

House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. OSBORNE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### VETERANS ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to talk about the shocking and shabby treatment that this administration is directing toward our Nation's veterans. I would like to share some of the reasons I would make such a statement.

Approximately a year ago this administration decided they were going to raise the copay on prescription drugs that veterans would have to pay from \$2 to \$7 a prescription. So if a veteran goes to a VA hospital today, they are likely to see this poster up on the bulletin board, "Did you know the medication copayment has changed from \$2 to \$7?"

I thought that was outrageous, and I introduced legislation in the last Congress to reduce that copayment back to \$2, but in the President's most recent budget, he does not just want to charge veterans \$7 a prescription, he wants to increase that to \$15 per prescription. Think about that. In less than 2 years, the copayment will have gone from \$2 to \$7 to \$15 a prescription.

Many of the veterans in Ohio get 10 or more prescriptions a month. If we multiply \$15 times 10, that is \$150 a month, and then veterans frequently get 3 months supply at a time. That is \$150 times 3, for many veterans who are living on fixed income. It is shameful. It is shabby treatment.

Now, what else have they tried to do to veterans? Well, about a year ago they put out a memo from the VA headquarters saying that all of the health care providers were forbidden from marketing services that veterans are entitled to receive. In other words, the health care providers can no longer participate in community health fairs. They can no longer send out newsletters describing their services to veterans. They can no longer go to an American Legion post, for example, and sign up veterans for health care services. It is a gag order.

I call it the "if they do not ask, we will not tell" policy. If the veteran does not ask what they are entitled to receive, the VA will not tell them what they are entitled to receive. Furthermore, they will prohibit their health care providers from simply giving out that information.

Then, a few weeks ago, the VA decided to have a new category of veterans; priority 8, they called them. They said if you are a veteran and you are honorably discharged and you have served this country, but you make \$26,000-\$27,000 a year, you can no longer

enroll in the VA health care system. Sorry, veteran, you paid the price, you have served the country, you have been honorably discharged, but we do not want to have anything to do with you because you make too much money. You make \$26,000-\$27,000 a year.

It gets worse. In the President's most recent budget, they are proposing that veterans who make as little as \$24,000 a year, and they are referring to them as high-income veterans, would be required to pay a \$250 annual enrollment fee just to participate in the VA health care system.

Here is what they are doing. They are saying, we are not going to tell veterans what you are entitled to receive, but if you happen to find out about our services, we are going to increase your copay from \$2 to \$15 a prescription. And then if you make \$24,000 a year, which does not sound like a lot of money to me, not compared to those of us who make about \$150,000 a year, but if you make \$24,000 a year, we want to force you to pay a \$250-per-year enrollment fee. And we want to increase the cost of going to a VA outpatient clinic from \$15 to \$20.

I think Members get the point. It is as if this administration has declared war on our Nation's veterans.

It is a shameful situation, and I urge this Congress to look at this veterans budget and to reevaluate what we are trying to do; and what we are suggesting needs to be done.

#### PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE 108TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with clause 2(a) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House, I am submitting for printing in the RECORD a copy of the Rules of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the 108th Congress, adopted on February 12, 2003.

#### Rules of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure United States House of Representatives 108th Congress (Adopted February 12, 2003)

##### RULE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

###### (a) APPLICABILITY OF HOUSE RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the Committee and its subcommittees.

(2) SUBCOMMITTEES.—Each subcommittee is part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its rules so far as applicable.

(3) INCORPORATION OF HOUSE RULE ON COMMITTEE PROCEDURE.—Rule XI of the Rules of the House, which pertains entirely to Committee procedure, is incorporated and made

a part of the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(b) PUBLICATION OF RULES.—The Committee's rules shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

(c) VICE CHAIRMAN.—The Chairman shall appoint a vice chairman of the Committee and of each subcommittee. If the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee is not present at any meeting of the Committee or subcommittee, as the case may be, the vice chairman shall preside. If the vice chairman is not present, the ranking member of the majority party on the Committee or subcommittee who is present shall preside at that meeting.

