

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

March 22, 2019

To: Members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform

Fr: Majority Staff

Re: Committee Business Meeting

On Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Committee on Oversight and Reform will hold a business meeting to consider the following:

1. H.R. 745, the Executive Branch Comprehensive Ethics Enforcement Act;
2. H.R. 964, Transition Team Ethics Improvement Act;
3. H.R. 1076, the Fair Chance Act;
4. H.R. 1496, the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act;
5. H.R. 1847, the Inspector General Protection Act; and
6. Several postal naming measures.

I. H.R. 745, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH COMPREHENSIVE ETHICS ENFORCEMENT ACT

The bill was introduced by Rep. Raskin on January 24, 2019, and was included as Subtitle D of Title VIII of H.R. 1. The bill would reauthorize the Office of Government Ethics, strengthen its ability to establish and oversee ethics policy for the executive branch, and provide it with independent authority to investigate ethics violations. The Committee held a hearing on the provisions of H.R. 1 in its jurisdiction on February 6, 2019.

Staff contacts: Krista Boyd or Brandon Rios.

II. H.R. 964, TRANSITION TEAM ETHICS IMPROVEMENT ACT

Chairman Cummings introduced H.R. 964, the Transition Team Ethics Improvement Act, on February 5, 2019. It was included as Subtitle F of Title VIII of H.R. 1. The bill would require Presidents-elect to publicly release ethics plans for their transition teams that contain certain core requirements, such as prohibiting transition team members from working on matters involving personal conflicts of interest. The Committee held a hearing on the provisions of H.R. 1 in its jurisdiction on February 6, 2019.

Staff contacts: Krista Boyd or Brandon Rios.

III. H.R. 1076, THE FAIR CHANCE ACT

The Fair Chance Act was introduced by Chairman Cummings, Ranking Member Doug Collins of the House Committee on the Judiciary, and Senators Corey Booker and Ron Johnson on February 7, 2019. The Subcommittees on Government Operations and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties held a hearing on the bill on March 13, 2019. On February 13, 2019, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate ordered the bill reported on a voice vote.

The bill would help formerly-incarcerated individuals obtain non-sensitive federal jobs by prohibiting federal agencies and contractors from asking about the criminal history of a job applicant until after making a conditional offer of employment.

Staff Contact: Yvette Badu-Nimako.

IV. H.R. 1496, THE PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MODERNIZATION ACT

H.R. 1496 was introduced by Rep. Hice and Chairman Cummings on March 5, 2019. The legislation would amend the Former Presidents Act of 1958 to cap a former President's annual pension at \$200,000. In addition, the bill would provide an annual allowance of \$200,000 for the conduct of the duties of former presidents. Both the pension and allowance amounts would be indexed to inflation.

The annual allowance would be reduced dollar for dollar in instances in which a former President's adjusted gross income in a taxable year exceeds \$400,000. The bill also would increase the pension for a surviving spouse of a former President from \$20,000 to \$100,000, indexed to inflation. The bill would not affect the funding for the security or protection of former Presidents and would apply to all future former presidents.

Staff contact: Mark Stephenson.

V. H.R. 1847, THE INSPECTOR GENERAL PROTECTION ACT

The Inspector General Protection Act will be introduced by Rep. Ted Lieu and Jody Hice prior to the markup. The bill would require notification of Congress in advance of an Inspector General (IG) being placed in a paid or unpaid non-duty status (administrative leave). The bill would also

require the President to report to Congress if an IG has not been nominated within 210 days after a vacancy occurs for the position, including the reasons the nomination has not been made and a target date for doing so.

Staff contact: Mark Stephenson.

VI. POSTAL NAMING MEASURES

- H.R.540, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office.”
- H.R. 1198, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 404 South Boulder Highway in Henderson, Nevada, as the “Henderson Veterans Memorial Post Office Building.”
- H.R.1449, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3033 203rd Street in Olympia Fields, Illinois, as the “Captain Robert L. Martin Post Office.”
- S. 725, A bill to change the address of the postal facility designated in honor of Captain Humayun Khan.

Staff contact: Mark Stephenson.