

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
112<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS

RULE I.--GENERAL PROVISIONS

1  
2 (a) Applicability of House Rules.--(1) The Rules of the House shall govern the procedure  
3 of the Committee and its subcommittees, and the rules of the Committee on Agriculture  
4 so far as applicable shall be interpreted in accordance with the Rules of the House, except  
5 that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in  
6 full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged  
7 motions in the Committee and its subcommittees. (See Appendix A for the applicable  
8 Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.)

9 (2) As provided in clause 1(a)(2) of House Rule XI, each subcommittee is part of the  
10 Committee and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its rules so  
11 far as applicable. (See also Committee rules III, IV, V, VI, VII and X, infra.)

12 (b) Authority to Conduct Investigations.--The Committee and its subcommittees, after  
13 consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, may conduct such investigations and  
14 studies as they may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of their  
15 responsibilities under Rule X of the Rules of the House and in accordance with clause  
16 2(m) of House Rule XI.

17 (c) Authority to Print.--The Committee is authorized by the Rules of the House to have  
18 printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee  
19 and its subcommittees. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection  
20 with any meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be paid from

1 applicable accounts of the House described in clause 1(i)(1) of House Rule X in  
2 accordance with clause 1(c) of House Rule XI. (See also paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of  
3 Committee rule VIII.)

4 (d) Vice Chairman.--The Member of the majority party on the Committee or  
5 subcommittee designated by the Chairman of the full Committee shall be the vice  
6 chairman of the Committee or subcommittee in accordance with clause 2(d) of House  
7 Rule XI.

8 (e) Presiding Member.--If the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee is not present  
9 at any Committee or subcommittee meeting or hearing, the vice chairman shall preside.

10 If the Chairman and vice chairman of the Committee or subcommittee are not present at a  
11 Committee or subcommittee meeting or hearing the ranking Member of the majority party  
12 who is present shall preside in accordance with clause 2(d), House Rule XI.

13 (f) Publication of Rules.--The Committee's rules shall be publicly available in electronic  
14 form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Chair is  
15 elected in each odd-numbered year as provided in clause 2(a) of House Rule XI.

16 (g) Joint Committee Reports of Investigation or Study.--A report of an investigation or  
17 study conducted jointly by more than one committee may be filed jointly, provided that  
18 each of the committees complies independently with all requirements for approval and  
19 filing of the report.

20 **RULE II.--COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETINGS - REGULAR, ADDITIONAL AND**  
21 **SPECIAL**

1 (a) Regular Meetings.--(1) Regular meetings of the Committee, in accordance with clause  
2 2(b) of House Rule XI, shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its  
3 business unless such day is a holiday, or Congress is in recess or is adjourned, in which  
4 case the Chairman shall determine the regular meeting day of the Committee, if any, for  
5 that month. The Chairman shall provide each member of the Committee, as far in  
6 advance of the day of the regular meeting as practicable, a written agenda of such  
7 meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda by the Chairman or a majority of the  
8 Committee. If the Chairman believes that there will not be any bill, resolution or other  
9 matter considered before the full Committee and there is no other business to be  
10 transacted at a regular meeting, the meeting may be cancelled or it may be deferred until  
11 such time as, in the judgment of the Chairman, there may be matters which require the  
12 Committee's consideration. This paragraph shall not apply to meetings of any  
13 subcommittee. (See paragraph (f) of Committee rule X for provisions that apply to  
14 meetings of subcommittees.)

15 (b) Additional Meetings.(1)--The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers  
16 necessary, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which members have  
17 notice thereof after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or  
18 after concurrence with the Ranking Minority Member, additional meetings of the  
19 Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee  
20 or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such  
21 additional meetings pursuant to the notice from the Chairman.

22 (2) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner than specified in clause (1) (in which case the

1 chair shall make the announcement specified at the earliest possible time) if the  
2 committee so determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of members  
3 required under the rules of the committee for the transaction of business.

4 (3) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of a  
5 measure or matter the Chair shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made  
6 publicly available in electronic form.

7 (c) Special Meetings.--If at least three members of the Committee desire that a special  
8 meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those members may file in the  
9 offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman for such special meeting.

10 Such request shall specify the measure or matters to be considered. Immediately upon the  
11 filing of the request, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk of the Committee for  
12 such purpose) shall notify the Chairman of the filing of the request. If, within three  
13 calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman does not call the requested  
14 special meeting to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority  
15 of the members of the Committee may file in the offices of the Committee their written  
16 notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held, specifying the date and hour  
17 thereof, and the measures or matter to be considered at that special meeting in accordance  
18 with clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI. The Committee shall meet on that date and hour.

19 Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the  
20 clerk) of the Committee shall notify all members of the Committee that such meeting will  
21 be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered,  
22 and only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special

1 meeting.

2 RULE III.--OPEN MEETINGS AND HEARINGS; BROADCASTING

3 (a) Open Meetings and Hearings.--Each meeting for the transaction of business, including  
4 the markup of legislation, and each hearing by the Committee or a subcommittee shall be  
5 open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of House Rule XI. (See  
6 Appendix A.)

7 (b) Broadcasting and Photography.--Whenever a Committee or subcommittee meeting for  
8 the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the  
9 public, that meeting or hearing shall:

10 (1) To the maximum extent practicable the Committee shall provide audio and  
11 video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that  
12 allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings and shall maintain the  
13 recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

14 (2) Be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance  
15 with clause 4 of House Rule XI (See Appendix A). When such radio coverage is  
16 conducted in the Committee or subcommittee, written notice to that effect shall be placed  
17 on the desk of each Member. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, shall not  
18 limit the number of television or still cameras permitted in a hearing or meeting room to  
19 fewer than two representatives from each medium (except for legitimate space or safety  
20 considerations, in which case pool coverage shall be authorized).

