

1 RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
2 115TH CONGRESS
3 (As adopted February 1, 2017)
4

5
6 RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

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

14 (2) As provided in clause 1(a)(1) of House Rule XI, each Subcommittee is part of the
15 Committee and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its Rules so far as
16 applicable. (See also Committee Rules III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII and XI, infra.)

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

21 (c) Authority to Print.—The Committee is authorized by the Rules of the House to have printed
22 and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee and its
23 subcommittees. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any
24 meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be paid from applicable
25 accounts of the House described in clause 1(k)(1) of House Rule X in accordance with clause

1 1(c) of House Rule XI. (See also paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of Committee Rule IX.)

2 (d) Vice Chairman.—The Member of the majority party on the Committee or Subcommittee
3 designated by the Chairman of the full Committee shall be the vice chairman of the Committee
4 or Subcommittee in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule XI.

5 (e) Presiding Member.—If the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee is not present at
6 any Committee or Subcommittee meeting or hearing, the vice chairman shall preside. If the
7 Chairman and vice chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee are not present at a Committee
8 or Subcommittee meeting or hearing the ranking Member of the majority party who is present
9 shall preside in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule XI.

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

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

16 RULE II.—COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETINGS—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL AND

17 SPECIAL

18 (a) Regular Meetings.— Regular meetings of the Committee, in accordance with clause 2(b) of
19 House Rule XI, shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its business if
20 notice is given pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of House Rule XI. The Chairman shall provide each
21 Member of the Committee, as far in advance of the day of the regular meeting as practicable, a
22 written agenda of such meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda by the Chairman or a

1 majority of the Committee. (See paragraph (f) of Committee Rule XI for provisions that apply to
2 meetings of subcommittees.)

3 (b) Additional Meetings.— (1) The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers
4 necessary, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which Members have notice
5 thereof after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or after
6 concurrence with the Ranking Minority Member, additional meetings of the Committee for the
7 consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other
8 Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such additional meetings pursuant to the
9 notice from the Chairman.

10 (2) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner than specified in clause (1) (in which case, the
11 chair shall make the announcement specified at the earliest possible time) if the Committee so
12 determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of Members required under the Rules
13 of the Committee for the transaction of business.

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

17 (c) Special Meetings.—If at least three Members of the Committee desire that a special
18 meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those Members may file in the offices of
19 the Committee their written request to the Chairman for such special meeting. Such request shall
20 specify the measure or matters to be considered. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the
21 Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk of the Committee for such purpose) shall notify the
22 Chairman of the filing of the request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of the request, the
23 Chairman does not call the requested special meeting to be held within 7 calendar days after the

1 filing of the request, a majority of the Members of the Committee may file in the offices of the
2 Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held, specifying
3 the date and hour thereof, and the measures or matter to be considered at that special meeting in
4 accordance with clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI. The Committee shall meet on that date and
5 hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk)
6 of the Committee shall notify all Members of the Committee that such meeting will be held and
7 inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered, and only the
8 measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

9 RULE III.—OPEN MEETINGS AND HEARINGS; BROADCASTING

10 (a) Open Meetings and Hearings.—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the
11 markup of legislation, and each hearing by the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be open to
12 the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of House Rule XI.

13 (b) Broadcasting and Photography.—Whenever a Committee or Subcommittee meeting for the
14 transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public,
15 that meeting or hearing shall:

16

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

21 (2) Be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with

1 clause 4 of House Rule XI. When such audio and visual coverage is conducted in the
2 Committee or Subcommittee, written notice to that effect shall be provided to each Member.
3 The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee shall not limit the number of television or
4 still cameras permitted in a hearing or meeting room to fewer than two representatives from
5 each medium (except for legitimate space or safety considerations, in which case pool
6 coverage shall be authorized).

7
8 (c) Closed Meetings—Attendees.—No person other than Members of the Committee or
9 Subcommittee and such congressional staff and departmental representatives as the Committee
10 or Subcommittee may authorize shall be present at any business or markup session that has been
11 closed to the public as provided in clause 2(g)(1) of House Rule XI.

12 (d) Addressing the Committee.—A Committee Member may address the Committee or a
13 Subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration (See Committee Rule
14 VIII (e) relating to questioning a witness at a hearing). The time a Member may address the
15 Committee or Subcommittee for any such purpose shall be limited to 5 minutes, except that this
16 time limit may be waived by unanimous consent. A Member shall also be limited in his or her
17 remarks to the subject matter under consideration, unless the Member receives unanimous
18 consent to extend his or her remarks beyond such subject.

