

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2519

To provide a per diem allowance for Members of Congress for the costs of lodging, meals, and incidental expenses incurred because of travel to and from the Washington Metropolitan Area in order to cast votes in Congress, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To provide a per diem allowance for Members of Congress for the costs of lodging, meals, and incidental expenses incurred because of travel to and from the Washington Metropolitan Area in order to cast votes in Congress, and for other purposes.

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

1 **SECTION 1. PER DIEM ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS INCUR-**
2 **RING COSTS IN TRAVEL TO AND FROM WASH-**
3 **INGTON METROPOLITAN AREA IN ORDER TO**
4 **CAST VOTES IN CONGRESS.**

5 (a) ENTITLEMENT TO PER DIEM ALLOWANCES.—A
6 Member of Congress who travels on official and represen-
7 tational business to and from the Member's designated
8 residence to the Washington Metropolitan Area in order
9 to cast votes in Congress is entitled to—

10 (1) a per diem allowance for lodging in the
11 Washington Metropolitan Area in accordance with
12 subsection (b)(1); and

13 (2) a per diem allowance for meals and inci-
14 dental expenses in the Washington Metropolitan
15 Area in accordance with subsection (b)(2).

16 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—

17 (1) MEMBERS RESIDING IN WASHINGTON MET-
18 ROPOLITAN AREA.—A Member of Congress is not
19 entitled to a per diem allowance under this section
20 if the Member's designated residence is within the
21 Washington Metropolitan Area.

22 (2) EXPENSES PAID UNDER OTHER ALLOW-
23 ANCES.—A Member of Congress is not entitled to a
24 per diem allowance under this section with respect
25 to lodging, meals, and incidental expenses for which
26 payment is made—

1 (A) in the case of a Member of the House
 2 of Representatives, under the Members' Rep-
 3 resentational Allowance; and

4 (B) in the case of a Senator, under the
 5 Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense
 6 Account.

7 (c) PER DIEM ALLOWANCES DESCRIBED.—

8 (1) LODGING.—A Member of Congress may re-
 9 ceive a per diem allowance for lodging with respect
 10 to a day if—

11 (A) the House of Congress in which the
 12 Member serves holds votes on that day; and

13 (B) the Member records a vote in person
 14 in the chamber of that House of Congress on
 15 each vote held on that day.

16 (2) MEALS AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.—A
 17 Member of Congress may receive a per diem allow-
 18 ance for meals and incidental expenses with respect
 19 to the following days:

20 (A) A day for which the Member receives
 21 a per diem allowance for lodging under para-
 22 graph (1).

23 (B) The day before a day described in sub-
 24 paragraph (A), but only if the Member travels

1 to the Washington Metropolitan Area on the
2 day described in subparagraph (A).

3 (C) The day after a day described in sub-
4 paragraph (A), but only if the Member travels
5 from the Washington Metropolitan Area on the
6 day described in subparagraph (A).

7 (3) USE OF GSA RATES.—The amount of the
8 per diem allowance to which a Member of Congress
9 is entitled under this section shall be the amount to
10 which the Member would be entitled under regula-
11 tions prescribed by the Administrator of General
12 Services if the Member were an employee entitled to
13 a per diem allowance under subchapter I of chapter
14 57 of title 5, United States Code.

15 (d) REGULATIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—This section shall be carried
17 out in accordance with regulations promulgated by—

18 (A) the Committee on House Administra-
19 tion of the House of Representatives, with re-
20 spect to the per diem allowances for Members
21 of the House of Representatives and the Dele-
22 gates and Resident Commissioner to the Con-
23 gress; and

1 (B) the Committee on Rules and Adminis-
2 tration of the Senate, with respect to the per
3 diem allowances for Senators.

4 (2) ENSURING ALLOWANCES ARE NOT TREATED
5 AS EARNED INCOME FOR TAX PURPOSES.—In pro-
6 mulgating regulations to carry out this section, the
7 Committee on House Administration and the Com-
8 mittee on Rules and Administration shall follow to
9 the greatest extent practicable the regulations each
10 such Committee promulgates with respect to pay-
11 ments for lodging, meals, and incidental expenses in-
12 curred by Members of Congress under the Members’
13 Representational Allowance or the Senators’ Official
14 Personnel and Office Expense Account, respectively,
15 including the provisions of such regulations which
16 ensure that the payment of such an allowance is not
17 treated as income earned by the Member for pur-
18 poses of paying Federal, State, or local taxes.

19 (3) EFFECT ON EXISTING REGULATIONS.—The
20 regulations promulgated under paragraph (1) shall
21 supersede any regulations of the Committee on
22 House Administration or the Committee on Rules
23 and Administration governing the reimbursement of
24 travel expenses incurred by a Member of Congress

1 which are in effect at the time the regulations are
2 promulgated.

3 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The “designated residence” of a Member of
5 Congress is—

6 (A) in the case of a Member of the House
7 of Representatives, a residence in the congres-
8 sional district the Member represents (or, in the
9 case of a Member who does not reside in the
10 congressional district the Member represents, a
11 residence in the State in which the congres-
12 sional district is located), as designated by the
13 Member in a statement the Member provides to
14 the Committee on House Administration; and

15 (B) in the case of a Senator, a residence
16 in the State the Senator represents, as des-
17 ignated by the Senator in a statement the Sen-
18 ate provides to the Committee on Rules and
19 Administration.

20 (2) The term “Member of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives” includes a Delegate or Resident Com-
22 missioner to the Congress.

23 (2) The term “Washington Metropolitan Area”
24 means the District of Columbia; the cities of Alexan-
25 dria, Falls Church and Fairfax, and the counties of

1 Arlington and Fairfax, in Virginia; and the counties
2 of Montgomery and Prince George's in Maryland.

3 (f) TREATMENT OF DELEGATES.—In this section,
4 the term “Member of the House of Representatives” in-
5 cludes a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Con-
6 gress.

7 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with
8 respect to the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress and
9 each succeeding Congress.

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