21 (c) Closed Meetings--Attendees.--No person other than Members of the Committee or

1 subcommittee and such congressional staff and departmental representatives as the  
2 Committee or subcommittee may authorize shall be present at any business or markup  
3 session that has been closed to the public as provided in clause 2(g)(1) of House Rule XI.

4 (d) Addressing the Committee.--A Committee member may address the Committee or a  
5 subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration (See Committee  
6 rule VII (e) relating to questioning a witness at a hearing). The time a member may  
7 address the Committee or subcommittee for any such purpose shall be limited to five  
8 minutes, except that this time limit may be waived by unanimous consent. A member  
9 shall also be limited in his or her remarks to the subject matter under consideration,  
10 unless the Member receives unanimous consent to extend his or her remarks beyond such  
11 subject.

12 (e) Meetings to Begin Promptly.--Subject to the presence of a quorum, each meeting or  
13 hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall begin promptly at the time so  
14 stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

15 (f) Prohibition on Proxy Voting.--No vote by any Member of the Committee or  
16 subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

17 (g) Location of Persons at Meetings.--No person other than the Committee or  
18 subcommittee Members and Committee or subcommittee staff may be seated in the  
19 rostrum area during a meeting of the Committee or subcommittee unless by unanimous  
20 consent of Committee or subcommittee.

21 (h) Consideration of Amendments and Motions.--A Member, upon request, shall be  
22 recognized by the Chairman to address the Committee or subcommittee at a meeting for a

1 period limited to five minutes on behalf of an amendment or motion offered by the  
2 Member or another Member, or upon any other matter under consideration, unless the  
3 Member receives unanimous consent to extend the time limit. Every amendment or  
4 motion made in Committee or subcommittee shall, upon the demand of any Member  
5 present, be reduced to writing, and a copy thereof shall be made available to all Members  
6 present. Such amendment or motion shall not be pending before the Committee or  
7 subcommittee or voted on until the requirements of this paragraph have been met.

8 (i) Demanding Record Vote.—

9 (1) A record vote of the Committee or subcommittee on a question or action shall  
10 be ordered on a demand by one-fifth of the Members present.

11 (2) The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee may postpone further  
12 proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving a measure  
13 or matter or on adopting an amendment. If the Chairman postpones further  
14 proceedings:

15 (A) the Chairman may resume such postponed proceedings, after giving  
16 Members adequate notice, at a time chosen in consultation with the Ranking  
17 Minority Member; and

18 (B) notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the  
19 underlying proposition on which proceedings were postponed shall remain subject  
20 to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was  
21 postponed.

22 (j) Submission of Motions or Amendments In Advance of Business Meetings.--The

1 Committee and subcommittee-Chairman may request and Committee and subcommittee  
2 Members should, insofar as practicable, cooperate in providing copies of proposed  
3 amendments or motions to the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the  
4 Committee or the subcommittee twenty-four hours before a Committee or subcommittee  
5 business meeting.

6 (k) Points of Order.-- No point of order against the hearing or meeting procedures of the  
7 Committee or subcommittee shall be entertained unless it is made in a timely fashion.

8 (l) Limitation on Committee Sitings.--The Committee or subcommittees may not sit  
9 during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of  
10 the House and Senate is in progress.

11 (m) Prohibition of Wireless Telephones.—Use of wireless phones during a committee or  
12 subcommittee hearing or meeting is prohibited.

#### 13 RULE IV.--QUORUMS.

14 (a) Working Quorum.--One-third of the members of the Committee or a subcommittee  
15 shall constitute a quorum for taking any action, other than as noted in paragraphs (b) and  
16 (c).

17 (b) Majority Quorum.--A majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee  
18 shall constitute a quorum for:

19 (1) the reporting of a bill, resolution or other measure (See clause 2(h)(1) of  
20 House Rules XI, and Committee rule VIII);

21 (2) the closing of a meeting or hearing to the public pursuant to clauses 2(g),  
22 2(k)(5) and 2(k)(7) of the Rule XI of the Rules of the House;

1 (3) the authorizing of a subpoena as provided in clause 2(m)(3), of House RuleXI

2 (See also Committee rule VI.); and

3 (4) as where required by a rule of the House.

4 (c) Quorum for Taking Testimony.--Two members of the Committee or subcommittee  
5 shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

6 **RULE V.--RECORDS.**

7 (a) Maintenance of Records.--The Committee shall keep a complete record of all  
8 Committee and subcommittee action which shall include--

9 (1) in the case of any meeting or hearing transcripts, a substantially verbatim account of  
10 remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical and  
11 typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks involved, and

12 (2) written minutes shall include a record of all Committee and subcommittee action and  
13 a record of all votes on any question and a tally on all record votes.

14 The result of each such record vote shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by  
15 the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee and by telephone request and also  
16 made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote. Not later than 24  
17 hours after adoption of an amendment to a measure or matter, the chair of the Committee shall  
18 cause the text of such amendment adopted thereto to be made publicly available in electronic  
19 form. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the  
20 amendment, motion, order or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each  
21 member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those

1 members present but not voting.

2 (b) Access to and Correction of Records.--Any public witness, or person authorized by  
3 such witness, during Committee office hours in the Committee offices and within two weeks of  
4 the close of hearings, may obtain a transcript copy of that public witness's testimony and make  
5 such technical, grammatical and typographical corrections as authorized by the person making  
6 the remarks involved as will not alter the nature of testimony given. There shall be prompt return  
7 of such corrected copy of the transcript to the Committee. Members of the Committee or  
8 subcommittee shall receive copies of transcripts for their prompt review and correction and  
9 prompt return to the Committee. The Committee or subcommittee may order the printing of a  
10 hearing record without the corrections of any Member or witness if it determines that such  
11 Member or witness has been afforded a reasonable time in which to make such corrections and  
12 further delay would seriously impede the consideration of the legislative action that is subject of  
13 the hearing. The record of a hearing shall be closed ten calendar days after the last oral  
14 testimony, unless the Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise. Any person requesting  
15 to file a statement for the record of a hearing must so request before the hearing concludes and  
16 must file the statement before the record is closed unless the Committee or subcommittee  
17 determines otherwise. The Committee or subcommittee may reject any statement in light of its  
18 length or its tendency to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

19 (c) Property of the House.--All Committee and subcommittee hearings, records, data,  
20 charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records  
21 of the Members serving as Chairman and such records shall be the property of the House  
22 and all Members of the House shall have access thereto. The Majority Staff Director

1 shall promptly notify the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of any request for  
2 access to such records.