##### RULE II. REGULAR, ADDITIONAL, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS.

###### (a) REGULAR MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its business unless such day is a holiday, or the House is in recess or is adjourned, in which case the Chairman shall determine the regular meeting day of the Committee for that month.

(2) NOTICE.—The Chairman shall give each member of the Committee, as far in advance of the day of the regular meeting as the circumstances make practicable, a written notice of such meeting and the matters to be considered at such meeting.

(3) CANCELLATION OR DEFERRAL.—If the Chairman believes that the Committee will not be considering any bill or resolution before the full Committee and that there is no other business to be transacted at a regular meeting, the meeting may be canceled or it may be deferred until such time as, in the judgment of the Chairman, there may be matters which require the Committee's consideration.

(4) APPLICABILITY.—This paragraph shall not apply to meetings of any subcommittee.

(b) ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.—The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to the call of the Chairman.

(c) SPECIAL MEETINGS.—If at least three members of the Committee desire that a special meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman for that special meeting. Such request shall specify the measure or matter to be considered. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chairman of the filing of the request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman does not call the requested special meeting to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Committee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the measure or matter to be considered at that special meeting. The Committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the clerk of the Committee shall notify all members of the Committee that such meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered; and only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

(d) PROHIBITION ON SITTING DURING JOINT SESSION.—The Committee may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

**RULE III. MEETINGS AND HEARINGS GENERALLY.**

(a) **OPEN MEETINGS.**—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing of the Committee or a subcommittee shall be open to the public, except as provided by clause 2(g) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(b) **MEETINGS TO BEGIN PROMPTLY.**—Each meeting or hearing of the Committee shall begin promptly at the time so stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

(c) **ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE.**—A Committee member may address the Committee or a subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration—

(1) only when recognized by the Chairman for that purpose; and

(2) only for 5 minutes until such time as each member of the Committee or subcommittee who so desires has had an opportunity to address the Committee or subcommittee.

A member shall be limited in his or her remarks to the subject matter under consideration. The Chairman shall enforce this subparagraph.

(d) **PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS IN SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS AND HEARINGS.**—All members of the Committee who are not members of a particular Subcommittee may, by unanimous consent of the members of such Subcommittee, participate in any subcommittee meeting or hearing. However, a member who is not a member of the Subcommittee may not vote on any matter before the Subcommittee, be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, or raise points of order.

(e) **BROADCASTING.**—Whenever a meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public, that meeting or hearing shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with clause 4 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House. Operation and use of any Committee internet broadcast system shall be fair and non-partisan and in accordance with clause 4(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House.

(f) **ACCESS TO THE DAIS AND LOUNGES.**—Access to the hearing rooms' daises and to the lounges adjacent to the Committee hearing rooms shall be limited to Members of Congress and employees of Congress during a meeting or hearing of the Committee unless specifically permitted by the Chairman or ranking minority member.

(g) **USE OF CELLULAR TELEPHONES.**—The use of cellular telephones in the Committee hearing room is prohibited during a meeting or hearing of the Committee.

**RULE IV. POWER TO SIT AND ACT; POWER TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS; OATHS; SUBPOENA POWER.**

(a) **AUTHORITY TO SIT AND ACT.**—For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the House, the Committee and each of its subcommittees, is authorized (subject to paragraph (d)(1))—

(1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned and to hold such hearings; and

(2) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, and documents, as it deems necessary.

(b) **AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Committee is authorized at any time to conduct such investigations and studies as it may consider nec-

essary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under Rule X of the Rules of the House and (subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by Rule X, clause 6 of the Rules of the House) to incur expenses (including travel expenses) in connection therewith.

(2) **MAJOR INVESTIGATIONS BY SUBCOMMITTEES.**—A subcommittee may not begin a major investigation without approval of a majority of such subcommittee.

(c) **OATHS.**—The Chairman of the Committee, or any member designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witness.

