

the chair or the ranking member. In short, the Member, the committee, the House and the public must have confidence in the professionalism, integrity, open-mindedness of the outside counsel. Referral to an outside counsel must, and I emphasize, must be considered a judgment that the matter merits further inquiry, nothing more.

The second option, that of leaving the matter unresolved, is totally unacceptable, since it reduces the Ethics Committee to the Committee on Frivolous Complaints and Rule Interpretation.

The committee is able to deal only with issues over which there is no controversy because either party can, by a 5-to-5 vote, prevent the resolution of any serious or difficult issue before it. If one side feels there is an issue that merits further inquiry and the other does not, the issue will simply die in the lap of the chair. If that happens, the chair of the committee will have destroyed the Ethics Committee by failing to lead the committee to a resolution of an issue of major importance.

The third option is reporting back to the House the committee's inability to resolve an issue either by consensus or by referral to the outside counsel. The report to the House can be made either in open session or in executive session in the House Chambers. This latter course could be followed since an ethics charge could arguably be considered a personnel matter and the Member is entitled to have it aired in secret, as the Ethics Committee operates.

In a session before the House, the committee could receive direction by the House as to whether the matters should be referred to the outside counsel or follow some other course of action, such as dismissal of all remaining charges by a vote of the House in secret session.

Being on the Ethics Committee is not a sought-after plum assignment in the House of Representatives, but it is a job that must be done. Attacks on members of the Ethics Committee by either side of the aisle must be viewed with great skepticism.

Recently, on July 27, some of my colleagues put out a Dear Colleague letter in which they said, Over the past two years a systematic and coordinated effort has been undertaken to impugn the integrity of Speaker GINGRICH.

In fairness to the Speaker and with respect to the ethics process, they suggest that I recuse myself from this process.

These recent attacks on me are simply attempts by zealous and uninformed Members of the House to destroy the Ethics Committee before it completes its work on unresolved matters.

□ 2230

This kind of misguided activity will accomplish nothing but damage to the reputation of every Member of the House.

I am really quite honored that after a thorough review of my office and

campaign and financial disclosure forms, those who seek to destroy the committee could come up with so little in their vain attempt to discredit the committee. I am here tonight to state that the House should have a report from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on matters unresolved before it, so that the House can further instruct the committee on how to proceed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and for the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Ms. SLAUGHTER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of personal business.

Mrs. LINCOLN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. HALL of Ohio (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of a death in the family.

Mr. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and Wednesday, July 17, on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FARR of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HANSEN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes each day, today and on July 17 and 18.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today and on July 17.

Mr. SHADEGG, for 5 minutes, on July 23.

Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes, today and on July 17 and 18.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, on July 17.

Mr. DORNAN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. HAMILTON.
Mr. SKELTON.
Mr. SERRANO.
Ms. HARMAN.
Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
Mr. VOLKMER.
Mr. TORRES.
Mr. BORSKI.
Mr. DINGELL.
Mrs. SCHROEDER.
Mr. MATSUI.
Ms. PELOSI.
Mr. FOGLIETTA.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. COX of California.
Mr. MCCOLLUM.
Mr. GILMAN.
Mr. FORBES in two instances.
Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
Mrs. SMITH of Washington in two instances.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
Mr. TORKILDSEN.
Mr. DORNAN.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCDERMOTT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG.
Mr. WHITE.
Mr. ESHOO.
Ms. DANNER.
Mr. PACKARD.
Mr. RICHARDSON.
Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1757. An act to amend the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act to extend the act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

OMISSION FROM THE RECORD

The following is a reprint of remarks in their entirety, both printed and omitted from the RECORD of Thursday, July 11, 1996, at Page H7447:

□ 0145

Women could not own property. There could not be marriage between the races. Many things change over time, Mr. Chairman. This, too, is going to change.

I would like to pay tribute, special personal tribute to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LEWIS], to Dr. King, to all those of both parties and no parties. There was nothing partisan about that movement; there is and ought never to be anything partisan about this, the final chapter in the history of the civil rights of this country.

I wish I could remember, I used to know the entirety of that "I have a Dream" speech, but we will rise up and live out the full meaning of our Creator. It may not be this year and it certainly will not be this Congress, but it