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**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR THE
117TH CONGRESS**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**

FIRST SESSION

**MEETING HELD
FEBRUARY 3, 2021**



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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

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ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR THE 117TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 11:00 a.m., in room 2118, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Adam Smith (chairman of the committee) presiding.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ADAM SMITH, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WASHINGTON, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The CHAIRMAN. Call the meeting to order.

Members in the committee room anyway will take their seats, and we will go ahead and get started.

Well, thank you all for joining us for the organizational meeting of the—I forgot the number—the next Congress in any rate.

We do have some members who are joining us remotely, as you can see. I now have to read the instructions for how to remotely participate. One of the key points, as we have already learned this morning, is make sure you are muted, unless you are officially speaking, something we are all learning.

So members who are joining remotely must be visible on screen for the purposes of establishing and maintaining a quorum, seeking recognition, participating in the proceeding, and voting. Those members must continue to use the software platform's video function while in attendance, unless they experience connectivity issues or other technical problems that render them unable to participate on camera.

If a member experiences technical difficulties, they should contact the committee staff for assistance.

Video of members' participation will be broadcast in the room and via the television internet feed. Members participating remotely must unmute their microphones and seek recognition verbally, and they are asked to mute their microphones when they are not speaking.

Members who are participating remotely are reminded to keep the software platform's video function on the entire time they attend the proceeding. Members may leave and rejoin the proceeding. If members depart for a short while for reasons other than joining a different proceeding, they should leave the video function on. If members will be absent for a significant period of time, or depart to join a different proceeding, they may remain logged on to the software platform but must turn off the audio and visual functions if and until they return.

Members may use the software platform's chat feature to communicate with staff regarding technical or logistical support issues only.

Finally, I have designated a committee staff member to, if necessary, mute unrecognized members' microphones to cancel any inadvertent background noise that may disrupt the proceedings.

All right. So that is the intro on remote participation.

And now we are here to launch the House Armed Services Committee for this session of Congress, and I am very pleased to do that. I look forward to coming back and working together with both returning members and the new members that we have to the committee.

Before I get into the new members, I just really want to thank the staff and the members who have participated over the course of the last 2 years. You know, it is hard to say exactly, but in the 24 years I have been here, I would wager that they were 2 of the more difficult years for this committee in terms of getting our work done in difficult circumstances.

And at the end of the day, in ever more creative fashion, we got it done, and I think we can all be very, very proud of that. The two pieces of legislation that we have passed the last 2 years have some incredibly important, substantive legislation attached to them.

No, Mike, I am not just talking about the Space Force. But certainly that was one. And there were a lot of other things that we were able to do in that legislation that I think is incredibly important.

But outside of the substance, the mere fact that in a bipartisan way a committee in the United States Congress was able to go through regular order and pass two defense bills through committee, through markup, through votes in this committee, on the floor, in the Senate, go into conference and get that done almost qualifies as a miracle in this particular setting. And I think it is incredibly important that we did that and I think it is equally important that we continue to do it.

I believe passionately in representative democracy. I think it works. I think it is the best system of government going, has been for a long time, and will continue to be. And to the extent that we show people that it can work, that reinforces that message and makes sure that we deliver for the American people, deliver them the democracy that they have every right to expect.

So I am pleased we were able to do that. Again, I want to thank the members and the staff. And, hell, I will even thank the Senate. I think they did a very good job as well. So enjoyed working with them and glad we were able to get that done and look forward to moving forward into the new year.

With that, we have new members of the committee, which I will introduce, and I will attempt to get the details here to the extent that my glasses do not fog up while I am doing it.

On our side, if I am counting correctly, I think we have—we have seven new members. As you will see near the end here, we have some who are new, but they have been here before. So they are returning.

But for now, let me start with Joe Morelle, who is a new member to the committee, not a new Member of Congress. He represents

New York's 25th District, which includes the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics. He is the son of a Korean War veteran. And he joins the committee having previously served as the majority leader of the New York State Assembly.

Welcome, Joe.