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

22 (f) Prohibition on Proxy Voting.—No vote by any Member of the Committee or Subcommittee
23 with respect to any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

1 (g) Location of Persons at Meetings.—No person other than the Committee or Subcommittee
2 Members and Committee or Subcommittee staff may be seated in the rostrum area during a
3 meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee unless by unanimous consent of Committee or
4 Subcommittee.

5 (h) Consideration of Amendments and Motions.—A Member, upon request, shall be
6 recognized by the Chairman to address the Committee or Subcommittee at a meeting for a period
7 limited to 5 minutes on behalf of an amendment or motion offered by the Member or another
8 Member, or upon any other matter under consideration, unless the Member receives unanimous
9 consent to extend the time limit. Every amendment or motion made in Committee or
10 Subcommittee shall, upon the demand of any Member present, be reduced to writing, and a copy
11 thereof shall be made available to all Members present. Such amendment or motion shall not be
12 pending before the Committee or Subcommittee or voted on until the requirements of this
13 paragraph have been met.

14 (i) Demanding Record Vote.—

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

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

20

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

1 (B) notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the underlying
2 proposition on which proceedings were postponed shall remain subject to further debate
3 or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.
4

5 (j) Submission of Motions or Amendments In Advance of Business Meetings.—The
6 Committee and Subcommittee Chairman may request and Committee and Subcommittee
7 Members should, insofar as practicable, cooperate in providing copies of proposed amendments
8 or motions to the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or the
9 Subcommittee twenty-four hours before a Committee or Subcommittee business meeting.

10 (k) Points of Order.—No point of order against the hearing or meeting procedures of the
11 Committee or Subcommittee shall be entertained unless it is made in a timely fashion.

12 (l) Limitation on Committee Sitzings.—The Committee or subcommittees may not sit during a
13 joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and
14 Senate is in progress.

15 (m) Prohibition of Wireless Telephones.—Use of wireless phones during a Committee or
16 Subcommittee hearing or meeting is prohibited.
17

18 RULE IV.—QUORUMS.

19 (a) Working Quorum.—One-third of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall
20 constitute a quorum for taking any action, other than as noted in paragraphs (b) and (c).

21 (b) Majority Quorum.—A majority of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall
22 constitute a quorum for:
23

1 (1) the reporting of a bill, resolution, or other measure (See clause 2(h)(1) of House Rule
2 XI, and Committee Rule IX);

3 (2) the closing of a meeting or hearing to the public pursuant to clauses 2(g), 2(k)(5), and
4 2(k)(7) of House Rule XI;

5 (3) the authorizing of a subpoena as provided in clause 2(m)(3) of House Rule XI (See also
6 Committee Rule VII); and

7 (4) as where required by a Rule of the House.

8
9 (c) Quorum for Taking Testimony.—Two Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall
10 constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

11 RULE V.—RECORDS.

12 (a) Maintenance of Records.—The Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee
13 and Subcommittee action which shall include:

14
15 (1) in the case of any meeting or hearing transcripts, a substantially verbatim account of
16 remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and
17 typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks involved, and

18 (2) written minutes, which shall include a record of all Committee and Subcommittee
19 action, a record of all votes on any question, and a tally on all record votes.

20
21 The result of each such record vote shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by
22 the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee and by telephone request and also

1 made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote. Not later than 24
2 hours after adoption of an amendment to a measure or matter, the chair of the Committee shall
3 cause the text of such amendment adopted thereto to be made publicly available in electronic
4 form. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the
5 amendment, motion, order, or other proposition; the name of each Member voting for and each
6 Member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or other proposition; and the names of
7 those Members present but not voting.

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

1 length or its tendency to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

2 (c) Property of the House.—All Committee and Subcommittee records (including hearings
3 data, charts, and files) shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of
4 the Members serving as Chairman. Such records shall be the property of the House, and all
5 Members of the House shall have access thereto. The Majority Staff Director shall promptly
6 notify the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of any request for access to such records.

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

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

18 (f) Electronic Availability of Committee Publications.—To the maximum extent feasible, the
19 Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

20 **RULE VI.—POWER TO SIT AND ACT.**

21 For the purpose of carrying out any of its function and duties under House Rules X and XI, the
22 Committee and each of its subcommittees is authorized to sit and act at such times and places

1 within the United States whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned and to
2 hold such hearings.

