

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 515

To establish a commission on corporate entitlement reform.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 17, 2007

Mr. COOPER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means and Rules, 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

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## A BILL

To establish a commission on corporate entitlement reform.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “Corporate Entitlement  
5        Reform Act of 2007”.

6        **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        Congress makes the following findings:

8                (1) Federal financial support for industries and  
9        businesses in the United States can serve a signifi-  
10        cant public purpose by promoting job formation,

1 providing small businesses with access to capital, en-  
2 couraging minority entrepreneurship, and assisting  
3 American companies in competing in the global mar-  
4 ketplace.

5 (2) Some Federal subsidies, however, either do  
6 not provide or no longer provide a public benefit and  
7 instead have the effect of providing certain compa-  
8 nies or industries with unjustified windfalls or an  
9 unfair competitive advantage.

10 (3) Such unfair subsidies are a burden on  
11 American taxpayers, and it is in the public interest  
12 to eliminate corporate subsidies and entitlements  
13 that do not serve or no longer serve a significant  
14 public interest.

15 (4) The elimination or reduction of unnecessary  
16 subsidies would also potentially save the Federal  
17 government billions of taxpayer dollars per year by  
18 reducing inefficient spending and waste.

19 (5) A bipartisan commission is essential to con-  
20 duct a comprehensive review of corporate subsidies  
21 and entitlements and to advise Congress on those  
22 subsidies and entitlements that should be revised or  
23 terminated.

24 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

25 For purposes of this Act:

1           (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”  
2 means the Corporate Entitlement Reform Commis-  
3 sion established pursuant to section 4(a).

4           (2) CORPORATE ENTITLEMENT.—The term  
5 “corporate entitlement”—

6           (A) means any direct payment, service, tax  
7 advantage, tax expenditure, or benefit made by  
8 the Federal Government to an entity or indus-  
9 try engaged in a profitmaking enterprise, if  
10 such payment, service, or benefit is provided  
11 without a reasonable expectation that actions or  
12 activities undertaken or performed in return for  
13 such payment, service, or benefit would result  
14 in a return or benefit to the public at least as  
15 great as the payment, service, or benefit;

16           (B) includes spending subsidies and free or  
17 below-market-rate services which are provided  
18 by the Federal Government, or any Federal en-  
19 tity, Federal agency, Government-sponsored en-  
20 terprise, or Government corporation, to or with  
21 respect to any corporation or other profit-mak-  
22 ing enterprise;

23           (C) does not include any payment, service,  
24 tax advantage, benefit, or protection provided

1 directly or indirectly by the Federal Govern-  
2 ment to—

3 (i) any Federal entity, Federal agen-  
4 cy, Government-sponsored enterprise, or  
5 Government corporation (as defined in sec-  
6 tion 9101 of title 31, United States Code);

7 (ii) any State or local government, In-  
8 dian Tribe or Alaska Native village, or re-  
9 gional or village corporation as defined in  
10 or established pursuant to the Alaska Na-  
11 tive Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.  
12 1601 et seq.); or

13 (iii) any nonprofit organization de-  
14 scribed under section 501(c)(3) of the In-  
15 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 that is ex-  
16 empt from taxation under section 501(a)  
17 of such Code; and

18 (D) does not include any payment, service,  
19 tax advantage, benefit or protection provided di-  
20 rectly or indirectly by the Federal Government  
21 that—

22 (i) is awarded for the purposes of re-  
23 search and development;

24 (ii) primarily benefits public health,  
25 safety, the environment, or education;

1 (iii) is necessary to comply with inter-  
2 national trade or treaty obligations;

3 (iv) is certified by the United States  
4 Trade Representative as specifically in-  
5 tended and as substantially needed to pro-  
6 tect the foreign trade interests of the  
7 United States; or

8 (v) is for the purpose of procurement  
9 of property or services by the United  
10 States Government.

11 (3) GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED ENTERPRISE.—

12 The term “Government-sponsored enterprise” means  
13 the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Fed-  
14 eral Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Federal  
15 Home Loan Bank System, the Farm Credit Banks,  
16 the Banks for Cooperatives, the Federal Agricultural  
17 Mortgage Corporation, and any of their affiliated or  
18 member institutions.

