CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

[Roll No. 881]

But, if the Ethics Committee currently interprets the term "publication" to mean the publication of a book, and the term "literary work" to mean only a book, then that will continue to be the case if my substitute is adopted since I have not, by the language of my substitute or by this legislative history, said anything to broaden that definition or interpretation.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENT THAT ROYALTIES MAY BE PERCEIVED AS CAPITALIZING ON OFFICE

The central argument used by the Ethics Committee in recommending not only a ban on advances but a limit on royalties is that such income "creates the impression of exploiting one's office for personal gain.'

This argument conveniently blurs the distinction between advances, which are payments made up front before knowing how well a book will sell, and royalties which are based solely on the popularity of a book with the buving public.

My substitute recognizes that there is an appearance problem with advances given to a government official.

That is currently banned in the executive branch for top officials and would be banned by my substitute. But, to go on to argue that receiving royalty income based on sales is somehow unethical because someone is a government office holder or appointee is a bogus argument.

A book does not become a best-seller just because the author is well-known. There are plenty of books that have not made substantial profits that have been written by authors who have had previous best-sellers, regardless of their names, positions, or previous works.

I do not recall any great public uproar over the fact that Vice President GORE's book on the environment, "Earth in the Balance," became a best-seller. People did not charge that he was taking undue advantage of his position in government. It was widely accepted that the book sold well because he had something to say, and said it well, and that many people were therefore willing to spend money to buy the book.

Let's not set a double standard for books by liberal authors and books by conservative authors. It shouldn't make a difference what the ideological stripe of the author is except with those who think it is sinful for conservatives to make money but somehow simply fortunate that liberals can reap profits occasionally from peddling their ideas.

Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were-yeas 380, nays 11, answered "present" 1, not voting 41, as follows:

YEAS-380 Abercrombie Durbin Allard Ehlers Andrews Ehrlich Archer Emerson Armey Engel Bachus English Baker (CA) Ensign Baldacci Eshoo Ballenger Evans Barcia Everett Barr Ewing Barrett (NE) Farr Fawell Barrett (WI) Bartlett Fazio Fields (LA) Barton Bass Flake Bateman Flanagan Beilenson Foglietta Bentsen Foley Bereuter Forbes Bilbray Fowler Bilirakis Fox Frank (MA) Bishop Bliley Franks (CT) Blute Franks (NJ) Boehlert Frelinghuysen Boehner Frisa Bonilla Frost Bonior Funderburk Bono Furse Borski Ganske Boucher Geidenson Brewster Gekas Browder Gephardt Brown (FL) Geren Brown (OH) Gilchrest Gillmor Brownback Bryant (TN) Gonzalez Bryant (TX) Goodlatte Bunn Goodling Bunning Gordon Burr Goss Burton Graham Greenwood Buver Gutknecht Camp Hall (OH) Hall (TX) Campbell Canady Cardin Hamilton Castle Hancock Chabot Hansen Chambliss Hastert Hastings (WA) Chapman Chenoweth Hayworth Hefley Christensen Chrysler Hefner Heineman Clayton Clement Herger Clinger Hilleary Hilliard Clyburn Hobson Coble Coburn Hoekstra Coleman Hoke Collins (GA) Holden Collins (IL) Horn Hostettler Combest Condit Houghton Cooley Hover Hunter Cox Coyne Hutchinson Crane Hvde Crapo Inglis Cremeans Istook Jackson (IL) Cubin Cunningham Jackson-Lee Danner (TX)Davis Johnson (CT) de la Garza Johnson (SD) Deal Johnson, E.B. DeFazio Johnson, Sam DeLauro Johnston DeLay Jones Dellums Kaptur Deutsch Kasich Diaz-Balart Kellv Kennedy (MA) Dickey Dicks Kennedy (RI) Dingell Kennelly Dixon Kildee Kim Doggett Dooley King Doolittle Kingston Dornan Kleczka Doyle Klug Knollenberg Dreier Duncan Kolbe LaHood Dunn