3 (d) Availability of Archived Records.--The records of the Committee at the National  
4 Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in  
5 accordance with House Rule VII. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority  
6 Member of the Committee of the need for a Committee order pursuant to clause 3(b)(3)  
7 or clause 4(b) of such House Rule, to withhold a record otherwise available.

8 (e) Special Rules for Certain Records and Proceedings.--A stenographic record of a  
9 business meeting of the Committee or subcommittee may be kept and thereafter may be  
10 published if the Chairman of the Committee, after consultation with the Ranking  
11 Minority Member, determines there is need for such a record. The proceedings of the  
12 Committee or subcommittee in a closed meeting, evidence or testimony in such meeting,  
13 shall not be divulged unless otherwise determined by a majority of the Committee or  
14 subcommittee.

15 (f) Electronic Availability of Committee Publications.--To the maximum extent feasible,  
16 the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

17 **RULE VI.--POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER.**

18 (a) Authority to Sit and Act.--For the purpose of carrying out any of its function and  
19 duties under House Rules X and XI, the Committee and each of its subcommittees is  
20 authorized (subject to paragraph (b)(1) of this rule)--

21 (1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States whether the House is

1 in session, has recessed, or has adjourned and to hold such hearings, and

2 (2) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses  
3 and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers and  
4 documents, as it deems necessary. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, or  
5 any member designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witness.

6 (b) Issuance of Subpoenas.--(1) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the  
7 Committee or subcommittee under paragraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation or  
8 series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members  
9 voting, a majority being present, as provided in clause 2(m)(3)(A) of House Rule XI.

10 Such authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chairman of the Committee or by any  
11 member designated by the Committee. As soon as practicable after a subpoena is issued  
12 under this rule, the Chairman shall notify all members of the Committee of such action.

13 (2) Notice of a meeting to consider a motion to authorize and issue a subpoena should be  
14 given to all Members of the Committee by 5 p.m. of the day preceding such meeting.

15 (3) Compliance with any subpoena issued by the Committee or subcommittee under  
16 paragraph (a)(2) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House.

17 (4) A subpoena duces tecum may specify terms of return other than at a meeting or  
18 hearing of the committee or subcommittee authorizing the subpoena.

19 (c) Expenses of Subpoenaed Witnesses.--Each witness who has been subpoenaed, upon  
20 the completion of his or her testimony before the Committee or any subcommittee, may  
21 report to the offices of the Committee, and there sign appropriate vouchers for travel  
22 allowances and attendance fees to which he or she is entitled. If hearings are held in

1 cities other than Washington D.C., the subpoenaed witness may contact the Majority Staff  
2 Director of the Committee, or his or her representative, before leaving the hearing room.

3 **RULE VII.--HEARING PROCEDURES.**

4 (a) Power to Hear.--For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under  
5 House Rule X and XI, the Committee and its subcommittees are authorized to sit and  
6 hold hearings at any time or place within the United States whether the House is in  
7 session, has recessed, or has adjourned. (See paragraph (a) of Committee rule VI and  
8 paragraph (f) of Committee rule X for provisions relating to subcommittee hearings and  
9 meetings.)

10 (b) Announcement.--The Chairman of the Committee shall after consultation with the  
11 Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, make a public announcement of the date,  
12 place and subject matter of any Committee hearing at least one week before the  
13 commencement of the hearing. The Chairman of a subcommittee shall schedule a  
14 hearing only after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and after  
15 consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee, and the Chairmen  
16 of the other subcommittees after such consultation with the Committee Chairman, and  
17 shall request the Majority Staff Director to make a public announcement of the date,  
18 place, and subject matter of such hearing at least one week before the hearing . If the  
19 Chairman of the Committee or the subcommittee, with concurrence of the Ranking  
20 Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee, determines there is good cause to  
21 begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or subcommittee so determines by majority

1 vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman of the  
2 Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, shall request the Majority Staff Director to  
3 make such public announcement at the earliest possible date. The clerk of the Committee  
4 shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record, and shall  
5 promptly enter the appropriate information into the Committee scheduling service of the  
6 House Information Systems as soon as possible after such public announcement is made.

7 (c) Scheduling of Witnesses.--Except as otherwise provided in this rule, the scheduling  
8 of witnesses and determination of the time allowed for the presentation of testimony at  
9 hearings shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee,  
10 unless a majority of the Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise.

11 (d) Written Statement; Oral Testimony.--(1) Each witness who is to appear before the  
12 Committee or a subcommittee, shall insofar as practicable file with the Majority Staff  
13 Director of the Committee, at least two working days before day of his or her appearance,  
14 a written statement of proposed testimony. Witnesses shall provide sufficient copies of  
15 their statement for distribution to Committee or subcommittee Members, staff, and the  
16 news media. Insofar as practicable, the Committee or subcommittee staff shall distribute  
17 such written statements to all Members of the Committee or subcommittee as soon as  
18 they are received as well as any official reports from departments and agencies on such  
19 subject matter. All witnesses may be limited in their oral presentations to brief  
20 summaries of their statements within the time allotted to them, at the discretion of the  
21 Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, in light of the nature of the testimony and  
22 the length of time available.

1 (2) As noted in paragraph (a) of Committee rule VI, the Chairman of the Committee or  
2 one of its subcommittees, or any Member designated by the Chairman, may administer an  
3 oath to any witness.

