

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 484

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to strengthen the budget process.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2007

Mr. SHULER (for himself, Mr. CHANDLER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. BARROW, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. ROSS, Mr. TANNER, Mr. TAYLOR, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. HILL, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BERRY, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, and Mr. MAHONEY of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to strengthen the budget process.

1 *Resolved*, That (a) the last sentence of clause 7(e) of
2 rule XXII of Rules of the House of Representatives is
3 amended by inserting “and shall contain, where prac-
4 ticable, the estimate of costs described in section
5 308(a)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974” be-
6 fore the period.

1 (b) Clause 7 of rule XXII of Rules of the House of
 2 Representatives is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 3 lowing new paragraph:

4 “(f) It shall not be in order to consider a conference
 5 report unless it contains an estimate of costs as described
 6 in the last sentence of paragraph (e).”.

7 ROLL CALL VOTES REQUIRED FOR NEW SPENDING OVER
 8 \$50,000,000

9 SEC. 2. Clause 10 of rule XX of the Rules of the
 10 House of Representatives is amended by inserting “au-
 11 thorizing or providing new budget authority of not less
 12 than \$50,000,000” before “making general appropria-
 13 tions” and by adding at the end the following new sen-
 14 tence: “The Speaker may not entertain a unanimous con-
 15 sent request or motion to suspend this clause.”.

16 SEARCHABLE EARMARKS LIST REQUIREMENT

17 SEC. 3. Clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the
 18 House of Representatives is amended as follows:

19 (1) in paragraph (a)(1), by inserting “, which
 20 shall be made available on the Internet in a search-
 21 able format to the general public for at least 48
 22 hours before consideration,” after “a list”;

23 (2) in paragraph (a)(2), by inserting “, which
 24 shall be made available on the Internet in a search-
 25 able format to the general public for at least 48
 26 hours before consideration,” after “a list”; and

1 (3) in paragraph (a)(4), by inserting “, which
2 shall be made available on the Internet in a search-
3 able format to the general public for at least 48
4 hours before consideration,” after “a list”.

5 SAME-DAY CONSIDERATION OF RULES COMMITTEE

6 REPORTS

7 SEC. 4. In rule XIII of the Rules of the House of
8 Representatives, clause 6(a) is amended by striking “the
9 same day” and inserting “the same calendar day or less
10 than 17 hours after that”.

11 TWO-THIRDS REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN WAIVERS

12 UNDER THE RULES

13 SEC. 5. (a) TWO-THIRDS REQUIREMENT.—Clause
14 6(c) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representa-
15 tives is amended by striking the period and inserting a
16 semicolon at the end of subparagraph (2) and by adding
17 at the end the following new subparagraph:

18 “(3) a rule or order which would waive the lay-
19 over requirement of clause 8 of rule XXII con-
20 cerning the availability of reports, would waive the
21 three-day layover requirement or the three-day
22 Internet availability requirement of clause 4(a)(1) of
23 this rule or of clause 8(a)(1) of rule XXII, or would
24 waive the scope requirement of the last sentence of
25 clause 9 of rule XXII by a vote of less than two-

1 thirds of the Members voting, a quorum being
2 present.”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Clause 6(a) of rule
4 XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is
5 amended by striking subparagraph (2), by inserting “or”
6 after the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (1), and
7 by redesignating subparagraph (3) as subparagraph (2).

8 TWO-THIRDS REQUIREMENT FOR AVAILABILITY OF
9 CERTAIN MEASURES ON THE INTERNET

10 SEC. 6. (a) Clause 4(a)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules
11 of the House of Representatives is amended by inserting
12 “and until the third such calendar day on which the un-
13 derlying measure or matter has been made available by
14 the Committee on Rules on its Internet site” before the
15 period.

16 (b) Clause 8(a)(1)(A) of rule XXII of the Rules of
17 the House of Representatives is amended by inserting
18 “and until the third such calendar day on which such con-
19 ference report and joint explanatory statement have been
20 made available by the standing committee of the House
21 with subject matter jurisdiction over the underlying legis-
22 lation on its Internet site” before the semicolon.

23 WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION FOR EARMARKS

24 SEC. 7. Clause 2 of rule XXI of the Rules of the
25 House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end
26 the following new paragraph:

1 “(g) The report that accompanies any general appro-
2 priation bill shall contain a separate written justification
3 for each earmark contained in such bill or report.”.

4 MANDATORY OVERSIGHT

5 SEC. 8. Clause 2(d) of rule X of the Rules of the
6 House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end
7 the following new subparagraph:

8 “(3) Not later than July 1 in the first session of a
9 Congress, and at six-month intervals thereafter during
10 that Congress, each committee shall submit reports to the
11 Speaker and the minority leader respecting the commit-
12 tee’s compliance with its oversight plan. Committees shall
13 make these reports available to the public.”.

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