I should point out, obviously, given the remote setting, some of these members we are introducing are not physically here. They are on the screen. So we can just wave at the screen and welcome them up there and thank them for joining us.

Next we have Sara Jacobs, who I believe is here.

Welcome.

She is representing California's 53rd District, replacing Susan Davis, who we all know well, who served on this committee for 22 years, quite ably. Her district includes much of San Diego County, which, as we know, has numerous Navy installations, from Coronado to Naval Base San Diego, as well as Marine Corps Air Station Miramar just outside of the district. And prior to Congress, Ms. Jacobs served in the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations at the U.S. Department of State. Very qualified.

And welcome to Congress and welcome to the committee.

Our third new member is Kai Kahele, who represents Hawaii's Second Congressional District, which covers all the Hawaiian Islands, a lot of ground to cover. On Oahu, the Second Congressional District covers the regions outside of urban Honolulu and its immediate suburbs.

Congressman Kahele is a combat veteran pilot and commissioned officer in the Hawaii Air National Guard. Always good to have that experience.

Welcome to the committee.

He, too, is participating remotely. So glad to have Congressman Kahele joining us.

Next we have Marilyn Strickland, who is from my home State of Washington. Once upon a time I lived in the city of Tacoma when she was the mayor of the city of Tacoma. So Marilyn and I have worked together for a long time. I welcome her to Congress.

She represents the 10th District, which includes Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Also, again, I used to represent them. So after re-districting 10 years ago, that moved into this district that Marilyn is now representing. And that is the largest single-point employer in our State, with a yearly impact of \$8 billion.

Marilyn is the daughter of a World War II and Korean War veteran. We welcome her to the committee as well.

Now we have some returning members.

Marc Veasey, who represents Texas' 33rd District, known very, very well to us, served on the committee for a couple of years before leaving to serve on other committees and is now back. So we are very happy to have that experience and to represent that part of Texas, which obviously has a huge defense industry in it.

Welcome back to Marc Veasey.

Jimmy Panetta is also coming back to us, having served on the committee previously. He represents California's 20th District, which includes a lot of national security assets, four parent installations—Fort Hunter Liggett, Naval Postgraduate School, Presidio of Monterey—and five Army National Guard bases.

And if you haven't had a chance to get out to see the Navy Postgraduate School, it is, number one, an incredibly beautiful part of the country to go visit, but, number two, they are doing really cool stuff out there.

And in 2007 he volunteered for Active Duty and was deployed to Afghanistan and was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in combat.

Welcome back, Jimmy. Happy to have you on the committee.

And lastly on our side we have Stephanie Murphy. She also has previously served on the committee, is coming back. She represents Florida's Seventh District, which includes Naval Support Activity Orlando. She has worked in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and was a member of this committee from 2017 to 2018.

A terrific and experienced bunch that we have both coming back and joining us anew. So welcome to all the new Democratic Members of Congress. Happy to have you on board and look forward to working with you.

And with that, I will yield to the ranking member, Mr. Rogers, for his opening statement.

STATEMENT OF HON. MIKE ROGERS, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALABAMA, RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And really it is an honor to be able to lead the Republicans on this committee, and I know that we are going to continue to work in a bipartisan fashion, like we have in the past, delivering an authorization each of the last 60 years.

And in that vein I want to thank Chairman Smith and his staff for working with us on committee assignments, subcommittee assignments, and adjusting the ratio so our members could get where they wanted to be, and I appreciate that accommodation.

This Congress must continue to address threats posed by a rising China and a belligerent Russia. Like many of our members, I see China's concerted push for global domination as a threat to all free nations. America must engage with our allies and partners to defend ourselves from this growing threat.

But that engagement must be backed by a credible and a modern military. This means addressing gaps in our readiness and fielding next-generation capabilities faster than ever before.

Thankfully, we have some new talent on the way to help us with this endeavor, and, fortunately, again this cycle the Armed Services Committee was one of the most sought after committees on the Republican Conference side, and we have nine new members with a range of interests and experience.

First we have Mike Johnson, who represents the Fourth District of Louisiana. His district is home to Barksdale Air Force Base and Polk Joint Readiness Training Center.

