

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

116th CONGRESS

A RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 116-8

Resolution to Promulgate Interim Regulations Governing House Paid Internships

Be it resolved, that the Committee on House Administration promulgates the following interim regulations, pursuant to Section 120 of Public Law 115-244, the Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2019. H.Rept. 115-929, the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 5895, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019 and for Other Purposes, stated:

The conferees believe that House internships should be available to the broadest possible pool of candidates who have the ability and interest to serve. Unpaid internships can be an impediment to otherwise qualified candidates who cannot independently afford to work without pay. One important step to expanding the opportunity for public service within the House is to provide interns financial compensation via a stipend. The underlying bill provides up to \$20,000 per Member office for the sole purpose of paid internships. The paid internship positions shall not count against the number of employees who may be employed by a Member of the House under 2 U.S.C. 5321. The Committee on House Administration will promulgate rules and regulations on the implementation of this new authority. (At 204).

Sec. 1

In the regulations collectively known as the “Members’ Congressional Handbook” within “Categories of Staff,” insert the following as a new section after the “Interns” section:

House Paid Internship Program

Public Law 115-244, Section 120 established an allowance separate from the MRA for compensation of interns. Under this section, each Member office is authorized to use up to \$20,000 per year from this allowance to pay interns. Interns participating in this program are subject to the same federal laws and regulations, House Rules, House regulations, and Ethics regulations as

interns who may be paid with MRA funds. Interns participating in this program must be based in the Washington, D.C. office. In addition, these interns do not count against the Member's employee staff ceiling.

Sec. 2

In the regulations collectively known as the "Members' Congressional Handbook" insert the following at the end of the "Disbursements" section:

Interns employed by a Member Office through the Section 120 Internship program are eligible for reimbursement of official expenses incurred as part of their official duties.

Sec. 3

The Committee directs the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to report in the Statement of Disbursements payments from the applicable House accounts in a manner that accurately reflects the employing office of individuals employed through the House Paid Internship Program. The CAO is further directed to develop a payroll authorization form for this program and include program participants on the monthly payroll certification of the Member office that has authorized the internship. The CAO should also provide offices a monthly update on the balance of their allotment and submit a semiannual report to the Committee on total usage of the of the authorization by Member offices.