$156,332,129. This amount represents a \$67,003,290 cut from the 103rd Congress funding level of \$223,335,419, a 30% reduction. The authorized amount for each committee, including franked mail allocations, is as shown in the table on the following page.

104TH CONGRESS COMMITTEE FUNDING
(except the Committee on Appropriations)

| Committee | 103rd Congress Total | 104th Congress Total | H. Res. 107 104th Congress 1st Session | Franking Allocation 104th Congress 1st Session | H. Res. 107 104th Congress 2nd Session | Franking Allocation 104th Congress 2nd Session |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Agriculture | \$9,373,350 | \$7,490,139 | \$3,866,148 | \$45,240 | \$3,540,751 | \$38,000 |
| Banking | \$12,398,972 | \$8,676,054 | \$4,161,579 | \$15,000 | \$4,483,475 | \$16,000 |
| Budget | \$13,994,308 | \$9,918,000 | \$4,940,000 | \$3,000 | \$4,972,000 | \$3,000 |
| Commerce | \$20,473,270 | \$13,720,639 | \$6,663,227 | \$16,683 | \$7,023,596 | \$17,133 |
| District of Columbia | \$5,122,224 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Econ. & Educ. Opps. | \$13,645,650 | \$9,647,275 | \$4,777,196 | \$13,136 | \$4,844,343 | \$12,600 |
| Government Reform | \$11,772,861 | \$13,535,037 | \$6,576,369 | \$17,500 | \$6,943,668 | \$17,500 |
| House Oversight | \$9,047,903 | \$6,194,121 | \$3,092,920 | \$7,863 | \$3,084,688 | \$8,650 |
| Intelligence | \$4,357,946 | \$4,522,090 | \$2,226,210 | \$1,000 | \$2,293,680 | \$1,200 |
| International Relations | \$14,311,349 | \$10,056,875 | \$4,953,472 | \$13,782 | \$5,074,621 | \$15,000 |
| Judiciary | \$10,638,722 | \$9,608,190 | \$4,577,187 | \$25,000 | \$4,976,003 | \$30,000 |
| Merchant Marine | \$9,400,104 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| National Security | \$11,099,105 | \$9,167,743 | \$4,245,134 | \$41,000 | \$4,840,609 | \$41,000 |
| Post Office | \$9,591,522 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Resources | \$9,697,709 | \$9,623,953 | \$4,795,970 | \$15,000 | \$4,792,983 | \$20,000 |
| Rules | \$5,594,763 | \$4,435,817 | \$2,199,567 | \$1,000 | \$2,234,250 | \$1,000 |
| Science | \$11,442,403 | \$8,432,826 | \$3,991,154 | \$10,500 | \$4,420,172 | \$11,000 |
| Small Business | \$5,775,674 | \$3,812,580 | \$1,863,290 | \$10,000 | \$1,928,290 | \$11,000 |
| Standards | \$2,117,012 | \$1,990,150 | \$1,009,450 | \$4,200 | \$971,700 | \$4,800 |
| Transportation | \$11,893,752 | \$10,900,695 | \$5,386,171 | \$10,340 | \$5,492,810 | \$11,374 |
| Veterans' Affairs | \$5,258,373 | \$4,241,605 | \$2,024,500 | \$10,000 | \$2,196,105 | \$11,000 |
| Ways and Means | \$16,328,446 | \$10,338,340 | \$4,916,740 | \$59,491 | \$5,302,618 | \$59,491 |
| Total | \$223,335,419 | \$156,332,129 | \$76,266,284 | \$319,735 | \$79,416,362 | \$329,748 |

Percent reduction from 103rd Congress -> 30.0%
Dollar reduction from the 103rd Congress -> \$67,003,290

REQUESTS

The sum total of all budget requests for the 104th Congress was \$163,625,142. The amount provided by the Committee on House Oversight is \$7,293,013 less than the sum of all amounts requested by committees, a 4.5% reduction.

CHANGES TO COMMITTEE FUNDING PROCESS

Both the Rules of the House, adopted on January 4, 1995, and this Committee's revised policies changed the committee funding process in the 104th Congress. The Rules included two major changes by providing for a biennial funding process and consolidating the two accounts which previously funded committee staff salaries. In addition, the Committee has required that committee budgets absorb other costs not formerly charged to individual committees.

In the 103rd Congress, committees were funded from three sources: (1) statutory budgets, (2) investigative budgets and (3) various other appropriation accounts. Almost 55% of these committee funds were not subject to an annual, public authorization process.

(1) *Statutory.* Formerly, committees were funded on a yearly basis, drawing from two sources of funds for staff salaries: statutory and investigative. Statutory budgets, which supported the salaries for 30 committee employees designated as "statutory", were allocated on a fiscal year basis through a non-public process formerly administered by the Finance Office. In the 103rd Congress, statutory budgets accounted for \$112,789,500, 50.5% of committee costs.

(2) *Investigative.* In contrast, investigative committee budgets, which totaled \$101,411,630 and accounted for 45.4% of 103rd Congress committee funds, were authorized on a calendar year basis through a public process consisting of hearing before this Committee and floor votes.

(3) *Other.* In addition, committee budgets were not charged for several other costs in the past such as:

- detailees from Federal agencies;
- "legislative" office supplies;
- "legislative" long-distance telephone charges;
- local telephone line charges;
- HIS charges for graphics and scanning;
- franked mail costs.

These costs were paid from other House accounts and not attributable to individual committees. In the 103rd Congress, these costs accounted for \$9,134,289, 4.1% of total committee funds. In determining the 103rd Congress total costs, the 1994 other costs were attributed to 1993.

Under the new process, the former statutory, investigative, and other funds are now consolidated in this funding resolution and subject to the authorization process once each Congress.

CHANGES TO RULES OF THE HOUSE REGARDING THE CONTINGENT FUND

The Rules of the House for the 104th Congress eliminated references to the so-called contingent fund from clause 5 of rule XI

(regarding the primary expense resolution and any supplemental expense resolution) and clause 1 of rule X (regarding the jurisdiction of the Committee on House Oversight.) During the debate over the adoption of the Rules of the House, Mr. Thomas informed the House that:

No change, however, is intended regarding the Committee on [House] Oversight's jurisdiction over the accounts that comprised the contingent fund. Similarly regarding privileged reports, the Committee on [House] Oversight will continue to have leave to report at any time on matters of expenditure of the accounts that comprised the contingent fund, such as the committee funding resolution. [Congressional Record, January 4, 1995, H47-8.]

H. Res. 107 provides for expenditures for committee salaries and expenses from the applicable accounts. One of the accounts that comprised the contingent fund was an account for committee salaries and expenses.

MINORITY RESOURCES

To ensure fairness to all Members, the Republicans, when they were in the minority, argued that all committees should allocate at least one-third of resources to the minority. As the new majority, Republicans remain committed to achieving that goal. The Committee is pleased that Republican chairmen have made substantial progress by more than doubling the number of committees that will allocate one-third of resources to the minority—from four committees in the past, to nine committees in the 104th Congress. In addition, under all the current proposed budgets, committees are either at the one-third standard or have increased the allocation of resources to the minority over that allocated in the 103rd Congress. Our goal is to have all committees, with the agreement of the chairman and ranking minority member, provide at least a one-third allocation of resources, for use by the minority as directed by the ranking minority member, as soon as practicable.