Next we have Mark Green of Tennessee. He represents their Seventh District. He served 24 years in the Army, between the Academy and as a physician on Active Duty in the Army and Army Reserve.

Stephanie Bice represents the Fifth District of Oklahoma, which is home to thousands of Oklahomans who serve with Tinker Air Force Base.

Scott Franklin represents the 15th District of Florida. He has served 26 years as a naval aviator, 14 on Active Duty and 12 in the Naval Reserve.

Lisa McClain represents Michigan's 10th District, home to Selfridge Air National Guard Base. She joins us after a very successful business career.

Ronny Jackson represents the 13th District of Texas. He had a 25-year career in the Navy and led the White House Medical Unit as physician to President Obama and President Trump.

Jerry Carl, a former county commissioner who represents Alabama's First District, home of our Nation's critical shipyard infrastructure.

And Blake Moore, who represents Utah's First District, had a distinguished career in the Foreign Service before coming to Congress. And he cares very much about Hill Air Force Base.

Pat Fallon represents the Fourth District of Texas. Again, we have two members from Texas because they do have an incredible defense presence there, 15 Active Duty installations. He served as an officer in the Air Force before becoming a successful businessman.

And I welcome each of these new members and look forward to working with them.

And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

And actually I was remiss in my opening remarks on congratulating our new ranking member. Obviously not new to the committee. We have worked together for many, many years.

And it is great to have you in that seat. Look forward to continuing our bipartisan tradition.

So now we have some business to conduct to get the committee set up, and I call up Committee Resolution No. 1, regarding the committee rules for the 117th Congress. And the clerk shall read the resolution.

Ms. QUINN. Committee resolution No. 1. Resolved, That the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, adopt the committee rules for the 117th Congress, which are stated in the copy distributed to each Member.

The CHAIRMAN. The proposed committee rules have been developed jointly with Ranking Member Rogers and made available to members' offices on Friday, January 29th. Following consultation with Mr. Rogers, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and that the resolution be open to amendment at any point.

Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

And at this time is there any discussion or are there any questions concerning the committee rules?

If there is no discussion, are there any amendments to the committee rules?

Hearing none, the chair now recognizes the gentleman from Washington, Mr. Larsen, for the purpose of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 1, the committee rules.

Mr. LARSEN. Mr. Chair, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 1, concerning the committee rules.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Washington, Mr. Larsen.

So many as are in favor will say aye.

Opposed?

A quorum being present, the ayes have it and the motion is adopted. And, without objection, a motion to reconsider is laid upon the table.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES 117TH CONGRESS
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RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on Armed Services (hereinafter referred to in these rules as the "Committee") and its subcommittees so far as applicable.

(b) Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's rules shall be publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 60 days after the chair of the committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2. FULL COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

(a) The Committee shall meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., when the House of Representatives is in session, and at such other times as may be fixed by the Chair of the Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Chair"), or by written request of members of the Committee pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) A Wednesday meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with by the Chair, but such action may be reversed by a written request of a majority of the members of the Committee.

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the Committee on all matters referred to it. Insofar as possible, meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall not conflict. A subcommittee Chair shall set meeting dates after consultation with the Chair, other subcommittee chairs, and the ranking minority member of the subcommittee with a view toward avoiding, whenever possible, simultaneous scheduling of Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings.

RULE 4. JURISDICTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Jurisdiction

(1) The Committee retains jurisdiction of all subjects listed in clause 1(c) and clause 3(b) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives and retains exclusive jurisdiction for: defense policy generally, ongoing military operations, the organization

and reform of the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy, counter-drug programs, security cooperation and humanitarian assistance activities (except special operations-related activities) of the Department of Defense, acquisition and industrial base policy, technology transfer and export controls, joint interoperability, detainee affairs and policy, force protection policy, and inter-agency reform as it pertains to the Department of Defense and the nuclear weapons programs of the Department of Energy. While subcommittees are provided jurisdictional responsibilities in subparagraph (a)(2) and are required to conduct oversight in their respective jurisdictions, pursuant to clause 2(b)(2) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee retains the right to exercise oversight and legislative jurisdiction over all subjects within its purview under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Committee shall be organized to consist of seven standing subcommittees with the following jurisdictions:

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces: Army programs and accounts related to aircraft, ground equipment, missiles, ammunition, and other procurement; Marine Corps programs and accounts related to ground and amphibious equipment, fighter aircraft, helicopters, air-launched weapons, and ammunition; Air Force programs and accounts related to fighter, training, reconnaissance and surveillance, and electronic warfare aircraft, helicopters, air-launched weapons, ground equipment, and ammunition; Navy programs and accounts related to fighter, training, and electronic warfare aircraft, helicopters, and air-launched weapons; tactical air and missile defense programs and accounts; chemical agent and munition destruction programs and accounts; and National Guard and Reserve equipment programs and accounts.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel: Department of Defense policy and programs and accounts related to military personnel and their families, Reserve Component integration and employment, military health care, military education, dependent schools, POW/MIA issues, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, commissaries, cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and military retirement issues.

Subcommittee on Readiness: Department of Defense policy and programs and accounts related to military readiness, training, logistics and maintenance, military construction, organic industrial base, the civilian and contract workforce, environment, military installations and real property management, family housing, base realignments and closures, and energy.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces: Navy and Marine Corps acquisition programs and accounts related to shipbuilding and conversion, reconnaissance and surveillance, tanker, and airlift aircraft, ship and submarine-launched weapons, ammunition, and other procurements; Air Force programs and accounts related to bomber, tanker, and airlift aircraft; Army programs and accounts related to waterborne vessels; and Maritime policy and programs and accounts under

the jurisdiction of the Committee as delineated in paragraphs 5 and 9 of clause 1(c) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces: Department of Defense and Department of Energy policy related to strategic deterrence, strategic stability, nuclear weapons, strategic and nuclear arms control, non-proliferation, nuclear safety, missile defense, and space; Department of Defense programs and accounts related to nuclear weapons, strategic missiles, nuclear command and control systems, Department of Defense intelligence space, space systems and services of the military departments, and intermediate and long-range missile defense systems; and Department of Energy national security programs and accounts.

Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations: Department of Defense policy and programs and accounts related to military intelligence, national intelligence, countering weapons of mass destruction, counter-proliferation, counter-terrorism, other sensitive military operations, and special operations forces.

Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems: Department of Defense policy related to the acquisition of computer software, the electromagnetic spectrum, and electromagnetic warfare; and Department of Defense policy and programs and accounts related to artificial intelligence, cyber security, cyber operations, cyber forces, information technology, information operations, and science and technology (including defense-wide programs and accounts related to research, development, testing, and evaluation, except for those defense-wide programs and accounts related to research, development, testing, and evaluation of missile defense systems).

(3) Definitions - For the purposes of subparagraph (a)(2):

(A) The phrase “programs and accounts” means acquisition and modernization programs, sustainment planning during program development, and related funding lines for procurement, advanced development, advanced component development and prototypes, systems development, sustainment planning, and demonstration.

(B) The term “policy” means statutes, regulations, directives, and other institutional guidance.

(C) The phrase “science and technology” means science and technology programs and related funding lines for basic research, applied research, and non-acquisition program advanced development.

(b) Membership of the Subcommittees

(1) Subcommittee memberships shall be filled in accordance with the rules of the majority party’s caucus and the minority party’s conference, respectively.

(2) The Chair of the Committee and the Ranking Minority Member thereof (hereinafter referred to as the "Ranking Minority Member") may sit as ex officio members of all subcommittees. Ex officio members shall not vote in subcommittee hearings or meetings or be taken into consideration for the purpose of determining the ratio of the subcommittees or establishing a quorum at subcommittee hearings or meetings.

(3) A member of the Committee who is not a member of a particular subcommittee may sit with the subcommittee and participate during any of its hearings but shall not have authority to vote, cannot be counted for the purpose of achieving a quorum, and cannot raise a point of order at the hearing.