19 **SEC. 4. THE COMMISSION.**

20 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an inde-  
21 pendent commission to be known as the “Corporate Enti-  
22 tlement Reform Commission”.

23 (b) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

1           (1) examine the programs and tax laws of the  
2           Federal Government and identify programs and tax  
3           laws that provide corporate entitlements;

4           (2) review corporate entitlements;

5           (3) recommend \$50,000,000,000 in Federal  
6           Government savings for the period beginning on Oc-  
7           tober 1, 2007, and ending on September 30, 2017;  
8           and

9           (4) transmit the report described in section 5(a)  
10          to the Congress.

11         (c) LIMITATIONS.—

12           (1) CREATION OF NEW PROGRAMS OR TAXES.—  
13           This Act is not intended to result in the creation of  
14           new programs or taxes, and the Commission estab-  
15           lished in this section shall limit its activities to re-  
16           viewing existing programs or tax laws with the goal  
17           of ensuring fairness and equity in the operation and  
18           application of such programs and laws.

19           (2) ELIMINATION OF AGENCIES AND DEPART-  
20           MENTS.—The Commission shall limit its rec-  
21           ommendations to the termination or reform of pay-  
22           ments, benefits, services, or tax advantages, rather  
23           than the termination of Federal agencies or depart-  
24           ments.

1 (d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Commission shall  
2 be considered an advisory committee within the meaning  
3 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

4 (e) APPOINTMENT.—

5 (1) MEMBERS.—The Commission shall be com-  
6 posed of 9 members, as follows:

7 (A) 1 member appointed jointly by the  
8 Speaker of the House of Representatives and  
9 the majority leader of the Senate.

10 (B) 2 members appointed by the Speaker  
11 of the House of Representatives.

12 (C) 2 members appointed by the minority  
13 leader of the House of Representatives.

14 (D) 2 members appointed by the majority  
15 leader of the Senate.

16 (E) 2 members appointed by the minority  
17 leader of the Senate.

18 (2) TERMS OF APPOINTMENT.—The members  
19 of the Commission shall be appointed not more than  
20 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.  
21 The members of the Commission shall serve for the  
22 life of the Commission.

23 (3) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The Speaker  
24 of the House of Representatives, the minority leader  
25 of the House of Representatives, the majority leader

1 of the Senate, and the minority leader of the Senate  
2 shall consult among themselves prior to the appoint-  
3 ment of the members of the Commission in order to  
4 achieve, to the maximum extent possible, fair and  
5 equitable representation of various points of view  
6 with respect to the matters to be studied by the  
7 Commission under subsection (b).

8 (4) CHAIR.—The member of the Commission  
9 appointed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall serve  
10 as Chair of the Commission.

11 (5) BACKGROUND.—The members shall rep-  
12 resent a broad array of expertise covering, to the ex-  
13 tent practical, all subject matter, programs, and tax  
14 laws the Commission is likely to review.

15 (6) RESTRICTIONS.—The following restrictions  
16 shall apply:

17 (A) No member of the Commission shall be  
18 a current Member of Congress.

19 (B) No member of the Commission shall  
20 be on detail from a Federal agency that deals  
21 directly or indirectly with the Federal payments  
22 that the Commission intends to review.

23 (C) The Chair of the Commission shall not  
24 have served in any of the entities or industries  
25 that the Commission intends to review during



1           the 12 months preceding the date of such ap-  
2           pointment.

3       (f) MEETINGS.—

4           (1) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 180  
5       days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
6       Commission shall conduct its first meeting.

7           (2) OPEN MEETINGS.—Each meeting of the  
8       Commission shall be open to the public. In cases  
9       where classified information, trade secrets, or per-  
10      sonnel matters are discussed, the Chair may close  
11      the meeting. All proceedings, information, and deliber-  
12      ations of the Commission shall be available, upon  
13      request, to the chairs and ranking members of the  
14      relevant committees of Congress.

15      (g) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission—

16           (1) shall be filled in the same manner as the  
17      original appointment not later than 30 days after  
18      the Commission is given notice of the vacancy, and

19           (2) shall not affect the power of the remaining  
20      members to execute the duties of the Commission.