3
4 RULE VII.—SUBPOENAS AND OATHS.

5 (a) Issuance of Subpoenas.—In accordance with clause 2(m) of House Rule XI, a subpoena
6 may be authorized and issued by a majority of the Committee or by the Chairman in consultation
7 with the Ranking Minority Member. Such consultation shall occur at least 48 hours in advance
8 of a subpoena being issued under such authority. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the
9 Chairman of the Committee or by any Member designated by the Committee.

10 (b) Oaths.—The Chairman of the Committee, or any member of the Committee designated by
11 the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witnesses.

12
13 RULE VIII.—HEARING PROCEDURES.

14 (a) Power to Hear.—For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under
15 House Rules X and XI, the Committee and its subcommittees are authorized to sit and hold
16 hearings at any time or place within the United States whether the House is in session, has
17 recessed, or has adjourned. (See Committee Rule VI and paragraph (f) of Committee Rule XI
18 for provisions relating to Subcommittee hearings and meetings.)

19 (b) Announcement.—The Chairman of the Committee shall, after consultation with the
20 Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, make a public announcement of the date, place,
21 and subject matter of any Committee hearing at least 1 week before the commencement of the
22 hearing. The Chairman of a Subcommittee shall schedule a hearing only after consultation with
23 the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee. After

1 such consultation, the Chairman of the Subcommittee shall consult the Chairmen of the other
2 subcommittees and shall request the Majority Staff Director to make a public announcement of
3 the date, place, and subject matter of such hearing at least 1 week before the hearing. If the
4 Chairman of the Committee or the Subcommittee, with concurrence of the Ranking Minority
5 Member of the Committee or Subcommittee, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing
6 sooner, or if the Committee or Subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being
7 present for the transaction of business, the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, as
8 appropriate, shall request the Majority Staff Director to make such public announcement at the
9 earliest possible date. The clerk of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk
10 of the *Congressional Record* and shall promptly enter the appropriate information into the
11 Committee scheduling service of the House Information Systems as soon as possible after such
12 public announcement is made.

13 (c) Scheduling of Witnesses.—Except as otherwise provided in this rule, the scheduling of
14 witnesses and determination of the time allowed for the presentation of testimony at hearings
15 shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, unless a majority
16 of the Committee or Subcommittee determines otherwise.

17 (d) Written Statement; Oral Testimony.—(1) Each witness who is to appear before the
18 Committee or a Subcommittee, shall insofar as practicable file with the Majority Staff Director
19 of the Committee, at least 2 working days before the day of his or her appearance, a written
20 statement of proposed testimony. Witnesses shall provide sufficient copies of their statement for
21 distribution to Committee or Subcommittee Members, staff, and the news media. Insofar as
22 practicable, the Committee or Subcommittee staff shall distribute such written statements to all
23 Members of the Committee or Subcommittee as soon as they are received, as well as any official

1 reports from departments and agencies on such subject matter. All witnesses may be limited in
2 their oral presentations to brief summaries of their statements within the time allotted to them at
3 the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee, in light of the nature of the
4 testimony and the length of time available.

5 (2) As noted in paragraph (b) of Committee Rule VII, the Chairman of the Committee, or any
6 Member designated by the Chairman, may administer an oath to any witness.

7 (3) To the greatest extent practicable, each witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity
8 shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony:

9 (i) a curriculum vitae;

10 (ii) disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or
11 subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current calendar year
12 or either of the 2 preceding calendar years by the witness or by an entity represented by the
13 witness; and

14 (iii) disclosure of the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to
15 the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government received during the
16 current calendar year or either of the 2 preceding calendar years by the witness or by an entity
17 represented by the witness.

18 Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of witnesses, shall be made
19 publicly available in electronic form not later than 1 day after the witness appears.

20 (e) Questioning of Witnesses.—Committee or Subcommittee Members may question witnesses
21 only when they have been recognized by the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee for
22 that purpose. Each Member so recognized shall be limited to questioning a witness for 5 minutes
23 until such time as each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee who so desires has had an

1 opportunity to question the witness for 5 minutes; and thereafter the Chairman of the Committee
2 or Subcommittee may limit the time of a further round of questioning after giving due
3 consideration to the importance of the subject matter and the length of time available. All
4 questions put to witnesses shall be germane to the measure or matter under consideration.
5 Unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee determines otherwise, no Committee or
6 Subcommittee staff shall interrogate witnesses.