RULE 5. COMMITTEE PANELS AND TASK FORCES

(a) Committee Panels

(1) The Chair may designate a panel of the Committee consisting of members of the Committee to inquire into and take testimony on a matter or matters that fall within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee and to report to the Committee.

(2) No panel appointed by the Chair shall continue in existence for more than six months after the appointment. A panel so appointed may, upon the expiration of six months, be reappointed by the Chair for a period of time which is not to exceed six months.

(3) Consistent with the party ratios established by the majority party, all majority members of the panels shall be appointed by the Chair, and all minority members shall be appointed by the Ranking Minority Member. The Chair shall choose one of the majority members so appointed who does not currently chair another subcommittee of the Committee to serve as Chair of the panel. The Ranking Minority Member shall similarly choose the ranking minority member of the panel.

(4) No panel shall have legislative jurisdiction.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee Task Forces

(1) The Chair, or the Chair of a subcommittee with the concurrence of the Chair, may designate a task force to inquire into and take testimony on a matter that falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee or subcommittee, respectively. The Chair and the Ranking Minority Member or the Chair and the ranking minority member of a subcommittee shall each appoint an equal number of members to the task force. The Chair or the Chair of a subcommittee shall choose one of the members so appointed, who does not currently chair another subcommittee of the Committee, to serve as Chair of the task force. The Ranking Minority Member or the ranking minority

member of a subcommittee shall similarly appoint the ranking minority member of the task force.

(2) No task force appointed by the Chair or the Chair of a subcommittee shall continue in existence for more than three months. A task force may only be reappointed for an additional three months with the written concurrence of the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member or the concurrence of the Chair and the ranking minority member of the subcommittee whose Chair appointed the task force.

(3) No task force shall have legislative jurisdiction.

RULE 6. REFERENCE AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

(a) The Chair shall refer legislation and other matters to the appropriate subcommittee or to the full Committee.

(b) Legislation shall be taken up for a hearing or markup only when called by the Chair or the Chair of a subcommittee, as appropriate, or by a majority of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate.

(c) The Chair, with approval of a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee, shall have authority to discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred thereto and have such measure or matter considered by the Committee.

(d) Reports and recommendations of a subcommittee may not be considered by the Committee until after the intervention of three calendar days from the time the report is approved by the subcommittee and available to the members of the Committee, except that this rule may be waived by a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee.

(e) The Chair, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, shall establish criteria for recommending legislation and other matters to be considered by the House of Representatives, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XV of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Such criteria shall not conflict with the Rules of the House of Representatives and other applicable rules.

RULE 7. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chair, or the Chair of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, shall make a public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing or meeting for the transaction of business before that body at least one week before the commencement of a hearing and at least three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day) before the commencement of a meeting. However, if the Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, or the Chair of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, with the concurrence of the respective ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause to begin the

hearing or meeting sooner, or if the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, such Chair shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. Any announcement made under this rule shall be promptly published in the Daily Digest, and promptly made publicly available in electronic form.

(b) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an announcement under paragraph (a) made within 24 hours before such meeting, the Chair, or the Chair of any subcommittee, panel, or task force shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(g)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 8. BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(e)(5) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings. The Committee shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(b) Clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the Committee.

RULE 9. MEETINGS AND HEARINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(a) Each hearing and meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, conducted by the Committee, or any subcommittee, panel, or task force, to the extent that the respective body is authorized to conduct markups, shall be open to the public except when the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force in open session and with a majority being present, determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing or meeting on that day shall be in executive session because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger the national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. Notwithstanding the requirements of the preceding sentence, a majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force may vote to close a hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether testimony or evidence to be received would endanger the national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. If the decision is to proceed in executive session, the vote must be by record vote and in open session, a majority of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force being present.