(d) **ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A subpoena may be issued by the Committee or subcommittee under paragraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation or activity or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present. Such authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chairman of the Committee or by any member designated by the Committee. If a specific request for a subpoena has not been previously rejected by either the Committee or subcommittee, the Chairman of the Committee, after consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee, may authorize and issue a subpoena under paragraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation or activity or series of investigations or activities, and such subpoena shall for all purposes be deemed a subpoena issued by the Committee. As soon as practicable after a subpoena is issued under this rule, the Chairman shall notify all members of the Committee of such action.

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

(e) **EXPENSES OF SUBPOENAED WITNESSES.**—Each witness who has been subpoenaed, upon the completion of his or her testimony before the Committee or any subcommittee, may report to the offices of the Committee, and there sign appropriate vouchers for travel allowances and attendance fees. If hearings are held in cities other than Washington, D.C., the witness may contact the counsel of the Committee, or his or her representative, before leaving the hearing room.

**RULE V. QUORUMS AND RECORD VOTES; POSTPONEMENT OF VOTES**

(a) **WORKING QUORUM.**—One-third of the members of the Committee or a subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action other than the closing of a meeting pursuant to clauses 2(g) and 2(k)(5) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House, the authorizing of a subpoena pursuant to paragraph (d) of Committee Rule IV, the reporting of a measure or recommendation pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of Committee Rule VII, and the actions described in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this rule.

(b) **QUORUM FOR REPORTING.**—A majority of the members of the Committee or a subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting of a measure or recommendation.

(c) **APPROVAL OF CERTAIN MATTERS.**—A majority of the members of the Committee or a subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for approval of a resolution concerning any of the following actions:

(1) A prospectus for construction, alteration, purchase or acquisition of a public building or the lease of space as required by section 3307 of title 40, United States Code.

(2) Survey investigation of a proposed project for navigation, flood control, and other purposes by the Corps of Engineers (section 4 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 4, 1913, 33 U.S.C. 542).

(3) Construction of a water resources development project by the Corps of Engineers

with an estimated Federal cost not exceeding \$15,000,000 (section 201 of the Flood Control Act of 1965).

(4) Deletion of water quality storage in a Federal reservoir project where the benefits attributable to water quality are 15 percent or more but not greater than 25 percent of the total project benefits (section 65 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974).

(5) Authorization of a Natural Resources Conservation Service watershed project involving any single structure of more than 4,000 acre feet of total capacity (section 2 of P.L. 566, 83rd Congress).

(d) **QUORUM FOR TAKING TESTIMONY.**—Two members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

(e) **RECORD VOTES.**—A record vote may be demanded by one-fifth of the members present.

(f) **POSTPONEMENT OF VOTES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In accordance with clause 2(h)(4) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House, the Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, after consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee or subcommittee, may—

(A) postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving a measure or matter or on adopting an amendment; and

(B) resume proceedings on a postponed question at any time after reasonable notice.

(2) **RESUMPTION OF PROCEEDINGS.**—When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

**RULE VI. HEARING PROCEDURES.**

(a) **ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEARING.**—The Chairman, in the case of a hearing to be conducted by the Committee, and the appropriate subcommittee chairman, in the case of a hearing to be conducted by a subcommittee, shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of such hearing at least one week before the hearing. If the Chairman or the appropriate subcommittee chairman, as the case may be, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member of the Committee or subcommittee as appropriate, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. The clerk of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record as soon as possible after such public announcement is made.

(b) **WRITTEN STATEMENT; ORAL TESTIMONY.**—So far as practicable, each witness who is to appear before the Committee or a subcommittee shall file with the clerk of the Committee or subcommittee, at least 2 working days before the day of his or her appearance, a written statement of proposed testimony and shall limit his or her oral presentation to a summary of the written statement.

(c) **MINORITY WITNESSES.**—When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the minority party members on the Committee or subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those minority members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon.