7 (f) Extended Questioning for Designated Members.—Notwithstanding paragraph (e), the
8 Chairman and Ranking Minority Member may designate an equal number of Members from
9 each party to question a witness for a period not longer than 60 minutes.

10 (g) Witnesses for the Minority.—When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any
11 Subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the minority party Members on the Committee or
12 Subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those minority
13 Members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to
14 testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least 1 day of hearing thereon as provided
15 in clause 2(j)(1) of House Rule XI.

16 (h) Summary of Subject Matter.—Upon announcement of a hearing, to the extent practicable,
17 the Committee shall make available immediately to all Members of the Committee a concise
18 summary of the subject matter (including legislative reports and other material) under
19 consideration. In addition, upon announcement of a hearing and subsequently as they are
20 received, the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee shall, to the extent practicable, make
21 available to the Members of the Committee any official reports from departments and agencies
22 on such matter. (See paragraph (f) of Committee Rule XI.)

23 (i) Open Hearings.—Each hearing conducted by the Committee or Subcommittee shall be open

1 to the public, including radio, television, and still photography coverage, except as provided in
2 clause 4 of House Rule XI (See also paragraph (b) of Committee Rule III.). In any event, no
3 Member of the House may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing unless
4 the House by majority vote shall authorize the Committee or Subcommittee, for purposes of a
5 particular series of hearings on a particular bill or resolution or on a particular subject of
6 investigation, to close its hearings to Members by means of the above procedure.

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

16 (ii) Whenever it is asserted by a Member of the Committee that the evidence or testimony at a
17 hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness
18 that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame,
19 degrade, or incriminate the witness, such testimony or evidence shall be presented in executive
20 session, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (i) of this rule, if by a majority of those
21 present, there being in attendance the requisite number required under the Rules of the
22 Committee to be present for the purpose of taking testimony, the Committee or Subcommittee
23 determines that such evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any

1 person. The Committee or Subcommittee shall afford a person an opportunity voluntarily to
2 appear as a witness; and the Committee or Subcommittee shall receive and shall dispose of
3 requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

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

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

16 RULE IX.—THE REPORTING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

17 (a) Filing of Reports.—The Chairman shall report or cause to be reported promptly to the
18 House any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the Committee and shall take or cause
19 to be taken all necessary steps to bring such bill, resolution, or other measure to a vote. No bill,
20 resolution, or measure shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee
21 is actually present. A Committee report on any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the
22 Committee shall be filed within 7 calendar days (not counting days on which the House is not in

1 session) after the day on which there has been filed with the Majority Staff Director of the
2 Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the Committee, for the reporting of that bill
3 or resolution. The Majority Staff Director of the Committee shall notify the Chairman
4 immediately when such a request is 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

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

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

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

12 (4) the results of each record vote on any amendment in the Committee and Subcommittee
13 and on the motion to report the measure or matter, including the total number of votes cast for
14 and against, and the names of Members voting for and against such amendment or motion

15 (See clause 3(b) of House Rule XIII);

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

19 (6) the detailed statement described in House Rule XIII clause 3(c)(2) and section 308(a) of
20 the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if the bill or resolution provides new budget authority
21 (other than continuing appropriations), new spending authority described in section 401(c)(2)
22 of such Act, new credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures,
23 except that the estimates with respect to new budget authority shall include, when

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

3 (7) the estimate of costs and comparison of such estimates, if any, prepared by the Director
4 of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with such bill or resolution pursuant to
5 section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if submitted in timely fashion to the
6 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) an estimate by the Committee of the costs that would be incurred in carrying out the
10 bill or joint resolution in the fiscal year in which it is reported and in each of the five fiscal
11 years following that fiscal year (or for the authorized duration of any program authorized by
12 the bill or joint resolution if less than five years) (see clause 3(d)(1) of House Rule XIII),
13 together with—(i) a comparison of these estimates with those made and submitted to the
14 Committee by any Government agency when practicable and (ii) a comparison of the total
15 estimated funding level for the relevant program (or programs) with appropriate levels under
16 current law (The provisions of this clause do not apply if a cost estimate and comparison
17 prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the
18 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report
19 and included in the report);

20 (10) a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the
21 bill or in the report (and the name of any Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who
22 submitted a request to the Committee for each respective item included in such list) or a

1 statement that the proposition contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or
2 limited tariff benefits;

3 (11) the changes in existing law (if any) shown in accordance with clause 3 of House Rule
4 XIII;

5 (12) the determination required pursuant to section 5(b) of P.L. 92-463, if the legislation
6 reported establishes or authorizes the establishment of an advisory committee;