(b) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or

incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a) and the provisions of clause 2(g)(2)(A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and in accordance with the provisions of clause 2(g)(2)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, such evidence or testimony shall be presented in executive session, if by a majority vote of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force, the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force determines that such evidence may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. A majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force may also vote to close the hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force shall proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force, a majority being present, determines that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, and with the approval of the Chair, each member of the Committee may designate by letter to the Chair, one member of that member's personal staff, and an alternate, which may include fellows, with Top Secret security clearance to attend hearings of the Committee, or that member's subcommittee(s), panel(s), or task force(s) (excluding briefings or meetings held under the provisions of committee rule 9(a)), which have been closed under the provisions of rule 9(a) above for national security purposes for the taking of testimony. The attendance of such a staff member or fellow at such hearings is subject to the approval of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as dictated by national security requirements at that time. The attainment of any required security clearances is the responsibility of individual members of the Committee.

(d) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing of the Committee or a subcommittee, unless the House of Representatives shall by majority vote authorize the Committee or subcommittee, for purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular article of legislation or on a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner by the same procedures designated in this rule for closing hearings to the public.

(e) The Committee or the subcommittee may vote, by the same procedure, to meet in executive session for up to five additional consecutive days of hearings.

RULE 10. QUORUM

(a) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence, two members shall constitute a quorum.

(b) One-third of the members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action, with the following exceptions, in which case a majority of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum:

- (1) Reporting a measure or recommendation;
- (2) Closing Committee or subcommittee meetings and hearings to the public;
- (3) Authorizing the issuance of subpoenas;
- (4) Authorizing the use of executive session material; and
- (5) Voting to proceed in open session after voting to close to discuss whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) No measure or recommendation shall be reported to the House of Representatives unless a majority of the Committee is actually present.

RULE 11. THE FIVE-MINUTE RULE

(a) Subject to rule 15, the time any one member may address the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force on any measure or matter under consideration shall not exceed five minutes and then only when the member has been recognized by the Chair or subcommittee Chair, as appropriate, except that this time limit may be exceeded by unanimous consent. Any member, upon request, shall be recognized for not more than five minutes to address the Committee or subcommittee on behalf of an amendment which the member has offered to any pending bill or resolution. The five-minute limitation shall not apply to the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member or the Chair and the ranking minority member of a subcommittee, panel, or task force.

(b)(1) Members who are present at a hearing of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force when a hearing is originally convened shall be recognized by the Chair or subcommittee, panel, or task force Chair, as appropriate, in order of seniority. Those members arriving subsequently shall be recognized in order of their arrival. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member or the Chair and the ranking minority member of a subcommittee, panel, or task force, as appropriate, will take precedence upon their arrival. In recognizing members to question witnesses in this fashion, the Chair shall take into consideration the ratio of the majority to minority members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of either party.

(2) Pursuant to rule 4 and subject to rule 15, a member of the Committee who is not a member of a subcommittee, panel, or task force may be recognized by a

subcommittee, panel, or task force Chair in order of their arrival and after all present subcommittee, panel, or task force members have been recognized.

(3) The Chair of the Committee or the Chair of a subcommittee, panel, or task force, with the concurrence of the respective ranking minority member, may depart with the regular order for questioning which is specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this rule provided that such a decision is announced prior to the hearing or prior to the opening statements of the witnesses and that any such departure applies equally to the majority and the minority.

(c) No person other than a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of Congress and committee staff may be seated in or behind the dais area during Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force hearings and meetings.

RULE 12. POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER

(a) For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under rules X and XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee and any subcommittee is authorized (subject to subparagraph (b)(1) of this paragraph):

(1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold hearings, and

(2) to require by subpoena, or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers and documents, including, but not limited to, those in electronic form, as it considers necessary.

(b)(1) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee, or any subcommittee with the concurrence of the Chair and after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, under subparagraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation, or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority of the Committee or subcommittee being present. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed only by the Chair, or by any member designated by the Committee.

(2) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, compliance with any subpoena issued by the Committee or any subcommittee under subparagraph (a)(2) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House of Representatives.