21      (h) PAY AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

22           (1) PAY.—Notwithstanding section 7 of the  
23      Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.),  
24      each Commissioner, other than the Chair, shall be  
25      paid at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the

1 minimum annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the  
2 Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5,  
3 United States Code, for each day (including travel  
4 time) during which the member is engaged in the ac-  
5 tual performance of duties vested in the Commis-  
6 sion.

7 (2) CHAIR.—Notwithstanding section 7 of the  
8 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.),  
9 the Chair shall be paid for each day referred to in  
10 paragraph (1) at a rate equal to the daily payment  
11 of the minimum annual rate of basic pay payable for  
12 level III of the Executive Schedule under section  
13 5314 of title 5, United States Code.

14 (3) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members shall receive  
15 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsist-  
16 ence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of  
17 title 5, United States Code.

18 (i) DIRECTOR OF STAFF.—

19 (1) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Chair shall appoint  
20 a Director who has not served in any of the entities  
21 or industries that the Commission intends to review  
22 during the 12 months preceding the date of such ap-  
23 pointment.

24 (2) PAY.—Notwithstanding section 7 of the  
25 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.),

1 the Director shall be paid at the rate of basic pay  
2 payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule under  
3 section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

4 (3) REPORTS.—On administrative and per-  
5 sonnel matters, the Director shall submit periodic  
6 reports to the Chair of the Commission and the  
7 chairs and ranking members of the Committee on  
8 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the  
9 Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Govern-  
10 ment Reform of the House of the Representatives.

11 (j) STAFF.—

12 (1) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—Subject to para-  
13 graphs (2) and (4), the Director, with the approval  
14 of the Commission, may appoint and fix the pay of  
15 additional personnel.

16 (2) APPOINTMENTS.—The Director may make  
17 such appointments without regard to the provisions  
18 of title 5, United States Code, governing appoint-  
19 ments in the competitive service, and any personnel  
20 so appointed may be paid without regard to the pro-  
21 visions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter  
22 53 of that title relating to classification and General  
23 Schedule pay rates.

24 (3) DETAILEES.—Upon the request of the Di-  
25 rector, the head of any Federal department or agen-

1 cy may detail any of the personnel of that depart-  
2 ment or agency to the Commission to assist the  
3 Commission in accordance with an agreement en-  
4 tered into with the Commission.

5 (4) RESTRICTIONS ON PERSONNEL AND  
6 DETAILEES.—The following restrictions shall apply:

7 (A) PERSONNEL.—Not more than one-  
8 third of the personnel detailed to the Commis-  
9 sion may be on detail from Federal agencies  
10 that deal directly or indirectly with the Federal  
11 payments the Commission intends to review.

12 (B) ANALYSTS.—Not more than one-fifth  
13 of the professional analysts of the Commission  
14 may be persons detailed from a Federal agency  
15 that deals directly or indirectly with the Federal  
16 payments the Commission intends to review.

17 (C) LEAD ANALYST.—No person detailed  
18 from a Federal agency to the Commission may  
19 be assigned as the lead professional analyst  
20 with respect to an entity or industry the Com-  
21 mission intends to review if the person has been  
22 involved in regulatory or policymaking decisions  
23 affecting any such entity or industry in the 12  
24 months preceding such assignment.

1 (D) DETAILEE.—A person may not be de-  
2 tailed from a Federal agency to the Commission  
3 if, within 12 months before the detail is to  
4 begin, that person participated personally and  
5 substantially in any matter within that par-  
6 ticular agency concerning the preparation of  
7 recommendations under this Act.

8 (E) FEDERAL OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE.—  
9 No member of a Federal agency, and no officer  
10 or employee of a Federal agency, may—

11 (i) prepare any report concerning the  
12 effectiveness, fitness, or efficiency of the  
13 performance on the staff of the Commis-  
14 sion of any person detailed from a Federal  
15 agency to that staff;

16 (ii) review the preparation of such re-  
17 port; or

18 (iii) approve or disapprove such a re-  
19 port.

20 (F) LIMITATION ON STAFF SIZE.—

21 (i) Subject to clause (ii), there may  
22 not be more than 25 persons (including  
23 any detailees) on the staff at any time.