(d) **SUMMARY OF SUBJECT MATTER.**—Upon announcement of a hearing, to the extent

practicable, the Committee shall make available immediately to all members of the Committee a concise summary of the subject matter (including legislative reports and other material) under consideration. In addition, upon announcement of a hearing and subsequently as they are received, the Chairman shall make available to the members of the Committee any official reports from departments and agencies on such matter.

(e) **QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES.**—The questioning of witnesses in Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be initiated by the Chairman, followed by the ranking minority member and all other members alternating between the majority and minority parties. In recognizing members to question witnesses in this fashion, the Chairman shall take into consideration the ratio of the majority to minority members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of the majority nor the members of the minority. The Chairman may accomplish this by recognizing two majority members for each minority member recognized.

(f) **PROCEDURES FOR QUESTIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A Committee member may question a witness at a hearing—

(A) only when recognized by the Chairman for that purpose; and

(B) subject to subparagraphs (2) and (3), only for 5 minutes until such time as each member of the Committee or subcommittee who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

A member shall be limited in his or her remarks to the subject matter under consideration. The Chairman shall enforce this paragraph.

(2) **EXTENDED QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES BY MEMBERS.**—The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the Committee or subcommittee by motion, may permit a specified number of its members to question a witness for longer than 5 minutes. The time for extended questioning of a witness under this subdivision shall be equal for the majority party and minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(3) **EXTENDED QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES BY STAFF.**—The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the Committee or subcommittee by motion, may permit committee staff for its majority and minority party members to question a witness for equal specified periods. The time for extended questioning of a witness under this subdivision shall be equal for the majority party and minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(4) **RIGHT TO QUESTION WITNESSES FOLLOWING EXTENDED QUESTIONING.**—Nothing in subparagraph (2) or (3) affects the right of a Member (other than a Member designated under subparagraph (2)) to question a witness for 5 minutes in accordance with subparagraph (1)(B) after the questioning permitted under subparagraph (2) or (3).

(g) **ADDITIONAL HEARING PROCEDURES.**—Clause 2(k) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House (relating to additional rules for hearings) applies to hearings of the Committee and its subcommittees.

**RULE VII. PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, AND REPORTS.**

(a) **FILING OF REPORTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Chairman of the Committee shall report promptly to the House any measure or matter approved by the Committee and take necessary steps to bring the measure or matter to a vote.

(2) **REQUESTS FOR REPORTING.**—The report of the Committee on a measure or matter

which has been approved by the Committee shall be filed within 7 calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the clerk of the Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the members of the Committee, for the reporting of that measure or matter. Upon the filing of any such request, the clerk of the Committee shall transmit immediately to the Chairman of the Committee notice of the filing of that request.

(b) **QUORUM; RECORD VOTES.**—

(1) **QUORUM.**—No measure, matter, or recommendation shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee was actually present.

(2) **RECORD VOTES.**—With respect to each record vote on a motion to report any measure or matter of a public character, and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total number of votes cast for and against, and the names of those members voting for and against, shall be included in the Committee report on the measure or matter.

(c) **REQUIRED MATTERS.**—The report of the Committee on a measure or matter which has been approved by the Committee shall include the items required to be included by clauses 2(c) and 3 of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House.

(d) **ADDITIONAL VIEWS.**—If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by the Committee, any member of the Committee gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views, that member shall be entitled to not less than two additional calendar days after the day of such notice (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) in which to file such views in accordance with clause 2(1) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(e) **ACTIVITIES REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Committee shall submit to the House, not later than January 2 of each odd-numbered year, a report on the activities of the Committee under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the House during the Congress ending on January 3 of such year.

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

(3) **OVERSIGHT SECTION.**—The oversight section of such report shall include a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the Committee pursuant to clause 2(d) of Rule X of the Rules of the House, a summary of the actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee, and any recommendations made or actions taken thereon.

(f) **OTHER COMMITTEE MATERIALS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—All Committee and subcommittee prints, reports, documents, or other materials, not otherwise provided for under this rule, that purport to express publicly the views of the Committee or any of its subcommittees or members of the Committee or its subcommittees shall be approved by the Committee or the subcommittee prior to printing and distribution and any member shall be given an opportunity to have views included as part of such material prior to printing, release, and distribution in accordance with paragraph (d) of this rule.