Largent Latham LaTourette Laughlin Lazio Leach Levin Lewis (CA) Lewis (GA) Lewis (KY) Lightfoot Linder Livingston LoBiondo Longlev Lowey Lucas Luther Maloney Manton Markey Martinez Martini Mascara Matsui McCarthy McCollum McCrery McDade McDermott McHale McHugh McInnis McIntosh McKeon McKinney McNulty Meehan Menendez Metcalf Mevers Mfume Mica Miller (FL) Minge Mink Moakley Molinari Mollohan Montgomery Moorhead Moran Morella Murtha Mvrick Nadler Nethercutt Neumann Nev Norwood Nussle Oberstar Obey Olver Ortiz Orton Oxlev Packard Pallone Parker Pastor Paxon Payne (NJ) Payne (VA) Pelosi Peterson (FL) Peterson (MN) Petri Pickett Pombo Pomeroy Porter Portman Poshard Pryce Radanovich Rahall Ramstad Rangel Reed Regula Richardson Riggs Rivers Roberts Roemer

Rogers Rohrabacher Rose Roth Roukema Roybal-Allard Royce Rush Sabo Salmon Sanders Sanford Sawver Saxton Scarborough Schaefer Schiff Schroeder Schumer Scott Seastrand Sensenbrenner Serrano Shadegg Shaw Shays Shuster Sisisky Skaggs Skeen Skelton Baesler Brown (CA) Clay

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Torres Torricelli Smith (MI) Smith (NJ) Traficant Smith (TX) Upton Velázquez Smith (WA) Vento Visclosky Volkmer Vucanovich Waldholtz Walker Walsh Stockman Wamp Ward Watts (OK) Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA) Weller White Whitfield Wicker Taylor (MS) Williams Taylor (NC) Wilson Wise Wolf Thompson Woolsey Thornberry Wvnn Yates Young (FL) Zeliff Torkildsen Zimmer NAYS-11 Hastings (FL) Miller (CA) Waters Watt (NC) ANSWERED "PRESENT"-1 Gunderson

NOT VOTING-41

Slaughter

Solomon

Souder

Spence

Spratt

Stearns

Stokes

Studds

Stump

Stupak

Talent

Tanner

Tauzin

Teieda

Thomas

Thornton

Thurman

Tiahrt

Hinchey

Klink

Ford

Gallegly

Gibbons

Gilman

Gutierrez

Harman

Green

Haves

Jacobs

Jefferson

LaFalce

Lantos

Lincoln

Lipinski

Kanjorski

Tate

Stenholm

Stark

Ackerman Baker (LA) Becerra Berman Bevill Callahan Calvert Collins (MI) Convers Cramer Edwards Fattah Fields (TX) Filner

Costello

#### Lofgren Manzullo Meek Myers Neal Owens Quillen Quinn Ros-Lehtinen Towns Waxman Wyden Young (AK)

# $\Box$ 1127

Mr. MILLER of California changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was inadvertently delayed and was prevented from voting on rollcall No. 881, a rule for the consideration of House Resolution 299. Had I been present to vote I would have voted 'aye.''

# □ 1130

# GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on House Resolution 322, the resolution just adopted.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Ŷork?

There was no objection.

AMENDING HOUSE RULES TO PLACE LIMITATIONS ON COPY-RIGHT ROYALTY INCOME FOR HOUSE MEMBERS, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 322, I call up House Resolution 299 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

### H. RES. 299

#### Resolved, SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RULES.

(a) Clause 3(e) of rule XLVII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended to read as follows:

"(e) The term 'outside earned income' means, with respect to a Member, officer, or employee, wages, salaries, fees, and copyright royalties earned while a Member, officer or employee of the House, and other amounts received or to be received as compensation for personal services actually rendered but does not include—

''(1) the salary of such individual as a Member, officer, or employee;

"(2) any compensation derived by such individual for personal services actually rendered prior to the effective date of this rule or becoming such a Member, officer, or employee, whichever occurs later;

"(3) any amount paid by, or on behalf of, a Member, officer, or employee, to a tax-qualified pension, profit-sharing, or stock bonus plan and received by such individual from such a plan;

"(4) in the case of a Member, officer, or employee engaged in a trade or business in which the individual or his family holds a controlling interest and in which both personal services and capital are income-producing factors, any amount received by such individual so long as the personal services actually rendered by the individual in the trade or business do not generate a significant amount of income; and

('(5) copyright royalties for works published before becoming a Member, officer, or employee of the House.''.(b) Clause 3 of rule XLVII of the Rules of

(b) Clause 3 of rule XLVII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(g) A Member, officer, or employee of the House may not—

"(1) receive any copyright royalties pursuant to a contract entered into after becoming a Member, officer, or employee—

"(A) unless the royalty is received from an established publisher pursuant to usual and customary contractual terms; and

"(B) without the prior approval of the contract by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct; or

"(2) receive any advance payment for any such work. However, the rule does not prohibit literary agents, research staff, and other persons working on behalf of the Member, officer, or employee, from receiving advance payments directly from the publisher.