4 (3) To the greatest extent practicable, each witness appearing in a non-governmental  
5 capacity shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony a curriculum vitae  
6 and disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or  
7 subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal  
8 year or either of the two preceding fiscal years. Such statements, with appropriate  
9 redactions to protect the privacy of witnesses, shall be made publicly available in  
10 electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

11 (e) Questioning of Witnesses.--Committee or subcommittee Members may question  
12 witnesses only when they have been recognized by the Chairman of the Committee or  
13 subcommittee for that purpose. Each Member so recognized shall be limited to  
14 questioning a witness for five minutes until such time as each Member of the Committee  
15 or subcommittee who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness for five  
16 minutes; and thereafter the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee may limit the  
17 time of a further round of questioning after giving due consideration to the importance of  
18 the subject matter and the length of time available. All questions put to witnesses shall be  
19 germane to the measure or matter under consideration. Unless a majority of the  
20 Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise, no committee or subcommittee staff  
21 shall interrogate witnesses.

22 (f) Extended Questioning for Designated Members.--Notwithstanding paragraph (e), the

1 Chairman and Ranking Minority member may designate an equal number of Members  
2 from each party to question a witness for a period not longer than 60 minutes.

3 (g) Witnesses for the Minority.--When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any  
4 subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the minority party members on the Committee  
5 or subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those  
6 minority members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the  
7 minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of  
8 hearing thereon as provided in clause 2(j)(1) of House Rule XI.

9 (h) Summary of Subject Matter.--Upon announcement of a hearing, to the extent  
10 practicable, the Committee shall make available immediately to all members of the  
11 Committee a concise summary of the subject matter (including legislative reports and  
12 other material) under consideration. In addition, upon announcement of a hearing and  
13 subsequently as they are received, the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall,  
14 to the extent practicable, make available to the members of the Committee any official  
15 reports from departments and agencies on such matter. (See Committee rule X(f).)

16 (i) Open Hearings.--Each hearing conducted by the Committee or subcommittee shall be  
17 open to the public, including radio, television and still photography coverage, except as  
18 provided in clause 4 of House Rule XI (see also Committee rule III (b).). In any event, no  
19 Member of the House may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing  
20 unless the House by majority vote shall authorize the Committee or subcommittee, for  
21 purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular bill or resolution or on a  
22 particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members by means of the

1 above procedure.

2 (j) Hearings and Reports.--(1)(i) The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee at a  
3 hearing shall announce in an opening statement the subject of the investigation. A copy  
4 of the Committee rules (and the applicable provisions of clause 2 of House Rule XI,  
5 regarding hearing procedures, an excerpt of which appears in Appendix A thereto) shall  
6 be made available to each witness upon request. Witnesses at hearings may be  
7 accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their  
8 constitutional rights. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee may punish  
9 breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by  
10 censure and exclusion from the hearings; but only the full Committee may cite the  
11 offender to the House for contempt.

12 (ii) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the committee that the evidence or testimony  
13 at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a  
14 witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend  
15 to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, such testimony or evidence shall be  
16 presented in executive session, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (i) of this  
17 rule, if by a majority of those present, there being in attendance the requisite number  
18 required under the rules of the Committee to be present for the purpose of taking  
19 testimony, the Committee or subcommittee determines that such evidence or testimony  
20 may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee or  
21 subcommittee shall afford a person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness; and  
22 the Committee or subcommittee shall receive and shall dispose of requests from such

1 person to subpoena additional witnesses.

2 (iii) No evidence or testimony taken in executive session may be released or used in  
3 public sessions without the consent of the Committee or subcommittee. In the discretion  
4 of the Committee or subcommittee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent statements  
5 in writing for inclusion in the record. The Committee or subcommittee is the sole judge  
6 of the pertinency of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearings. A witness may  
7 obtain a transcript copy of his or her testimony given at a public session or, if given at an  
8 executive session, when authorized by the Committee or subcommittee. (See paragraph  
9 (c) of Committee rule V.)

10 (2) A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been  
11 available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays,  
12 Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day) in advance  
13 of their consideration.

#### 14 RULE VIII.--THE REPORTING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

15 (a) Filing of Reports.--The Chairman shall report or cause to be reported promptly to the  
16 House any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the Committee and shall take or  
17 cause to be taken all necessary steps to bring such bill, resolution, or other measure to a  
18 vote. No bill, resolution, or measure shall be reported from the Committee unless a  
19 majority of Committee is actually present. A Committee report on any bill, resolution, or  
20 other measure approved by the Committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (not  
21 counting days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been

1 filed with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee a written request, signed by a  
2 majority of the Committee, for the reporting of that bill or resolution. The Majority Staff  
3 Director of the Committee shall notify the Chairman immediately when such a request is  
4 filed.

5 (b) Content of Reports.--Each Committee report on any bill or resolution approved by the  
6 Committee shall include as separately identified sections:

7 (1) a statement of the intent or purpose of the bill or resolution;

8 (2) a statement describing the need for such bill or resolution;

9 (3) a statement of Committee and subcommittee consideration of the measure including a  
10 summary of amendments and motions offered and the actions taken thereon;

11 (4) the results of the each record vote on any amendment in the Committee and  
12 subcommittee and on the motion to report the measure or matter, including the names of  
13 those Members and the total voting for and the names of those Members and the total  
14 voting against such amendment or motion (See clause 3(b) of House rule XIII);

15 (5) the oversight findings and recommendations of the Committee with respect to the  
16 subject matter of the bill or resolution as required pursuant to clause 3(c)(1) of House  
17 Rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of House Rule X;

18 (6) the detailed statement described in section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of  
19 1974 if the bill or resolution provides new budget authority (other than continuing  
20 appropriations), new spending authority described in section 401(c)(2) of such Act, new  
21 credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures, except that the  
22 estimates with respect to new budget authority shall include, when practicable, a

1 comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant program (or programs) to  
2 the appropriate levels under current law;