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

10 (14) a statement regarding the applicability of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional
11 Accountability Act (P.L. 104-1);

12 (15) a statement indicating whether any provision of the measure establishes or
13 reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another
14 Federal program. The Statement shall at a minimum explain whether—

15
16 (A) any such program was included in any report from the Government Accountability
17 Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of P.L. 111-139; or

18 (B) the most recent catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, published pursuant to the
19 Federal Program Information Act (P.L. 95-220, as amended by P. L. 98-169), identified
20 other programs related to the program established or reauthorized by the measure; and

21
22 (16) a statement estimating the number of directed rule makings required by the measure.

1 (c) Supplemental, Minority, Additional, or Dissenting Views.—If, at the time of approval of
2 any measure or matter by the Committee, any Member of the Committee gives notice of
3 intention to file supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views, all Members shall be
4 entitled to not less than 2 subsequent calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal
5 holidays except when the House is in session on such date) in which to file such writing and
6 signed views with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee. When time guaranteed by this
7 paragraph has expired (or, if sooner, when all separate views have been received), the Committee
8 may arrange to file its report with the Clerk of the House not later than 1 hour after the expiration
9 of such time. All such views (in accordance with clause 2(l) of House Rule XI and clause
10 3(a)(1) of House Rule XIII), as filed by one or more Members of the Committee, shall be
11 included within and made a part of the report filed by the Committee with respect to that bill or
12 resolution.

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

15
16 (1) include all supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views that have been
17 submitted by the time of the filing of the report; and

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

21
22 (e) Immediate Printing; Supplemental Reports.— Nothing in this rule shall preclude—

23

1 (1) the immediate filing or printing of a Committee report unless timely request for the
2 opportunity to file supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views has been made as
3 provided by paragraph (c); or

4 (2) the filing by the Committee of any supplemental report on any bill or resolution that
5 may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous report made by the
6 Committee on that bill or resolution.

7
8 (f) Availability of Printed Hearing Records.—If hearings have been held on any reported bill or
9 resolution, the Committee shall make every reasonable effort to have the record of such hearings
10 printed and available for distribution to the Members of the House prior to the consideration of
11 such bill or resolution by the House. Each printed hearing of the Committee or any of its
12 subcommittees shall include a record of the attendance of the Members.

13 (g) Committee Prints.—All Committee or Subcommittee prints or other Committee or
14 Subcommittee documents, other than reports or prints of bills, that are prepared for public
15 distribution shall be approved by the Chairman of the Committee or the Committee prior to
16 public distribution.

17 (h) Post Adjournment Filing of Committee Reports.—(1) After an adjournment of the last
18 regular session of a Congress *sine die*, an investigative or oversight report approved by the
19 Committee may be filed with the Clerk at any time, provided that if a Member gives notice at the
20 time of approval of intention to file supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views, that
21 Member shall be entitled to not less than 7 calendar days in which to submit such views for
22 inclusion with the report.

23 (2) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress *sine die*, the Chairman of the

1 Committee may file at any time with the Clerk the Committee's activity report for that Congress
2 pursuant to clause 1(d)(1) of House Rule XI without the approval of the Committee, provided
3 that a copy of the report has been available to each Member of the Committee for at least 7
4 calendar days and the report includes any supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views
5 submitted by a Member of the Committee.

6 (i) Conference.—The Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of House Rule
7 XXII whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

8

9 **RULE X.—OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

10 (a) Authorization and Oversight Plan.—(1) Not later than February 15 of the first session of a
11 Congress, the Chairman shall convene the Committee in a meeting that is open to the public to
12 adopt its authorization and oversight plan for that Congress. Such plan shall be submitted
13 simultaneously to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Committee on
14 House Administration, and the Committee on Appropriations.

15 (2) Each such plan shall include, with respect to programs and agencies within the
16 committee's jurisdiction, and to the maximum extent practicable—

17 (A) a list of such programs or agencies with lapsed authorizations that
18 received funding in the prior fiscal year or, in the case of a program or agency
19 with a permanent authorization, which has not been subject to a comprehensive
20 review by the Committee in the prior three Congresses;

21 (B) a description of each such program or agency to be authorized in the
22 current Congress;

23 (C) a description of each such program or agency to be authorized in the

1 next Congress, if applicable;

2 (D) a description of any oversight to support the authorization of each
3 such program or agency in the current Congress; and

4 (E) recommendations for changes to existing law for moving such
5 programs or agencies from mandatory funding to discretionary appropriations,
6 where appropriate.