24 (ii) The Commission may increase  
25 personnel in excess of the limitation under

1 clause (i) not less than 15 days after sub-  
2 mitting notification of such increase to the  
3 Committee on Homeland Security and  
4 Governmental Affairs of the Senate and  
5 the Committee on Oversight and Govern-  
6 ment Reform of the House of Representa-  
7 tives.

8 (G) LIMITATION ON FEDERAL OFFICER.—

9 No member of a Federal agency and no em-  
10 ployee of a Federal agency may serve as a Com-  
11 missioner or receive additional compensation by  
12 reason of being a member of the staff.

13 (5) ASSISTANCE.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller Gen-  
15 eral of the United States may provide assist-  
16 ance, including the detailing of employees, to  
17 the Commission in accordance with an agree-  
18 ment entered into with the Commission.

19 (B) CONSULTATION.—The Commission  
20 and the Comptroller General of the United  
21 States shall consult with the Committee on  
22 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
23 of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight  
24 and Government Reform of the House of Rep-  
25 resentatives on the agreement referred to under

1           subparagraph (A) before entering into such  
2           agreement.

3       (k) OTHER AUTHORITY.—

4           (1) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Com-  
5           mission may procure by contract, to the extent funds  
6           are available, the temporary or intermittent services  
7           of experts or consultants pursuant to section 3109  
8           of title 5, United States Code.

9           (2) LEASING.—The Commission may lease  
10          space and acquire personal property to the extent  
11          that funds are available.

12       (l) FUNDING.—

13           (1) COMMISSION.—There are authorized to be  
14           appropriated to the Commission such funds as are  
15           necessary to carry out its duties under this Act.

16           (2) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—There are au-  
17           thorized to be appropriated to the Comptroller Gen-  
18           eral such funds as are necessary to carry out its du-  
19           ties under subsection (j)(5) and section 6(a)(2).

20       (m) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall termi-  
21       nate 90 days after the date the Commission submits its  
22       report under section 5(a)(1).

23       **SEC. 5. REPORT; CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION.**

24       (a) REPORT OF COMMISSION.—

25           (1) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
2 after the date of the first meeting of the Com-  
3 mission, the Commission shall transmit to the  
4 Congress a report containing—

5 (i) the Commission’s findings; and

6 (ii) recommendations agreed to by at  
7 least 5 Commission members for the termi-  
8 nation, reduction, or retention of each of  
9 the corporate entitlements reviewed by the  
10 Commission.

11 (B) SPECIFICATIONS.—Such findings and  
12 recommendations shall specify—

13 (i) all actions, circumstances, and con-  
14 siderations relating to or bearing upon the  
15 recommendations; and

16 (ii) to the maximum extent prac-  
17 ticable, the estimated effect of the rec-  
18 ommendations upon the policies, laws, and  
19 programs directly or indirectly affected by  
20 the recommendations.

21 (2) REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY REPORT BY  
22 COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120  
24 days before the transmission of the report  
25 under paragraph (1), the Commission shall



1 transmit the most recent version of such report  
2 to Comptroller General.

3 (B) ANALYSIS BY COMPTROLLER GEN-  
4 ERAL.—Not later than 60 days after receiving  
5 the version of the report referred to in subpara-  
6 graph (A), the Comptroller General shall trans-  
7 mit to the Commission a report containing a  
8 detailed analysis of such version of the report.

9 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

10 (1) TRANSMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The report  
11 described in subsection (a) shall be transmitted to  
12 the Senate and the House of Representatives on the  
13 same day, and shall be delivered to the Secretary of  
14 the Senate if the Senate is not in session, and to the  
15 Clerk of the House of Representatives if the House  
16 is not in session.

17 (2) FEDERAL REGISTER.—Any recommenda-  
18 tions and accompanying information transmitted  
19 under subsection (a) shall be printed in the first  
20 issue of the Federal Register after such trans-  
21 mission.

22 (c) INTRODUCTION.—

23 (1) DATE OF INTRODUCTION.—Not later than  
24 75 days after the report is transmitted to Congress  
25 pursuant to subsection (a), the majority leader of

1 the Senate or his designee, and the Speaker of the  
2 House of Representatives, or his designee, shall in-  
3 troduce a bill (or bills as provided under paragraph  
4 (2)) that implements the recommendations included  
5 in such report.