3 (7) the estimate of costs and comparison of such estimates, if any, prepared by the  
4 Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with such bill or resolution  
5 pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if submitted in timely  
6 fashion to the Committee;

7 (8) a statement of general performance goals and objectives, including outcome-related  
8 goals and objectives, for which the measure authorizes funding;

9 (9) a statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to  
10 enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution;

11 (10) an estimate by the committee of the costs that would be incurred in carrying out such  
12 bill or joint resolution in the fiscal year in which it is reported and for its authorized  
13 duration or for each of the five fiscal years following the fiscal year of reporting,  
14 whichever period is less (see Rule XIII, clause 3(d)(2), (3) and (h)(2), (3)), together with--

15 (i) a comparison of these estimates with those made and submitted to the Committee by  
16 any Government agency when practicable, and (ii) a comparison of the total estimated  
17 funding level for the relevant program (or programs) with appropriate levels under current  
18 law (The provisions of this clause do not apply if a cost estimate and comparison  
19 prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the  
20 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the  
21 report and included in the report);

1 (11) a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the  
2 bill or in the report (and the name of any Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner  
3 who submitted a request to the committee for each respective item included in such list)  
4 or a statement that the proposition contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax  
5 benefits, or limited tariff benefits;

6 (12) the changes in existing law (if any) shown in accordance with clause 3 of House  
7 Rule XIII;

8 (13) the determination required pursuant to section 5(b) of Public Law 92-463, if the  
9 legislation reported establishes or authorizes the establishment of an advisory committee;  
10 and

11 (14) the information on Federal and intergovernmental mandates required by section  
12 423(c) and (d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as added by the Unfunded  
13 Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-4).

14 (15) a statement regarding the applicability of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional  
15 Accountability Act, Public Law 104-1.

16 (c) Supplemental, Minority, or Additional Views.--If, at the time of approval of any  
17 measure or matter by the Committee, any Member of the Committee gives notice of  
18 intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views, that Member shall be  
19 entitled to not less than two subsequent calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and  
20 legal holidays except when the House is in session on such date) in which to file such  
21 views, in writing and signed by that Member, with the Majority Staff Director of the  
22 Committee. When time guaranteed by this paragraph has expired (or if sooner, when all

1 separate views have been received), the Committee may arrange to file its report with the  
2 Clerk of the House not later than one hour after the expiration of such time. All such  
3 views (in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(1) and House Rule XIII, clause  
4 3(a)(1)), as filed by one or more Members of the Committee, shall be included within and  
5 made a part of the report filed by the Committee with respect to that bill or resolution.

6 (d) Printing of Reports.--The report of the Committee on the measure or matter noted in  
7 paragraph (a) above shall be printed in a single volume, which shall:

8 (1) include all supplemental, minority or additional views that have been submitted by the  
9 time of the filing of the report; and

10 (2) bear on its cover a recital that any such supplemental, minority, or additional views  
11 (and any material submitted under House Rule XII, clause 3(a)(1)) are included as part of  
12 the report.

13 (e) Immediate Printing; Supplemental Reports.-- Nothing in this rule shall preclude (1)  
14 the immediate filing or printing of a Committee report unless timely request for the  
15 opportunity to file supplemental, minority, or additional views has been made as provided  
16 by paragraph (c), or (2) the filing by the Committee of any supplemental report on any bill  
17 or resolution that may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous  
18 report made by the Committee on that bill or resolution.

19 (f) Availability of Printed Hearing Records.--If hearings have been held on any reported  
20 bill or resolution, the Committee shall make every reasonable effort to have the record of  
21 such hearings printed and available for distribution to the Members of the House prior to  
22 the consideration of such bill or resolution by the House. Each printed hearing of the

1 Committee or any of its subcommittees shall include a record of the attendance of the  
2 Members.

3 (g) Committee Prints.--All Committee or subcommittee prints or other Committee or  
4 subcommittee documents, other than reports or prints of bills, that are prepared for public  
5 distribution shall be approved by the Chairman of the Committee or the Committee prior  
6 to public distribution.

7 (h) Post Adjournment Filing of Committee Reports.--(1) After an adjournment of the last  
8 regular session of a Congress *sine die*, an investigative or oversight report approved by  
9 the Committee may be filed with the Clerk at any time, provided that if a member gives  
10 notice at the time of approval of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional  
11 views, that member shall be entitled to not less than seven calendar days in which to  
12 submit such views for inclusion with the report.

13 (2) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress *sine die*, the Chairman  
14 of the Committee may file at any time with the Clerk the Committee's activity report for  
15 that Congress pursuant to clause 1(d)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House without the  
16 approval of the Committee, provided that a copy of the report has been available to each  
17 member of the Committee for at least seven calendar days and the report includes any  
18 supplemental, minority, or additional views submitted by a member of the Committee.

19 (i) The Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII of the Rules of  
20 the House whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

21 **RULE IX.--OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

1 (a) Oversight Plan.--Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the  
2 Chairman shall convene the Committee in a meeting that is open to the public and with a  
3 quorum present to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress. Such plans shall be  
4 submitted simultaneously to the Committee on Government Reform and to the  
5 Committee on House Administration. In developing such plans the Committee shall, to  
6 the maximum extent feasible--

7 (1) consult with other committees of the House that have jurisdiction over the same or  
8 related laws, programs, or agencies within its jurisdiction, with the objective of ensuring  
9 that such laws, programs, or agencies are reviewed in the same Congress and that there is  
10 a maximum of coordination between such committees in the conduct of such reviews;  
11 and such plans shall include an explanation of what steps have been and will be taken to  
12 ensure such coordination and cooperation;

13 (2) review specific problems with federal rules, regulations, statutes, and court decisions  
14 that are ambiguous, arbitrary, or nonsensical, or that impose severe financial burdens on  
15 individuals;

16 (3) give priority consideration to including in its plans the review of those laws,  
17 programs, or agencies operating under permanent budget authority or permanent statutory  
18 authority;

19 (4) have a view toward ensuring that all significant laws, programs, or agencies within its  
20 jurisdiction are subject to review at least once every ten years; and

21 (5) include proposals to cut or eliminate programs, including mandatory spending  
22 programs, that are inefficient, duplicative, outdated, or more appropriately administered

1 by State or local governments.