(2) **DOCUMENTS CONTAINING VIEWS OTHER THAN MEMBER VIEWS.**—A Committee or subcommittee document containing views other than those of members of the Committee or subcommittee shall not be published without approval of the Committee or subcommittee.

(3) **DISCLAIMER.**—All Committee or subcommittee reports printed pursuant to legis-

lative study or investigation and not approved by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, shall contain the following disclaimer on the cover of such report: "This report has not been officially adopted by the Committee on (or pertinent subcommittee thereof) and may not therefore necessarily reflect the views of its members."

**RULE VIII. ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEES; SIZE AND PARTY RATIOS.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There shall be 6 standing subcommittees. These subcommittees, with the following sizes (including delegates) and majority/minority ratios, are:

(1) Subcommittee on Aviation (48 Members: 26 Majority and 22 Minority).

(2) Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation (15 Members: 8 Majority and 7 Minority).

(3) Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management (11 Members: 6 Majority and 5 Minority).

(4) Subcommittee on Highways, Transit, and Pipelines (57 Members: 31 Majority and 26 Minority).

(5) Subcommittee on Railroads (28 Members: 15 Majority and 13 Minority).

(6) Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment (36 Members: 20 Majority and 16 Minority).

(b) **EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.**—The Chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee shall serve as ex officio voting members on each subcommittee.

(c) **RATIOS.**—On each subcommittee there shall be a ratio of majority party members to minority party members which shall be no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio for the full Committee. In calculating the ratio of majority party members to minority party members, there shall be included the ex officio members of the subcommittees.

**RULE IX. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES.**

(a) **AUTHORITY TO SIT.**—Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

(b) **CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE.**—Each bill, resolution, or other matter favorably reported by a subcommittee shall automatically be placed upon the agenda of the Committee. Any such matter reported by a subcommittee shall not be considered by the Committee unless it has been delivered to the offices of all members of the Committee at least 48 hours before the meeting, unless the Chairman determines that the matter is of such urgency that it should be given early consideration. Where practicable, such matters shall be accompanied by a comparison with present law and a section-by-section analysis.

**RULE X. REFERRAL OF LEGISLATION TO SUBCOMMITTEES.**

(a) **GENERAL REQUIREMENT.**—Except where the Chairman of the Committee determines, in consultation with the majority members of the Committee, that consideration is to be by the full Committee, each bill, resolution, investigation, or other matter which relates to a subject listed under the jurisdiction of any subcommittee established in Committee Rule VIII referred to or initiated by the full Committee shall be referred by the Chairman to all subcommittees of appropriate jurisdiction within two weeks. All bills shall

be referred to the subcommittee of proper jurisdiction without regard to whether the author is or is not a member of the subcommittee.

(b) **RECALL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE.**—A bill, resolution, or other matter referred to a subcommittee in accordance with this rule may be recalled therefrom at any time by a vote of a majority of the members of the Committee voting, a quorum being present, for the Committee's direct consideration or for reference to another subcommittee.

(c) **MULTIPLE REFERRALS.**—In carrying out this rule with respect to any matter, the Chairman may refer the matter simultaneously to two or more subcommittees for concurrent consideration or for consideration in sequence (subject to appropriate time limitations in the case of any subcommittee after the first), or divide the matter into two or more parts (reflecting different subjects and jurisdictions) and refer each such part to a different subcommittee, or make such other provisions as he or she considers appropriate.

**RULE XI. RECOMMENDATION OF CONFEREES.**

The Chairman of the Committee shall recommend to the Speaker as conferees the names of those members (1) of the majority party selected by the Chairman, and (2) of the minority party selected by the ranking minority member of the Committee. Recommendations of conferees to the Speaker shall provide a ratio of majority party members to minority party members which shall be no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio for the Committee.

