

Explanatory Statement of Mrs. Miller and Mr. Brady

Section 1 of the amendments to the Members' Handbook is designed to only permit the reimbursement of mileage for vehicles owned by a Member or staff in which they or their immediately family have an ownership interest.

Section 2 of the amendments to the Members' Handbook is designed to limit the use of charter or private aircraft. Nothing in that section is intended to limit the ability of a Member or staff to claim personal mileage reimbursement on an aircraft when the aircraft is owned by the Member or staff. Furthermore, prior approval for travel between the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and anywhere on a private or charter aircraft is intended to be granted only in cases of emergency.

Section 3 of the amendments to the Members' Handbook is designed to create further limitations on the ability to use the MRA for decorations and/or furniture. Nothing in the section should be construed to give Members any new right to purchase fixtures or furniture. The prohibition on purchase of furniture for Washington, D.C. offices remains. Furthermore, the limitation on decorations to only those of nominal value remains. The requirement for approval of items that exceed \$5,000 is intended to apply per item. If, for example, a new district office was setup and purchase 10 \$550 desks, there would be no requirement for approval.