2 The Committee and its appropriate subcommittees shall review and study, on a  
3 continuing basis, the impact or probable impact of tax policies affecting subjects within  
4 its jurisdiction as provided in clause 2(d) of House Rule X. The Committee shall include  
5 in the report filed pursuant to clause 1(d) of House Rule XI a summary of the oversight  
6 plans submitted by the Committee under clause 2(d) of House Rule X, a summary of  
7 actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary  
8 of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee and any  
9 recommendations made or actions taken thereon.

10 (b) Annual Appropriations.--The Committee shall, in its consideration of all bills and  
11 joint resolutions of a public character within its jurisdiction, ensure that appropriations for  
12 continuing programs and activities of the Federal government and the District of  
13 Columbia government will be made annually to the maximum extent feasible and  
14 consistent with the nature, requirements, and objectives of the programs and activities  
15 involved. The Committee shall review, from time to time, each continuing program  
16 within its jurisdiction for which appropriations are not made annually in order to ascertain  
17 whether such program could be modified so that appropriations therefor would be made  
18 annually.

19 (c) Budget Act Compliance: Views and Estimates (See Appendix B).--Not later than six  
20 weeks after the President submits his budget under section 1105(a) of title 31, United  
21 State Code, or at such time as the Committee on the Budget may request, the Committee  
22 shall, submit to the Committee on the Budget (1) its views and estimates with respect to

1 all matters to be set forth in the concurrent resolution on the budget for the ensuing fiscal  
2 year (under section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 - see Appendix B) that  
3 are within its jurisdiction or functions; and (2) an estimate of the total amounts of new  
4 budget authority, and budget outlays resulting therefrom, to be provided or authorized in  
5 all bills and resolutions within its jurisdiction that it intends to be effective during that  
6 fiscal year.

7 (d) Budget Act Compliance: Recommended Changes.--Whenever the Committee is  
8 directed in a concurrent resolution on the budget to determine and recommend changes in  
9 laws, bills, or resolutions under the reconciliation process, it shall promptly make such  
10 determination and recommendations, and report a reconciliation bill or resolution (or  
11 both) to the House or submit such recommendations to the Committee on the Budget, in  
12 accordance with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (See Appendix B).

13 (e) Conference Committees.--Whenever in the legislative process it becomes necessary  
14 to appoint conferees, the Chairman shall, after consultation with the Ranking Minority  
15 Member, determine the number of conferees the Chairman deems most suitable and then  
16 recommend to the Speaker as conferees, in keeping with the number to be appointed by  
17 the Speaker as provided in House Rule I, clause 11, the names of those Members of the  
18 Committee of not less than a majority who generally supported the House position and  
19 who were primarily responsible for the legislation. The Chairman shall, to the fullest  
20 extent feasible, include those Members of the Committee who were the principal  
21 proponents of the major provisions of the bill as it passed the House and such other  
22 Committee Members of the majority party as the Chairman may designate in consultation

1 with the Members of the majority party. Such recommendations shall provide a ratio of  
2 majority party Members to minority party Members no less favorable to the majority  
3 party than the ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members on the  
4 Committee. In making recommendations of Minority Party Members as conferees, the  
5 Chairman shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

6 (f)(1) The Committee, or a subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing during each 120-  
7 day period following the establishment of the committee on the topic of waste, fraud,  
8 abuse, or mismanagement in Government programs which the committee may authorize.

9 (2) A hearing described in subparagraph (1) shall include a focus on the most egregious  
10 instances of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement as documented by any report the  
11 committee has received from a Federal Office of the Inspector General or the Comptroller  
12 General of the United States.

13 (g) The Committee or a subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing in any session in  
14 which the committee has received disclaimers of agency financial statements from  
15 auditors of any Federal agency that the committee may authorize to hear testimony on  
16 such disclaimers from representatives of any such agency.

17 (h) The Committee or a subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing on issues raised by  
18 reports issued by the Comptroller General of the United States indicating that Federal  
19 programs or operations that the committee may authorize are at high risk for waste, fraud,  
20 and mismanagement, known as the 'high-risk-list' or the 'high-risk series'.

21 (i)(1) Not later than the 30th day after June 1 and December 1, the Committee shall  
22 submit to the House a semiannual report on the activities of the committee. After

1 adjournment sine die of a regular session of Congress, or after December 15, whichever  
2 occurs first, the Chair may file the second or fourth semiannual report, a copy of which  
3 shall be made available to each member of the committee for at least seven calendar days,  
4 with the Clerk at any time.

5 (2) Such report shall include separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight  
6 activities of the Committee during that Congress.

7 (3) The oversight section of such report shall include a summary of the oversight plans  
8 submitted by the Committee pursuant to clause 2(d) of House Rule X, a summary of the  
9 actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary  
10 of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee, and any  
11 recommendations made or actions taken with respect thereto.

#### 12 RULE X.--SUBCOMMITTEES

13 (a) Number and Composition.--There shall be such subcommittees as specified in  
14 paragraph (c) of this rule. Each of such subcommittees shall be composed of the number  
15 of members set forth in paragraph (c) of this rule, including *ex officio* members.<sup>1</sup> The  
16 Chairman may create additional subcommittees of an *ad hoc* nature as the Chairman  
17 determines to be appropriate subject to any limitations provided for in the House Rules.

18 (b) Ratios.--On each subcommittee, there shall be a ratio of majority party members to  
19 minority party members which shall be consistent with the ratio on the full Committee.

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<sup>1</sup>The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee serve as *ex officio* Members of the Subcommittees. (See paragraph (e) of this Rule).

