

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE—REQUEST FOR REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT REGARDING COMPLAINTS AGAINST SPEAKER

Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby give notice of my intention to offer a resolution, on behalf of myself and the gentleman from Florida [Mr. PETERSON], which raises a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct is currently considering several ethics complaints against Speaker Newt Gingrich;

Whereas the Committee has traditionally handled such cases by appointing an independent, non-partisan, outside counsel—a procedure which has been adopted in every major ethics case since the Committee was established;

Whereas—although complaints against Speaker Gingrich have been under consideration for more than 14 months—the Committee has failed to appoint an outside counsel;

Whereas the Committee has also deviated from other long-standing precedents and rules of procedure; including its failure to adopt a Resolution of Preliminary Inquiry before calling third-party witnesses and receiving sworn testimony;

Whereas these procedural irregularities—and the unusual delay in the appointment of an independent, outside counsel—have led to widespread concern that the Committee is making special exceptions for the Speaker of the House;

Whereas the integrity of the House depends on the confidence of the American people in the fairness and impartiality of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

Therefore be it resolved that;

The Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct should report to the House, no later than December 12, 1995, concerning:

(1) The status of the Committee's investigation of the complaints against Speaker Gingrich;

(2) the Committee's disposition with regard to the appointment of a non-partisan outside counsel and the scope of the counsel's investigation;

(3) a timetable for Committee action on the complaints.

□ 1945

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHRYSLER). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time or place designated by the Speaker in the legislative schedule within 2 legislative days of its being properly noticed. The Chair will announce the Chair's designation at a later time.

The Chair's determination as to whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege will be made at the time designated by the Chair for consideration of the resolution.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. DANA ROHRBACHER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Hon. DANA ROHRBACHER, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
November 15, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER. This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule L (50) of the rules of the House of Representatives that three staff persons in my Huntington Beach, California District Office—Cindy Hoffman, Lawrence Jones and Kathleen Hollingsworth—have been served with subpoenas issued by the Municipal Court of Orange County, California, in the matter of the People of the State of California v. Michael James Perry.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoenas is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

DANA ROHRBACHER,  
Member of Congress.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEER TOUR GUIDES AT BULL SHOALS DAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, far too often the work of the men and women who choose to volunteer their time and talent goes unnoticed. These individuals, most of whom are busy with families, full-time jobs, and daily tasks, are rarely recognized for the invaluable service which they provide to their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to seven such individuals from my own congressional district of northwest Arkansas, who are better known to the folks back home as "The Fabulous Seven." All local residents of Lakeview and Bull Shoals, AR, Mr. Pete Ehmen, Ms. Shirley Spitzer, Mr. Bob Olmo, Mr. Curt Schlueter, Mr. Bob Koenig, Mr. Carl Wilhelm, and Mr. Neil Underhill took precious time out of their already-busy summers to conduct guided tours of Bull Shoals Dam, when Federal budget constraints threatened to end public tours of the local Corps of Engineers dam.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these individuals for coming forth with such a brilliant solution and putting it into action! At a time when Federal downsizing is necessary, and Federal funds are very limited, citizen volunteers are indispensable in keeping the wheels turning in our communities. Throughout the entire summer, over 7,000 tourists had the opportunity to see things, which otherwise would not have been possible, without this "Fabulous Gang of Seven."

According to Mr. Bill Self, Chief of the Corps of Engineers' hydropower facility in Mountain Home, it was quite routine to hear tourists exclaim, "This was the best tour we have ever been on!" after their tour of the dam. Mr. Self is particularly proud that his office did not receive one complaint all summer regarding the tours.

Mr. Speaker, while I am recognizing these individuals today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would also like to point out that the corps formally honored "The Fabulous Seven" this fall with a brunch, and presented them with certificates of appreciation for their invaluable contributions throughout the summer. In the very words of Mr. Self, "The volunteers did a fabulous job this year!"

To "The Fabulous Seven," thank you for your dedication and hard work for Bull Shoals Dam, for northwest Arkansas, and for our great State of Arkansas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCINNIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. MALONEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

CLINTON FOREIGN POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk tonight about the Clinton foreign policy. The President has been asking us over the past couple of days to support him in sending troops to Bosnia. Before we start doing that, we ought to look at the record of the administration in dealing with foreign policy issues. So let us start with Haiti.

Mr. Aristide down there said he was going to become a true lover of democracy. He said that he was going to privatize a lot of the Government agencies down there, Government functions. He said he was going to have free and fair elections and step down as President. We found out just recently that he is not going along with the privatization program that he promised.