7 (3) Each such plan may include, with respect to the programs and agencies within the
8 Committee's jurisdiction,—

9 (A) recommendations for the consolidation or termination of such
10 programs or agencies that are duplicative, unnecessary, or inconsistent with the
11 appropriate roles and responsibilities of the Federal Government;

12 (B) recommendations for changes to existing law related to Federal rules,
13 regulations, statutes, and court decisions affecting such programs and agencies
14 that are inconsistent with the authorities of the Congress under Article I of the
15 Constitution; and

16 (C) a description of such other oversight activities as the Committee may
17 consider necessary.

18 (4) In the development of such plan, the Chairman of the Committee shall coordinate
19 with other committees of jurisdiction to ensure that programs and agencies are subject to routine,
20 comprehensive authorization efforts.

21
22
23 The Committee and its appropriate subcommittees shall review and study, on a continuing basis,

1 the impact or probable impact of tax policies affecting subjects within its jurisdiction as provided
2 in clause 2(c) of House Rule X. The Committee shall include in the report filed pursuant to
3 clause 1(d) of House Rule XI separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight
4 activities of the Committee under House Rule X and House Rule XI, a summary of the
5 authorization and oversight plan submitted by the Committee under clause 2(d) of House Rule X,
6 a summary of actions taken and recommendations made with respect to the oversight and
7 authorization plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the
8 Committee and any recommendations made or actions taken thereon.

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

17 (c) Budget Act Compliance: Views and Estimates (See *Appendix B*).—Not later than 6 weeks
18 after the President submits his budget under section 1105(a) of Title 31, United States Code, or at
19 such time as the Committee on the Budget may request, the Committee shall, submit to the
20 Committee on the Budget (1) its views and estimates with respect to all matters to be set forth in
21 the concurrent resolution on the budget for the ensuing fiscal year (under section 301 of the
22 Congressional Budget Act of 1974) that are within its jurisdiction or functions; and (2) an
23 estimate of the total amounts of new budget authority, and budget outlays resulting therefrom, to

1 be provided or authorized in all bills and resolutions within its jurisdiction that it intends to be
2 effective during that fiscal year.

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

9 (e) Conference Committees.—Whenever in the legislative process it becomes necessary to
10 appoint conferees, the Chairman shall, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member,
11 determine the number of conferees the Chairman deems most suitable and then recommend to
12 the Speaker as conferees, in keeping with the number to be appointed by the Speaker as provided
13 in clause 11 of House Rule I, the names of those Members of the Committee of not less than a
14 majority who generally supported the House position and who were primarily responsible for the
15 legislation. The Chairman shall, to the fullest extent feasible, include those Members of the
16 Committee who were the principal proponents of the major provisions of the bill as it passed the
17 House and such other Committee Members of the majority party as the Chairman may designate
18 in consultation with the Members of the majority party. Such recommendations shall provide a
19 ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members no less favorable to the majority
20 party than the ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members on the Committee. In
21 making recommendations of Minority Party Members as conferees, the Chairman shall consult
22 with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

1 (f) Hearing on Waste, Fraud, and Abuse.—(1) The Committee, or a Subcommittee, shall hold
2 at least one hearing during each 120-day period following the establishment of the Committee on
3 the topic of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement in Government programs which the
4 Committee may authorize.

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

9 (g) Hearing on Agency Financial Statements.—The Committee or a Subcommittee, shall hold
10 at least one hearing in any session in which the Committee has received disclaimers of agency
11 financial statements from auditors of any Federal agency that the Committee may authorize to
12 hear testimony on such disclaimers from representatives of any such agency.

13 (h) Hearing on GAO High-Risk-List.—The Committee or a Subcommittee, shall hold at least
14 one hearing on issues raised by reports issued by the Comptroller General of the United States
15 indicating that Federal programs or operations that the Committee may authorize are at high risk
16 for waste, fraud, and mismanagement, known as the ‘high-risk-list’ or the ‘high-risk series’.

17 (i) Activities Report.—(1) Not later than January 2 of each odd-numbered year, the Committee
18 shall submit to the House a report on the activities of the Committee. After adjournment *sine die*
19 of the last regular session of a Congress, or after December 15 of an even-numbered year,
20 whichever occurs first, the Chair may file the report, a copy of which shall be made available to
21 each Member of the Committee for at least 7 calendar days, with the Clerk of the House at any
22 time.