6 (2) MULTIPLE BILLS.—The majority leader of  
7 the Senate, or his designee, or the Speaker of the  
8 House of Representatives, or his designee, shall in-  
9 troduce a bill or separate bills ensuring that all such  
10 recommendations shall be implemented.

11 (d) COMMITTEE REFERRAL AND ACTION.—

12 (1) CONSIDERATION AND REPORT.—Any com-  
13 mittee to which a bill or bills introduced under sub-  
14 section (c) is referred shall report such bill not later  
15 than 120 calendar days after the date of referral. No  
16 amendment during committee consideration of a bill  
17 or bills introduced under subsection (c) shall be in  
18 order unless that amendment is confined to termi-  
19 nating or reforming a corporate entitlement. Any  
20 such reported bill shall be referred to the Committee  
21 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of  
22 the Senate or the Committee on Oversight and Gov-  
23 ernment Reform of the House of Representatives, as  
24 applicable.

1           (2) DISCHARGE.—If a committee does not re-  
2 report a bill within the 120-day period as provided  
3 under paragraph (1), such bill shall be discharged  
4 from the committee and referred to the Committee  
5 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of  
6 the Senate or the Committee on Oversight and Gov-  
7 ernment Reform of the House of Representatives, as  
8 applicable.

9           (3) REPORT TO FLOOR; CONSOLIDATION.—

10           (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the first  
11 day the Senate or the House of Representatives  
12 (as applicable) is in session following 10 cal-  
13 endar days in session after the end of the 120-  
14 day period described under paragraphs (1) and  
15 (2), the Committee on Homeland Security and  
16 Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the  
17 Committee on Oversight and Government Re-  
18 form of the House of Representatives, as appli-  
19 cable, shall—

20           (i) consolidate all bills referred under  
21 paragraphs (1) and (2) into a single bill  
22 (without substantive amendment) and re-  
23 port such bill to the Senate or the House  
24 of Representatives; or

1                   (ii) if only 1 bill is referred under  
2                   paragraph (1) or (2), report such bill  
3                   (without amendment) to the Senate or  
4                   House of Representatives.

5                   (B) LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR.—The bill re-  
6                   ported under subparagraph (A) shall be placed  
7                   on the legislative calendar of the appropriate  
8                   House.

9                   (e) PROCEDURE IN SENATE AFTER REPORT OF COM-  
10                  MITTEE; DEBATE; AMENDMENTS.—

11                  (1) DEBATE ON BILL.—Debate in the Senate  
12                  on a bill reported by the Committee on Homeland  
13                  Security and Governmental Affairs under subsection  
14                  (d)(3), and all amendments thereto and debatable  
15                  motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall  
16                  be limited to not more than 30 hours. The time shall  
17                  be equally divided between, and controlled by, the  
18                  majority leader and minority leader or their des-  
19                  ignees.

20                  (2) DEBATE ON AMENDMENTS.—Debate in the  
21                  Senate on any amendment to the bill shall be limited  
22                  to 1 hour, to be equally divided between, and con-  
23                  trolled by, the mover and the manager of the bill,  
24                  and debate on any amendment to an amendment,  
25                  debatable motion, or appeal shall be limited to 30

1 minutes, to be equally divided between, and con-  
2 trolled by, the mover and the manager of the bill, ex-  
3 cept that in the event the manager of the bill is in  
4 favor of any such amendment, motion, or appeal, the  
5 time in opposition thereto shall be controlled by the  
6 minority leader or his designee. No amendment shall  
7 be agreed to unless three-fifths of the whole number  
8 of the Senate votes in favor of such amendment.

9 (3) LIMIT OF DEBATE.—

10 (A) A motion to further limit debate is not  
11 debatable. A motion by the majority leader or  
12 his designee to extend debate is not debatable.  
13 A motion to recommit is not in order.

14 (B)(i) No amendment to the bill reported  
15 by the Committee on Homeland Security and  
16 Governmental Affairs under subsection (d)(3)  
17 shall be in order unless—

18 (I) that amendment is confined to ter-  
19 minating or reforming a corporate entitle-  
20 ment; and

21 (II) that amendment is germane to  
22 the bill reported by the Committee on  
23 Homeland Security and Governmental Af-  
24 fairs.