"(h) The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, subject to such exceptions as it deems appropriate, shall not approve any contract which permits the deferral of royalty payments beyond the year in which earned.".

## SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this resolution shall apply to copyright royalties earned by a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives after December 31, 1995. AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. SOLOMON

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute offered by Mr. SOLOMON:

#### SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RULE XLVII (LIMITATIONS ON OUTSIDE EMPLOY-MENT AND EARNED INCOME).

Rule XLVII of the rules of the House of Representatives is amended by redesignating clause 3 as clause 4 and by inserting after clause 2 the following new clause:

 $^{\prime\prime}3.$  A Member, officer, or employee of the House may not—

"(1) receive any advance payment on copyright royalties, but this paragraph does not prohibit any literary agent, researcher, or other individual (other than an individual employed by the House or a relative of that Member, officer, or employee) working on behalf of that Member, officer, or employee with respect to a publication from receiving an advance payment of a copyright royalty directly from a publisher and solely for the benefit of that literary agent, researcher, or other individual; or

"(2) receive any copyright royalties pursuant to a contract entered into on or after January 1, 1996, unless that contract is first approved by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct as complying with the requirement of clause 4(e)(5) (that royalties are received from an established publisher pursuant to usual and customary contractual terms).".

### SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendment made by section 1 shall take effect on January 1, 1996.

Mr. SOLOMON (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 322, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY] will each be recognized for 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON].

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my 15 minutes of general debate be controlled by the gentleman from Washington [Mr. MCDERMOTT].

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Members, we have already had an extensive 1-hour debate on this issue, and I think most people know the alternatives there. The substitute I have offered presents the House with a clearcut alternative to the Johnson resolution.

House Resolution 299 would bring royalty income, for the first time, under the outside earned income cap of 15 percent of a Member's salary of approximately \$20,000. My substitute recognizes, as does the House Ethics Man-

ual, and as does the Office of Government Ethics in the executive branch, that royalty income is a return on an author's intellectual property and, therefore, should be treated as any other investment income without being subject to arbitrary limits. It is what this debate is all about.

My resolution is identical to the Johnson resolution in that it prohibits any advances on royalty income beginning next year. And that next year is simply a week away.

And just like the Johnson resolution, my substitute requires prior approval of any future contracts after January 1, 1966, to ensure that they are in compliance with current House standards. We do not change those at all. And that the contract be with an established publisher. That is the rule today. That is the rule under the Johnson resolution, and it is the rule under my resolution. And that they be pursuant to usual and customary contract terms. All that stays the same.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have to ask ourselves in considering any kind of ethics rule what is the perceived ethical problem and how can we best deal with it? When it comes to royalty income, we must ask ourselves is there an ethical problem involved with receiving income over which we have no control? Think about that. Is there a problem or conflict involved with Members receiving income from books that are purchased by persons that the author does not even know? Who is going to buy those books out there? We are not going to know who they are. The will be in Philadelphia or Los Angeles or St. Louis. I do not even know anybody in St. Louis.

Does earning royalty income detract from the time a Member can devote to his or her official duties? We should ask ourselves that. The answer to all of these questions is, clearly, an emphatic, no.

The income is derived from the marketplace, from the popularity of the book, from the value of the book, as perceived by the public that is going to buy that book and not from persons who might pose a conflict of interest. We do not even know them, so how could there be a conflict of interest? And certainly not from the time a Member must devote to persuading people to buy that book. Those are facts.

Mr. Speaker, I know there are some who argue that the mere publication of a book by a Member of Congress is somehow capitalizing on that office, but let me tell Members something. The public does not rush out to buy a book simply because it is written by a Member of Congress. The public could care less, my friends. Let us get our egos back down to where they belong. And there are several Members here today, believe me, who could attest to that. I am the author of books and I can attest to it.

Mr. Speaker, Members have had books bomb and they did not make a