1 In calculating the ratio of majority party members to minority party members, there shall  
2 be included the *ex officio* members of the subcommittees and ratios below reflect that  
3 fact.

4 (c) Jurisdiction.—Each subcommittee shall have the following general jurisdiction and  
5 number of members:

6 **Conservation, Energy, and Forestry (22 members, 12 majority and 10 minority).**—Soil,  
7 water, and resource conservation, small watershed program, energy and biobased energy  
8 production, rural electrification, forestry in general and forest reserves other than those  
9 created from the public domain.

10 **Department Operations, Oversight, and Credit (10 members, 6 majority and 4**  
11 **minority).**—Agency oversight, review and analysis, special investigations, and agricultural  
12 credit.

13 **General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, (26 members, 15 majority and 11**  
14 **minority).**—Program and markets related to cotton, cottonseed, wheat, feed grains, soybeans,  
15 oilseeds, rice, dry beans, peas, lentils, the Commodity Credit Corporation, risk management,  
16 including crop insurance, commodity exchanges, and specialty crops.

17 **Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, Ratios (20 members, 11 majority and 9 minority).**—  
18 Livestock, dairy, poultry, meat, seafood and seafood products, inspection, marketing, and  
19 promotion of such commodities, aquaculture, animal welfare, and grazing.

1       **Nutrition and Horticulture, Ratios (10 members, 6 majority and 4 minority).**—Food  
2       stamps, nutrition and consumer programs, fruits and vegetables, honey and bees, marketing  
3       and promotion orders, plant pesticides, quarantine, adulteration of seeds and insect pests, and  
4       organic agriculture.

5       **Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture, Ratios (14**  
6       **members, 8 majority and 6 minority).**—Rural Development, farm security and family  
7       farming matters, research, education and extension, biotechnology, foreign agriculture  
8       assistance, and trade promotion programs, generally.

9       (d) Referral of Legislation.—

10       (1)(a) In General.—All bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to the Committee  
11       shall be referred to all subcommittees of appropriate jurisdiction within 2 weeks after  
12       being referred to the Committee. After consultation with the Ranking Minority Member,  
13       the Chairman may determine that the Committee will consider certain bills, resolutions,  
14       or other matters.

15       (b) Trade Matters.—Unless action is otherwise taken under subparagraph (3), bills,  
16       resolutions, and other matters referred to the Committee relating to foreign agriculture,  
17       foreign food or commodity assistance, and foreign trade and marketing issues will be  
18       considered by the Committee.

19       (2) The Chairman, by a majority vote of the Committee, may discharge a subcommittee  
20       from further consideration of any bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the

1 subcommittee and have such bill, resolution or other matter considered by the Committee.

2 The Committee having referred a bill, resolution, or other matter to a subcommittee in  
3 accordance with this rule may discharge such subcommittee from further consideration  
4 thereof at any time by a vote of the majority members of the Committee for the  
5 Committee's direct consideration or for reference to another subcommittee.

6 (3) Unless the Committee, a quorum being present, decides otherwise by a majority vote,  
7 the Chairman may refer bills, resolutions, legislation or other matters not specifically  
8 within the jurisdiction of a subcommittee, or that is within the jurisdiction of more than  
9 one subcommittee, jointly or exclusively as the Chairman deems appropriate, including  
10 concurrently to the subcommittees with jurisdiction, sequentially to the subcommittees  
11 with jurisdiction (subject to any time limits deemed appropriate), divided by subject  
12 matter among the subcommittees with jurisdiction, or to an *ad hoc* subcommittee  
13 appointed by the Chairman for the purpose of considering the matter and reporting to the  
14 Committee thereon, or make such other provisions deemed appropriate.

15 (e) Participation and Service of Committee Members on Subcommittees.--(1) The

16 Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member shall serve as *ex officio* members of all  
17 subcommittees and shall have the right to vote on all matters before the subcommittees.

18 The Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member may not be counted for the purpose of  
19 establishing a quorum.

20 (2) Any member of the Committee who is not a member of the subcommittee may have  
21 the privilege of sitting and nonparticipatory attendance at subcommittee hearings or  
22 meetings in accordance with clause 2(g)(2) of House Rule XI. Such member may not:

- 1 (i) vote on any matter;
- 2 (ii) be counted for the purpose of a establishing a quorum;
- 3 (iii) participate in questioning a witness under the five minute rule, unless
- 4 permitted to do so by the subcommittee Chairman in consultation with the
- 5 Ranking Minority Member or a majority of the subcommittee, a quorum being
- 6 present;
- 7 (iv) raise points of order; or
- 8 (v) offer amendments or motions.

9 (f) Subcommittee Hearings and Meetings.--(1) Each subcommittee is authorized to meet,

10 hold hearings, receive evidence, and make recommendations to the Committee on all

11 matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction after consultation by the subcommittee

12 Chairmen with the Committee Chairman. (See Committee rule VII.)

13 (2) After consultation with the Committee Chairman, subcommittee Chairmen shall set

14 dates for hearings and meetings of their subcommittees and shall request the Majority

15 Staff Director to make any announcement relating thereto. (See Committee rule VII(b).)

16 In setting the dates, the Committee Chairman and subcommittee Chairman shall consult

17 with other subcommittee Chairmen and relevant Committee and Subcommittee Ranking

18 Minority Members in an effort to avoid simultaneously scheduling Committee and

19 subcommittee meetings or hearings to the extent practicable.

20 (3) Notice of all subcommittee meetings shall be provided to the Chairman and the

21 Ranking Minority Member of the Committee by the Majority Staff Director.

22 (4) Subcommittees may hold meetings or hearings outside of the House if the Chairman

1 of the Committee and other subcommittee Chairmen and the Ranking Minority Member  
2 of the subcommittee is consulted in advance to ensure that there is no scheduling  
3 problem. However, the majority of the Committee may authorize such meeting or  
4 hearing.