1           (ii) For the purposes of a bill described  
2 under clause (i), the term “germane” means  
3 only amendments which strike language from  
4 such bill, or restore language in the bill or bills  
5 introduced under subsection (c).

6           (4) CONFERENCE REPORTS.—

7           (A) MOTION TO PROCEED.—A motion to  
8 proceed to the consideration of the conference  
9 report on a bill subject to the procedures of this  
10 section and reported to the Senate may be  
11 made even though a previous motion to the  
12 same effect has been disagreed to.

13           (B) TIME LIMITATION.—The consideration  
14 in the Senate of the conference report on the  
15 bill and any amendments in disagreement there-  
16 to, including all debatable motions and appeals  
17 in connection therewith, shall be limited to 5  
18 hours, to be equally divided between, and con-  
19 trolled by, the majority leader and minority  
20 leader or their designees. Debate on any debat-  
21 able motion, appeal related to the conference re-  
22 port, or any amendment to an amendment in  
23 disagreement, shall be limited to 30 minutes, to  
24 be equally divided between, and controlled by,

1           the mover and the manager of the conference  
2           report (or a message between Houses).

3           (f) PROCEDURE IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
4 AFTER REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE; DEBATE.—

5           (1) MOTION TO CONSIDER.—When the Com-  
6 mittee on Oversight and Government Reform of the  
7 House of Representatives reports a bill under sub-  
8 section (d)(3) it is in order (at any time after the  
9 fifth day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal  
10 holidays) following the day on which any committee  
11 report filed on a bill referred under subsection (d)(1)  
12 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Re-  
13 form has been available to Members of the House)  
14 to move to proceed to the consideration of the bill  
15 reported to the House of Representatives. The mo-  
16 tion is highly privileged and is not debatable. An  
17 amendment to the motion is not in order, and it is  
18 not in order to move to reconsider the vote by which  
19 the motion is agreed to or disagreed to.

20           (2) DEBATE.—General debate on the bill in the  
21 House of Representatives shall be limited to not  
22 more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally  
23 between the majority and minority parties. A motion  
24 further to limit debate is not debatable. A motion to  
25 postpone debate is not in order, and it is not in

1 order to move to reconsider the vote by which the  
2 bill is agreed to or disagreed to.

3 (3) TERMS OF CONSIDERATION.—Consideration  
4 of the bill by the House of Representatives shall be  
5 in the Committee of the Whole, and the bill shall be  
6 considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule  
7 in accordance with the applicable provisions of rule  
8 XVIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives.  
9 No amendment shall be agreed to unless three-fifths  
10 of the whole number of the House of Representatives  
11 votes in favor of such amendment. After the com-  
12 mittee rises and reports the bill back to the House,  
13 the previous question shall be considered as ordered  
14 on the bill and any amendments thereto to final pas-  
15 sage without intervening motion.

16 (4) LIMIT ON DEBATE.—Debate in the House  
17 of Representatives on the conference report on a bill  
18 subject to the procedures under this section and re-  
19 ported to the House of Representatives shall be lim-  
20 ited to not more than 5 hours, which shall be divided  
21 equally between the majority and minority parties. A  
22 motion further to limit debate is not debatable. A  
23 motion to recommit the conference report is not in  
24 order, and it is not in order to move to reconsider  
25 the vote by which the conference report is agreed to



1 or disagreed to. A motion to postpone is not in  
2 order.

3 (5) APPEALS.—Appeals from decisions of the  
4 Chair relating to the application of the Rules of the  
5 House of Representatives to the procedure relating  
6 to the bill shall be decided without debate.

7 (g) RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REP-  
8 RESENTATIVES.—This section is enacted by Congress—

9 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of  
10 the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-  
11 spectively, but applicable only with respect to the  
12 procedure to be followed in that House in the case  
13 of a bill under this section, and it supersedes other  
14 rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with  
15 such rules; and

16 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional  
17 right of either House to change the rules as far as  
18 relating to the procedure of that House at any time,  
19 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in  
20 the case of any other rule of that House.

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