RULE 13. WITNESS STATEMENTS

(a) Any prepared statement to be presented by a witness to the Committee or a subcommittee, panel, or task force shall be submitted to the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force at least 48 hours in advance of presentation and shall be distributed to all members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as soon as practicable

but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation. A copy of any such prepared statement shall also be submitted to the Committee in electronic form. If a prepared statement contains national security information bearing a classification of Confidential or higher, the statement shall be made available in the Committee rooms to all members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation; however, no such statement shall be removed from the Committee offices. The requirement of this rule may be waived by a majority vote of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force, a quorum being present. In cases where a witness does not submit a statement by the time required under this rule, the Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, or the Chair of a subcommittee, panel, or task force, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the respective ranking minority member, may elect to exclude the witness from the hearing.

(b) The Committee and each subcommittee, panel, or task force shall require each witness who is to appear before it to file with the Committee in advance of his or her appearance a written statement of the proposed testimony and to limit the oral presentation at such appearance to a brief summary of the submitted written statement.

(c) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(5) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, written witness statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form 24 hours before the witness appears to the extent practicable, but not later than one day after the witness appears.

RULE 14. ADMINISTERING OATHS TO WITNESSES

(a) The Chair, or any member designated by the Chair, may administer oaths to any witness.

(b) Witnesses, when sworn, shall subscribe to the following oath:

"Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this Committee (or subcommittee, panel, or task force) in the matters now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?"

RULE 15. QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES

(a) When a witness is before the Committee or a subcommittee, panel, or task force, members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force may put questions to the witness only when recognized by the Chair, subcommittee, panel, or task force Chair, as appropriate, for that purpose according to rule 11 of the Committee.

(b) Members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force who so desire shall have not more than five minutes to question each witness or panel of witnesses, the responses of the witness or witnesses being included in the five-minute period, until such time as each member has had an opportunity to question each witness or panel of

witnesses. Thereafter, additional rounds for questioning witnesses by members are within the discretion of the Chair or the subcommittee, panel, or task force Chair, as appropriate.

(c) Questions put to witnesses before the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force shall be pertinent to the measure or matter that may be before the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force for consideration.

RULE 16. PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MARKUPS

The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force will be published officially in substantially verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. The transcripts of markups conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee may be published officially in verbatim form. Any requests to correct any errors, other than those in transcription, will be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Any transcript published under this rule shall include the results of record votes conducted in the session covered by the transcript and shall also include materials that have been submitted for the record and are covered under rule 19. The handling and safekeeping of these materials shall fully satisfy the requirements of rule 20. No transcript of an executive session conducted under rule 9 shall be published under this rule.

RULE 17. VOTING AND ROLLCALLS

(a) Voting on a measure or matter may be by record vote, division vote, voice vote, or unanimous consent.

(b) A record vote shall be ordered upon the request of one-fifth of those members present.

(c) No vote by any member of the Committee or a subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter shall be cast by proxy.

(d) In the event of a vote or votes, when a member is in attendance at any other committee, subcommittee, or conference committee meeting during that time, the necessary absence of that member shall be so noted in the record vote record, upon timely notification to the Chair by that member.

(e) The Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, or the Chair of a subcommittee, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the respective ranking minority member or the most senior minority member who is present at the time, may elect to postpone requested record votes until such time or point at a markup as is mutually decided. When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

RULE 18. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by the Committee, any member of the Committee gives timely notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, additional or dissenting views, all members shall be entitled to not less than two calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such days) in which to file such written and signed views (including in electronic form) with the Staff Director of the Committee, or the Staff Director's designee. All such views so filed by one or more members of the Committee shall be included within, and shall be a part of, the report filed by the Committee with respect to that measure or matter.

(b) With respect to each record vote on a motion to report any measure or matter, and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total number of votes cast for and against, the names of those voting for and against, and a brief description of the question, shall be included in the Committee report on the measure or matter.

(c) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any amendment or 48 hours after the disposition or withdrawal of any other amendment to a measure or matter considered by the Committee, the Chair shall cause the text of each such amendment to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(e)(6) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 19. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF COMMITTEE ROLLCALLS

The result of each record vote in any meeting of the Committee shall be made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote pursuant to clause 2(e)(1)(B)(i) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Information so available shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition and the names of those members present but not voting.