5 (5) The provisions regarding notice and the agenda of Committee meetings under  
6 Committee rule II(a) and special or additional meetings under Committee rule II(b) shall  
7 apply to subcommittee meetings.

8 (6) If a vacancy occurs in a subcommittee chairmanship, the Chairman may set the dates  
9 for hearings and meetings of the subcommittee during the period of vacancy. The  
10 Chairman may also appoint an acting subcommittee Chairman until the vacancy is filled.

11 (g) Subcommittee Action.--(1) Any bill, resolution, recommendation, or other matter  
12 forwarded to the Committee by a subcommittee shall be promptly forwarded by the  
13 subcommittee Chairman or any subcommittee member authorized to do so by the  
14 subcommittee. (2) Upon receipt of such recommendation, the Majority Staff Director of  
15 the Committee shall promptly advise all members of the Committee of the subcommittee  
16 action.

17 (3) The Committee shall not consider any matters recommended by subcommittees until  
18 two calendar days have elapsed from the date of action, unless the Chairman or a  
19 majority of the Committee determines otherwise.

20 (h) Subcommittee Investigations.--No investigation shall be initiated by a subcommittee  
21 without the prior consultation with the Chairman of the Committee or a majority of the  
22 Committee.

1                   RULE XI.--COMMITTEE BUDGET, STAFF, AND TRAVEL

2           (a) Committee Budget.--The Chairman, in consultation with the majority members of the  
3           Committee, and the minority members of the Committee, shall prepare a preliminary  
4           budget for each session of the Congress. Such budget shall include necessary amounts  
5           for staff personnel, travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and  
6           subcommittees. After consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman  
7           shall include an amount budgeted to minority members for staff under their direction and  
8           supervision. Thereafter, the Chairman shall combine such proposals into a consolidated  
9           Committee budget, and shall take whatever action is necessary to have such budget duly  
10          authorized by the House.

11          (b) Committee Staff.--(1) The Chairman shall appoint and determine the remuneration  
12          of, and may remove, the professional and clerical employees of the Committee not  
13          assigned to the minority. The professional and clerical staff of the Committee not  
14          assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the  
15          Chairman, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff  
16          members and delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate. (See House  
17          Rule X, clause 9)

18          (2) The Ranking Minority member of the Committee shall appoint and determine the  
19          remuneration of, and may remove, the professional and clerical staff assigned to the  
20          minority within the budget approved for such purposes. The professional and clerical  
21          staff assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the

1 Ranking Minority Member of the Committee who may delegate such authority as he or  
2 she determines appropriate.

3 (3) From the funds made available for the appointment of Committee staff pursuant to  
4 any primary or additional expense resolution, the Chairman shall ensure that each  
5 subcommittee is adequately funded and staffed to discharge its responsibilities and that  
6 the minority party is fairly treated in the appointment of such staff (See House Rule X,  
7 clause 6(d)).

8 (c) Committee Travel.--(1) Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such  
9 additional expense resolution as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall  
10 govern official travel of Committee members and Committee staff regarding domestic  
11 and foreign travel (See House rule XI, clause 2(n) and House Rule X, clause 8 (reprinted  
12 in Appendix A)). Official travel for any member or any Committee staff member shall be  
13 paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Official travel may be authorized  
14 by the Chairman for any Committee Member and any Committee staff member in  
15 connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee and its  
16 subcommittees and meetings, conferences, facility inspections, and investigations which  
17 involve activities or subject matter relevant to the general jurisdiction of the Committee.  
18 Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the  
19 following:

20 (i) The purpose of the official travel;

21 (ii) The dates during which the official travel is to be made and the date or dates of the  
22 event for which the official travel is being made;

1 (iii) The location of the event for which the official travel is to be made; and

2 (iv) The names of members and Committee staff seeking authorization.

3 (2) In the case of official travel of members and staff of a subcommittee to hearings,  
4 meetings, conferences, facility inspections and investigations involving activities or  
5 subject matter under the jurisdiction of such subcommittee to be paid for out of funds  
6 allocated to the Committee, prior authorization must be obtained from the subcommittee  
7 Chairman and the full Committee Chairman. Such prior authorization shall be given by  
8 the Chairman only upon the representation by the applicable subcommittee Chairman in  
9 writing setting forth those items enumerated in clause (1).

10 (3) Within 60 days of the conclusion of any official travel authorized under this rule, there  
11 shall be submitted to the Committee Chairman a written report covering the information  
12 gained as a result of the hearing, meeting, conference, facility inspection or investigation  
13 attended pursuant to such official travel.

14 (4) Local currencies owned by the United States shall be made available to the Committee  
15 and its employees engaged in carrying out their official duties outside the United States,  
16 its territories or possessions. No appropriated funds shall be expended for the purpose of  
17 defraying expenses of Members of the Committee or its employees in any country where  
18 local currencies are available for this purpose; and the following conditions shall apply  
19 with respect to their use of such currencies;

20 (i) No Member or employee of the Committee shall receive or expend local currencies  
21 for subsistence in any country at a rate in excess of the maximum per diem rate set forth  
22 in applicable Federal law; and

1 (ii) Each Member or employee of the Committee shall make an itemized report to the  
2 Chairman within 60 days following the completion of travel showing the dates each  
3 country was visited, the amount of per diem furnished, the cost of transportation  
4 furnished, and any funds expended for any other official purpose, and shall summarize in  
5 these categories the total foreign currencies and appropriated funds expended. All such  
6 individual reports shall be filed by the Chairman with the Committee on House  
7 Administration and shall be open to public inspection.

#### 8 RULE XII.--AMENDMENT OF RULES

9 These rules may be amended by a majority vote of the Committee. A proposed change in  
10 these rules shall not be considered by the Committee as provided in clause 2 of House  
11 Rule XI, unless written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each  
12 Committee member two legislative days in advance of the date on which the matter is to  
13 be considered. Any such change in the rules of the Committee shall be published in the  
14 Congressional Record within 30 calendar days after its approval.