**RULE XII. OVERSIGHT.**

(a) **PURPOSE.**—The Committee shall carry out oversight responsibilities as provided in this rule in order to assist the House in—

(1) its analysis, appraisal, and evaluation of—

(A) the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of the laws enacted by the Congress; or

(B) conditions and circumstances which may indicate the necessity or desirability of enacting new or additional legislation; and

(2) its formulation, consideration, and enactment of such modifications or changes in those laws, and of such additional legislation, as may be necessary or appropriate.

(b) **OVERSIGHT PLAN.**—Not later than February 15 of the first session of each Congress, the Committee shall adopt its oversight plans for that Congress in accordance with clause 2(d)(1) of Rule X of the Rules of the House.

(c) **REVIEW OF LAWS AND PROGRAMS.**—The Committee and the appropriate subcommittees shall cooperatively review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of the Committee, and the organization and operation of the Federal agencies and entities having responsibilities in or for the administration and execution thereof, in order to determine whether such laws and the programs thereunder are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of the Congress and whether such programs should be continued, curtailed, or eliminated. In addition, the Committee and the appropriate subcommittees shall cooperatively review and study any conditions or circumstances which may indicate the necessity or desirability of enacting new or additional legislation within the jurisdiction of the Committee (whether or not any bill or resolution has been introduced with respect thereto), and shall on a continuing basis undertake future research and forecasting on matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

(d) **REVIEW OF TAX POLICIES.**—The Committee and the appropriate subcommittees

shall cooperatively review and study on a continuing basis the impact or probable impact of tax policies affecting subjects within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

**RULE XIII. REVIEW OF CONTINUING PROGRAMS; BUDGET ACT PROVISIONS.**

(a) **ENSURING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS.**—The Committee shall, in its consideration of all bills and joint resolutions of a public character within its jurisdiction, ensure that appropriations for continuing programs and activities of the Federal Government and the District of Columbia government will be made annually to the maximum extent feasible and consistent with the nature, requirements, and objectives of the programs and activities involved.

(b) **REVIEW OF MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS.**—The Committee shall review, from time to time, each continuing program within its jurisdiction for which appropriations are not made annually in order to ascertain whether such program could be modified so that appropriations therefore would be made annually.

(c) **VIEWS AND ESTIMATES.**—The Committee shall, on or before February 25 of each year, submit to the Committee on the Budget—

(1) its views and estimates with respect to all matters to be set forth in the concurrent resolution on the budget for the ensuing fiscal year which are within its jurisdiction or functions; and

(2) an estimate of the total amount of new budget authority, and budget outlays resulting therefrom, to be provided or authorized in all bills and resolutions within its jurisdiction which it intends to be effective during that fiscal year.

(d) **BUDGET ALLOCATIONS.**—As soon as practicable after a concurrent resolution on the budget for any fiscal year is agreed to, the Committee (after consulting with the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate) shall subdivide any allocations made to it in the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on such resolution, and promptly report such subdivisions to the House, in the manner provided by section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(e) **RECONCILIATION.**—Whenever the Committee is directed in a concurrent resolution on the budget to determine and recommend changes in laws, bills, or resolutions under the reconciliation process, it shall promptly make such determination and recommendations, and report a reconciliation bill or resolution (or both) to the House or submit such recommendations to the Committee on the Budget, in accordance with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

**RULE XIV. RECORDS.**

(a) **KEEPING OF RECORDS.**—The Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee action which shall include—

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

(2) a record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded.

(b) **PUBLIC INSPECTION.**—The result of each such record vote shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those members present but not voting.

(c) **PROPERTY OF THE HOUSE.**—All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the member serving as Chairman of the Committee; and such records shall be the property of the House and all members of the House shall have access thereto.

(d) **AVAILABILITY OF ARCHIVED RECORDS.**—The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the ranking minority member of the Committee of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of such rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on written request of any member of the Committee.

(e) **AUTHORITY TO PRINT.**—The Committee is authorized to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any meeting or hearing of the Committee shall be paid as provided in clause 1(c) of Rule XI of the House.