23 (2) Such report shall include separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight

1 activities of the Committee during that Congress.

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

7 RULE XI.—SUBCOMMITTEES

8 (a) Number and Composition.—There shall be such subcommittees as specified in paragraph
9 (c) of this rule. Each of such subcommittees shall be composed of the number of Members set
10 forth in paragraph (c) of this rule, including *ex officio* Members.¹ The Chairman may create
11 additional subcommittees of an *ad hoc* nature as the Chairman determines to be appropriate,
12 subject to any limitations provided for in the House Rules.

13 (b) Ratios.—On each Subcommittee, there shall be a ratio of majority party Members to
14 minority party Members which shall be consistent with the ratio on the full Committee. In
15 calculating the ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members, there shall be
16 included the *ex officio* Members of the subcommittees and ratios below reflect that fact.

17 (c) Jurisdiction.—Each Subcommittee shall have the following general jurisdiction and number
18 of Members:

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

1 **General Farm Commodities and Risk Management (23 members, 13 majority and 10**
2 **minority)** - Policies, statutes, and markets relating to commodities including barley,
3 cotton, cottonseed, corn, grain sorghum, honey, mohair, oats, other oilseeds, peanuts,
4 pulse crops, rice, soybeans, sugar, wheat, and wool; the Commodity Credit Corporation;
5 risk management policies and statutes, including Federal Crop Insurance; producer data
6 and privacy issues.

7
8 **Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit (16 members, 9 majority and 7 minority) -**
9 Policies, statutes, and markets relating to commodity exchanges; agricultural credit; rural
10 development; energy; rural electrification.

11
12 **Conservation and Forestry (16 members, 9 majority and 7 minority) -** Policies and statutes
13 relating to resource conservation, forestry, and all forests under the jurisdiction of the
14 Committee on Agriculture.

15
16 **Nutrition (23 members, 13 majority and 10 minority) -** Policies and statutes relating to
17 nutrition, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and domestic
18 commodity distribution and consumer initiatives.

19
20 **Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research (16 members, 9 majority and 7 minority) -**
21 Policies, statutes, and markets relating to horticulture, including fruits, vegetables, nuts,
22 and ornamentals; bees; and organic agriculture; policies and statutes relating to marketing

1 and promotion orders; pest and disease management; bioterrorism; adulteration and
2 quarantine matters; research, education, and extension; and biotechnology.

3
4 **Livestock and Foreign Agriculture (16 members, 9 majority and 7 minority) - Policies,**

5 statutes, and markets relating to all livestock, poultry, dairy, and seafood, including all
6 products thereof; the inspection, marketing, and promotion of such commodities and
7 products; aquaculture; animal welfare; grazing; foreign agricultural assistance and trade
8 promotion.

9 (d) Referral of Legislation.—

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

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

20 (2) The Chairman, by a majority vote of the Committee, may discharge a Subcommittee
21 from further consideration of any bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the
22 Subcommittee and have such bill, resolution, or other matter considered by the Committee.

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

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

14
15 (e) Participation and Service of Committee Members on Subcommittees.—(1) The Chairman
16 and the Ranking Minority Member shall serve as *ex officio* Members of all subcommittees and
17 shall have the right to vote on all matters before the subcommittees. The Chairman and the
18 Ranking Minority Member may not be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

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

22 (i) vote on any matter;

23 (ii) be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum;

1 (iii) participate in questioning a witness under the 5-Minute Rule, unless permitted to do so
2 by the Subcommittee Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member or a
3 majority of the Subcommittee, a quorum being present;

4 (iv) raise points of order; or

5 (v) offer amendments or motions.

6
7 (f) Subcommittee Hearings and Meetings.—(1) Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold
8 hearings, receive evidence, and make recommendations to the Committee on all matters referred
9 to it or under its jurisdiction after consultation by the Subcommittee Chairman with the
10 Committee Chairman. (See Committee Rule VIII.)

11 (2) After consultation with the Committee Chairman, Subcommittee Chairmen shall set dates
12 for hearings and meetings of their subcommittees and shall request the Majority Staff Director to
13 make any announcement relating thereto. (See paragraph (b) of Committee Rule VIII.) In
14 setting the dates, the Committee Chairman and Subcommittee Chairman shall consult with other
15 Subcommittee Chairmen and relevant Committee and Subcommittee Ranking Minority
16 Members in an effort to avoid simultaneously scheduling Committee and Subcommittee
17 meetings or hearings to the extent practicable.

