

MARKUP OF H. RES. 173

MARKUP BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

MARCH 8, 2017

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MARKUP OF H. RES. 173

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:53 a.m., in Room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Gregg Harper [Chairman of the Committee] presiding.

Present: Representatives Harper, Davis, Smith, Loudermilk, Brady, and Raskin.

Staff Present: Sean Moran, Staff Director; Kim Betz, Senior Advisor; Bob Sensenbrenner, General Counsel; Max Engling, Franking Director; George Hadijski, Director of Member Services; Erin McCracken, Communications Director; C. Maggie Moore, Legislative Clerk; Rob Taggard, Deputy Legislative Clerk/Oversight; Cole Felder, Counsel; Alex Attebery, Staff Assistant; Jamie Fleet, Minority Staff Director; Matt Pinkus, Minority Senior Policy Advisor; and Eddie Flaherty, Minority Chief Clerk.

The CHAIRMAN. I now call to order the Committee on House Administration for today's Committee markup. A quorum is present. So we may proceed. The meeting record will remain open for 5 legislative days so Members may submit any materials they wish to be included therein.

Today we will consider H. Res. 173, the Committee Funding Resolution which authorizes the committee budgets for the 115th Congress. Every Congress, the House looks to this Committee to carry out our responsibility of determining the funding needed for standing House committees this year and next. Our panel has received input from the chairmen and ranking members of each standing committee to help set appropriate funding levels. I thank each of them for presenting a budget request that is targeted to meet their legislative and oversight responsibilities. I am confident that, with their assistance, our Committee has put forward a funding resolution that applies appropriate and targeted amounts to effectively support each of the House committees as they continue their work.

I would now like to recognize the Committee's Ranking Member, Mr. Brady, for the purpose of providing an opening statement if he wishes.

Mr. BRADY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for calling this meeting this morning.

And I am pleased to support the Committee Funding Resolution. I will ask my colleagues to do same.

I also appreciate your bipartisan approach to this process, working with me to protect the rights of the minority. On behalf of my

colleagues on the Armed Services Committee, the increase is very much needed, and it will be put to good use. I hope we are able to take this matter to the floor quickly and get our colleagues the resources they need.

You know, we hear from every one of our ranking members and our chairmen, and all they keep saying is they have to get qualified staff. We need qualified staff all around this country. And in order to get qualified staff, you have got to pay them. And we don't pay them nowhere near the level that they would get paid in private service in the private sector. So we appreciate, you know, their contribution to the American people, and we appreciate the contribution to this here. And I think that most of them—almost all of them—have said that any increase would be going to staff and getting and keeping qualified staff, so they don't leave, and being able to attract qualified staff. So I think it is a good approach that we are doing a little bit and a little bit more, a little bit more, and maybe we can maintain and keep that level.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman yields back.

I would ask if any other Member of the Committee wishes to be recognized for the purpose of providing an opening statement.

Seeing none, I now call up and lay before the Committee H. Res. 173, the Committee Funding Resolution.

Without objection, the first reading of the Resolution is dispensed with, and the Resolution is considered read and open for amendment at any point.

[The bill follows:]



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 173

Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2017

Mr. HARPER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

RESOLUTION

Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress.

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. COMMITTEE EXPENSES FOR THE ONE HUN-**
3 **DRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the One Hundred
5 Fifteenth Congress, there shall be paid out of the applica-
6 ble accounts of the House of Representatives, in accord-
7 ance with this primary expense resolution, not more than
8 the amount specified in subsection (b) for the expenses
9 (including the expenses of all staff salaries) of each com-
10 mittee named in such subsection.

1 (b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees
2 and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee
3 on Agriculture, \$11,437,517; Committee on Armed Serv-
4 ices, \$16,188,340; Committee on the Budget,
5 \$10,380,424; Committee on Education and the Workforce,
6 \$14,454,212; Committee on Energy and Commerce,
7 \$20,531,442; Committee on Ethics, \$6,681,326; Com-
8 mittee on Financial Services, \$16,580,450; Committee on
9 Foreign Affairs, \$15,673,986; Committee on Homeland
10 Security, \$15,007,846; Committee on House Administra-
11 tion, \$10,343,130; Permanent Select Committee on Intel-
12 ligence, \$12,100,000; Committee on the Judiciary,
13 \$15,350,572; Committee on Natural Resources,
14 \$13,758,344; Committee on Oversight and Government
15 Reform, \$18,259,682; Committee on Rules, \$6,460,562;
16 Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,
17 \$10,969,956; Committee on Small Business, \$6,287,037;
18 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
19 \$17,416,000; Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
20 \$7,958,062; and Committee on Ways and Means,
21 \$17,940,692.

22 **SEC. 2. FIRST SESSION LIMITATIONS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount provided for in
24 section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not
25 more than the amount specified in such subsection shall

1 be available for expenses incurred during the period begin-
2 ning at noon on January 3, 2017, and ending immediately
3 before noon on January 3, 2018.