**RULE XV. COMMITTEE BUDGETS.**

(a) **BIENNIAL BUDGET.**—The Chairman, in consultation with the chairman of each subcommittee, the majority members of the Committee, and the minority members of the Committee, shall, for each Congress, prepare a consolidated Committee budget. Such budget shall include necessary amounts for staff personnel, necessary travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee.

(b) **ADDITIONAL EXPENSES.**—Authorization for the payment of additional or unforeseen Committee expenses may be procured by one or more additional expense resolutions processed in the same manner as set out herein.

(c) **TRAVEL REQUESTS.**—The Chairman or any chairman of a subcommittee may initiate necessary travel requests as provided in Committee Rule XVII within the limits of the consolidated budget as approved by the House and the Chairman may execute necessary vouchers thereof.

(d) **MONTHLY REPORTS.**—Once monthly, the Chairman shall submit to the Committee on House Administration, in writing, a full and detailed accounting of all expenditures made during the period since the last such accounting from the amount budgeted to the Committee. Such report shall show the amount and purpose of such expenditure and the budget to which such expenditure is attributed. A copy of such monthly report shall be available in the Committee office for review by members of the Committee.

**RULE XVI. COMMITTEE STAFF.**

(a) **APPOINTMENT BY CHAIRMAN.**—The Chairman shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the employees of the Committee not assigned to the minority. The staff of the Committee not assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Chairman, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate.

(b) **APPOINTMENT BY RANKING MINORITY MEMBER.**—The ranking minority member of the Committee shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the staff assigned to the minority within the budget approved for such purposes. The staff assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the ranking minority member of the Committee who may delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate.

(c) **INTENTION REGARDING STAFF.**—It is intended that the skills and experience of all

members of the Committee staff shall be available to all members of the Committee.  
**RULE XVII. TRAVEL OF MEMBERS AND STAFF.**

(a) **APPROVAL.**—Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolutions as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern travel of Committee members and staff. Travel to be reimbursed from funds set aside for the Committee for any member or any staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Travel shall be authorized by the Chairman for any member and any staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee and meetings, conferences, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the following:

- (1) The purpose of the travel.
- (2) The dates during which the travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the travel is being made.
- (3) The location of the event for which the travel is to be made.
- (4) The names of members and staff seeking authorization.

(b) **SUBCOMMITTEE TRAVEL.**—In the case of travel of members and staff of a subcommittee to hearings, meetings, conferences, and investigations involving activities or subject matter under the legislative assignment of such subcommittee, prior authorization must be obtained from the subcommittee chairman and the Chairman. Such prior authorization shall be given by the Chairman only upon the representation by the chairman of such subcommittee in writing setting forth those items enumerated in subparagraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) of paragraph (a) and that there has been a compliance where applicable with Committee Rule VI.

(c) **TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.**—  
(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of travel outside the United States of members and staff of the Committee or of a subcommittee for the purpose of conducting hearings, investigations, studies, or attending meetings and conferences involving activities or subject matter under the legislative assignment of the Committee or pertinent subcommittee, prior authorization must be obtained from the Chairman, or, in the case of a subcommittee from the subcommittee chairman and the Chairman. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chairman, in writing, a request for such authorization. Each request, which shall be filed in a manner that allows for a reasonable period of time for review before such travel is scheduled to begin, shall include the following:

- (A) The purpose of the travel.
- (B) The dates during which the travel will occur.
- (C) The names of the countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each.
- (D) An agenda of anticipated activities for each country for which travel is authorized together with a description of the purpose to be served and the areas of Committee jurisdiction involved.
- (E) The names of members and staff for whom authorization is sought.

(2) **INITIATION OF REQUESTS.**—Requests for travel outside the United States may be initiated by the Chairman or the chairman of a subcommittee (except that individuals may submit a request to the Chairman for the purpose of attending a conference or meeting) and shall be limited to members and permanent employees of the Committee.