18 (3) Notice of all Subcommittee meetings shall be provided to the Chairman and the Ranking
19 Minority Member of the Committee by the Majority Staff Director.

20 (4) Subcommittees may hold meetings or hearings outside of the House if the Chairman of the
21 Committee and other Subcommittee Chairmen and the Ranking Minority Member of the
22 Subcommittee is consulted in advance to ensure that there is no scheduling problem. However,
23 the majority of the Committee may authorize such meeting or hearing.

1 (5) The provisions regarding notice and the agenda of Committee meetings under paragraph (a)
2 of Committee Rule II and special or additional meetings under paragraph (b) of Committee Rule
3 II shall apply to Subcommittee meetings.

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

7 (g) Subcommittee Action.—(1) Any bill, resolution, recommendation, or other matter
8 forwarded to the Committee by a Subcommittee shall be promptly forwarded by the
9 Subcommittee Chairman or any Subcommittee Member authorized to do so by the
10 Subcommittee.

11 (2) Upon receipt of such recommendation, the Majority Staff Director of the Committee shall
12 promptly advise all Members of the Committee of the Subcommittee action.

13 (3) The Committee shall not consider any matters recommended by subcommittees until 2
14 calendar days have elapsed from the date of action, unless the Chairman or a majority of the
15 Committee determines otherwise.

16 (h) Subcommittee Investigations.—No investigation shall be initiated by a Subcommittee
17 without prior consultation with the Chairman of the Committee or a majority of the Committee.

18 **RULE XII.—COMMITTEE BUDGET, STAFF, AND TRAVEL**

19 (a) Committee Budget.—The Chairman, in consultation with the majority Members of the
20 Committee and the minority Members of the Committee, shall prepare a preliminary budget for
21 each session of the Congress. Such budget shall include necessary amounts for staff personnel,
22 travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and subcommittees. After

1 consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman shall include an amount
2 budgeted to minority Members for staff under their direction and supervision. Thereafter, the
3 Chairman shall combine such proposals into a consolidated Committee budget and shall take
4 whatever action is necessary to have such budget duly authorized by the House.

5 (b) Committee Staff.—(1) The Chairman shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and
6 may remove, the professional and clerical employees of the Committee not assigned to the
7 minority. The professional and clerical staff of the Committee not assigned to the minority shall
8 be under the general supervision and direction of the Chairman, who shall establish and assign
9 the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate such authority as he or she
10 determines appropriate. (See clause 9 of House Rule X)

11 (2) The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall appoint and determine the
12 remuneration of, and may remove, the professional and clerical staff assigned to the minority
13 within the budget approved for such purposes. The professional and clerical staff assigned to the
14 minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Ranking Minority Member
15 of the Committee who may delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate.

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

20 (c) Committee Travel.—(1) Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional
21 expense resolution as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern official
22 travel of Committee Members and Committee staff regarding domestic and foreign travel (See
23 clause 8 of House Rule X). Official travel for any Member or any Committee staff member shall

1 be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Official travel may be authorized by
2 the Chairman for any Committee Member and any Committee staff member in connection with
3 the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee and its subcommittees and meetings,
4 conferences, facility inspections, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter
5 relevant to the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given there
6 shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the following:

7

- 8 (i) The purpose of the official travel;
- 9 (ii) The dates during which the official travel is to be made and the date or dates of the
10 event for which the official travel is being made;
- 11 (iii) The location of the event for which the official travel is to be made; and
- 12 (iv) The names of Members and Committee staff seeking authorization.

13

14 (2) In the case of official travel of Members and staff of a Subcommittee to hearings, meetings,
15 conferences, facility inspections, and investigations involving activities or subject matter under
16 the jurisdiction of such Subcommittee to be paid for out of funds allocated to the Committee,
17 prior authorization must be obtained from the Subcommittee Chairman and the full Committee
18 Chairman. Such prior authorization shall be given by the Chairman only upon the representation
19 by the applicable Subcommittee Chairman in writing setting forth those items enumerated in
20 clause (1).

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

1 to such official travel.

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

8

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

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

19

RULE XIII.—AMENDMENT OF RULES

20 These Rules may be amended by a majority vote of the Committee. A proposed change in
21 these Rules shall not be considered by the Committee as provided in clause 2 of House Rule XI,
22 unless written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each Committee Member 2

1 legislative days in advance of the date on which the matter is to be considered. Any such change
2 in the Rules of the Committee shall be published in the *Congressional Record* within 30 calendar
3 days after its approval.