4 (b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees
5 and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee
6 on Agriculture, \$5,699,668; Committee on Armed Serv-
7 ices, \$8,094,170; Committee on the Budget, \$5,190,212;
8 Committee on Education and the Workforce, \$7,146,429;
9 Committee on Energy and Commerce, \$10,265,721; Com-
10 mittee on Ethics, \$3,340,663; Committee on Financial
11 Services, \$8,290,225; Committee on Foreign Affairs,
12 \$7,836,993; Committee on Homeland Security,
13 \$7,503,923; Committee on House Administration,
14 \$5,021,565; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,
15 \$6,050,000; Committee on the Judiciary, \$7,625,286;
16 Committee on Natural Resources, \$6,879,172; Committee
17 on Oversight and Government Reform, \$9,129,841; Com-
18 mittee on Rules, \$3,230,281; Committee on Science,
19 Space, and Technology, \$5,484,978; Committee on Small
20 Business, \$3,037,400; Committee on Transportation and
21 Infrastructure, \$8,655,500; Committee on Veterans' Af-
22 fairs, \$3,979,031; and Committee on Ways and Means,
23 \$8,954,346.

1 **SEC. 3. SECOND SESSION LIMITATIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount provided for in
3 section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not
4 more than the amount specified in such subsection shall
5 be available for expenses incurred during the period begin-
6 ning at noon on January 3, 2018, and ending immediately
7 before noon on January 3, 2019.

8 (b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees
9 and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee
10 on Agriculture, \$5,737,849; Committee on Armed Serv-
11 ices, \$8,094,170; Committee on the Budget, \$5,190,212;
12 Committee on Education and the Workforce, \$7,307,783;
13 Committee on Energy and Commerce, \$10,265,721; Com-
14 mittee on Ethics, \$3,340,663; Committee on Financial
15 Services, \$8,290,225; Committee on Foreign Affairs,
16 \$7,836,993; Committee on Homeland Security,
17 \$7,503,923; Committee on House Administration,
18 \$5,321,565; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,
19 \$6,050,000; Committee on the Judiciary, \$7,725,286;
20 Committee on Natural Resources, \$6,879,172; Committee
21 on Oversight and Government Reform, \$9,129,841; Com-
22 mittee on Rules, \$3,230,281; Committee on Science,
23 Space, and Technology, \$5,484,978; Committee on Small
24 Business, \$3,249,637; Committee on Transportation and
25 Infrastructure, \$8,760,500; Committee on Veterans' Af-

1 fairs, \$3,979,031; and Committee on Ways and Means,
2 \$8,986,346.

3 (c) REVIEW OF USE OF FUNDS IN FIRST SESSION.—

4 (1) REVIEW.—None of the amounts provided
5 for in section 1 for a committee named in subsection
6 (b) may be available for expenses of the committee
7 after March 15, 2018, unless the chair or ranking
8 minority member of the committee appears and pre-
9 sents testimony at a hearing of the Committee on
10 House Administration held prior to such date to re-
11 view the committee's use of the amounts provided
12 for in section 1 during the first session of the One
13 Hundred Fifteenth Congress and to determine
14 whether the amount specified in subsection (b) with
15 respect to the committee should be updated on the
16 basis of the review.

17 (2) WAIVER.—The Committee on House Ad-
18 ministration may waive the application of paragraph
19 (1) to any or all of the committees named in sub-
20 section (b).

21 **SEC. 4. VOUCHERS.**

22 Payments under this resolution shall be made on
23 vouchers authorized by the committee involved, signed by
24 the chairman of such committee, and approved in the

1 manner directed by the Committee on House Administra-
2 tion.

3 **SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.**

4 Amounts made available under this resolution shall
5 be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by
6 the Committee on House Administration.

7 **SEC. 6. RESERVE FUND FOR UNANTICIPATED EXPENSES.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a
9 reserve fund for unanticipated expenses of committees for
10 the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress.

11 (b) AMOUNT.—The reserve fund under this section
12 shall have a balance of \$2,500,000, of which—

13 (1) \$1,250,000 shall be available for unantici-
14 pated expenses incurred during the period beginning
15 at noon on January 3, 2017, and ending imme-
16 diately before noon on January 3, 2018; and

17 (2) \$1,250,000 shall be available for unantici-
18 pated expenses incurred during the period beginning
19 at noon on January 3, 2018, and ending imme-
20 diately before noon on January 3, 2019.

21 (c) ALLOCATION TO COMMITTEES.—Amounts in the
22 reserve fund under this section shall be paid to a com-
23 mittee pursuant to an allocation approved by the Com-
24 mittee on House Administration.

1 **SEC. 7. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.**

2 The Committee on House Administration shall have
3 authority to make adjustments in amounts under section
4 1, if necessary to comply with an order of the President
5 issued under section 251A or 254 of the Balanced Budget
6 and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or to conform
7 to any change in appropriations for the purposes of such
8 section 1.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any debate?
Are there any Members that want to offer an amendment to the Resolution?

Seeing none, I move the Committee favorably report H. Res. 173.

The question is on the motion.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

Any opposed, by nay.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and the motion is agreed to.

Without objection, the motion to reconsider is laid upon the table.

Without objection, the markup is adjourned.

Thanks.

[Whereupon, at 10:56 a.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