(3) **REPORTS BY STAFF MEMBERS.**—At the conclusion of any hearing, investigation, study, meeting, or conference for which travel has been authorized pursuant to this rule, each staff member involved in such travel shall submit a written report to the Chairman covering the activities and other pertinent observations or information gained as a result of such travel.

(d) **APPLICABILITY OF LAWS, RULES, POLICIES.**—Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, or regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Administration pertaining to such travel, and by the travel policy of the Committee.

#### RECOGNIZING SHERIFF O'BRIEN'S 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. **HOOLEY**) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. **HOOLEY** of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize someone in my district, John O'Brien, who is the sheriff of Lincoln County. It is in honor of his 30 years of law enforcement in Lincoln County, I extend a sincere thank-you to Sheriff O'Brien on my own behalf and on behalf of all of the citizens of Lincoln County.

Our laws are of little utility if no one makes sure they are followed. Seldom do we take the time to recognize the routine achievements that allow our Nation to function as it should. Many times it is only the pitfalls, the unfortunate breakdowns in our system, that draw attention to law enforcement. Such fickle evaluation of our law enforcement officers is manifestly unjust. The fact is that the grand majority of our days are without incident. The rule of law reigns. The people reject upheaval.

These points demonstrate that the greatest victories of law enforcement are its contributions to regularity. We never recognize the people who give us plain, old, ordinary days. Perhaps we should.

Accordingly, it is with great pride that I congratulate Sheriff John O'Brien. His bravery, dedication and service in building a safer and stronger community have provided the people with Lincoln County with thousands of wonderfully uneventful days.

Sheriff O'Brien's career demonstrates a commitment to public service to which every officer of the law should aspire. John O'Brien began his career as a sheriff's deputy on February 6, 1973. The people of Lincoln County elected him to the office of Sheriff in 1994 and have subsequently seen fit to elect him to second and third terms. As all of us are aware, voters are properly cautious in selecting the people who represent them.

An official's first election often indicates a willingness in the people to chance their own best interests on someone who has shown that he has the ability to succeed. That official's second election is very often a barometer of the official's contact with the

electorate during his term of service. With his third election comes proof that he has served his constituents to their satisfaction.

This is the satisfaction of Lincoln County reflected in its overwhelming choice of Sheriff O'Brien as the public face of law enforcement in their community. The confidence of Lincoln County's voting public in Sheriff O'Brien attests to the success of his efforts and his responsiveness to the people he serves.

I would like to tell a little story about John O'Brien. Every time, at the coast, at Lincoln County, John is always at my meetings. And I keep asking him, "John, you are always here." He says, "I just want you to know that we are here, what our needs are, and I want you to understand about our community."

To this day, John O'Brien remains an active protector of Lincoln County's public safety. He has risen to meet the challenges of an increasingly difficult job. Changing times have altered the issues with which Sheriff O'Brien is faced, but he has shown the ability to adapt and battle new problems with modern solutions.

Lincoln County has in recent years encountered an increase in the manufacture and sale of methamphetamines. Sheriff O'Brien has turned this growing problem into an opportunity to spearhead innovative new crime-reduction strategies. Through his work with the federally supported Lincoln Interagency Narcotics Team, Sheriff O'Brien has encouraged the sharing of resources and information between county agencies with an interest in reducing drug traffic. This work not only demonstrates Sheriff O'Brien's desire to get results, but also his complete disregard for who receives credit for those results. His willingness to work with other agencies in facing down a dangerous trend is evidence of a cooperative spirit and a will to succeed that we honor here today.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff O'Brien is worthy of recognition today for more than simply putting in his time. While 30 years of service in the public interest is a feat in itself, Sheriff O'Brien's true contribution has been in its effect on Lincoln County. Today we recognize that Lincoln County is a better place to live, to work and raise a family because of the devotion of Sheriff John O'Brien.

I thank John for his 30 years of service given in the pursuit of safety, justice and peace.

#### PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES 108TH CONGRESS

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. **POMBO**) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. **POMBO**. Mr. Speaker, I request that the Committee Rules for the Committee on Resources be submitted for the **RECORD**.