RULE 20. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND OTHER INFORMATION

(a) Except as provided in clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, all national security information bearing a classification of Confidential or higher which has been received by the Committee or a subcommittee shall be deemed to have been received in executive session and shall be given appropriate safekeeping.

(b) The Chair shall, with the approval of a majority of the Committee, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any national security information that is received which is classified as Confidential or higher. Such procedures shall, however, ensure access to this information by any member

of the Committee or any other Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the House of Representatives, staff of the Committee, or staff designated under rule 9(c) who have the appropriate security clearances and the need to know, who has requested the opportunity to review such material.

(c) The Chair shall, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any proprietary information that is received by the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force. Such procedures shall be consistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives and applicable law.

RULE 21. COMMITTEE STAFFING

The staffing of the Committee, the standing subcommittees, and any panel or task force designated by the Chair or the chairs of the subcommittees shall be subject to the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 22. COMMITTEE RECORDS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chair shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of rule VII, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any member of the Committee.

RULE 23. HEARING PROCEDURES

Clause 2(k) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the Committee.

RULE 24. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORTS

Not later than January 2nd of each odd-numbered year the Committee shall submit to the House a report on its activities, pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

The next order of business is Committee Resolution No. 2, regarding the committee's security procedures for the 117th Congress. I call up Committee Resolution No. 2. The clerk shall read the resolution.

Ms. QUINN. Committee Resolution No. 2. Resolved, That the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, adopt the committee security procedures for the 117th Congress, a copy of which has been distributed to each member.

The CHAIRMAN. The security procedures were coordinated with Mr. Rogers and were made available to members' offices on Friday, January 29th. Following consultation with Mr. Rogers, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and that the resolution be open to amendment at any point.

Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

SECURITY PROCEDURES
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
117th Congress
(Effective February 3, 2021)

In accordance with committee and House rules, the following procedures are established by the Committee on Armed Services to ensure protection of classified and other sensitive national security information in the possession of the committee.

The following committee and House rules apply to classified information:

COMMITTEE RULE 9(c)

"... with the approval of the Chairman, each member of the Committee may designate by letter to the Chairman, one member of that member's personal staff, and an alternate, which may include fellows, with Top Secret security clearance to attend hearings of the Committee, or that member's subcommittee(s), panel(s), or task force(s) (excluding briefings or meetings held under the provisions of committee rule 9(a)), which have been closed under the provisions of rule 9(a) above for national security purposes for the taking of testimony. The attendance of such a staff member or fellow at such hearings is subject to the approval of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as dictated by national security requirements at that time. The attainment of any required security clearances is the responsibility of individual members of the Committee."

RULE 20. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND OTHER INFORMATION

(a) Except as provided in clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, all national security information bearing a classification of Confidential or higher which has been received by the Committee or a subcommittee shall be deemed to have been received in executive session and shall be given appropriate safekeeping.

(b) The Chairman shall, with the approval of a majority of the Committee, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any national security information that is received which is classified as Confidential or higher. Such procedures shall, however, ensure access to this information by any member of the Committee or any other Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the House of Representatives, staff of the Committee, or staff designated under rule 9(c) who have the appropriate security clearances and the need to know, who has requested the opportunity to review such material.

(c) The Chairman shall, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any proprietary information that is received by the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force. Such procedures shall be consistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives and applicable law.

HOUSE RULE XXIII: CODE OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

"Before a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House may have access to classified information, the following oath (or affirmation) shall be executed:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose any classified information received in the course of my service with the House of Representatives, except as authorized by the House of Representatives or in accordance with its Rules."

**PROCEDURES FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND STAFF
ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMITTEE WHO WISH TO READ
CLASSIFIED INFORMATION IN THE POSSESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE**

In addition to House rules, law and regulation, the following procedures shall govern the handling, management and control of classified information. These procedures apply to documents, material, and information provided to the committee by congressional or executive branch entities that bear a classification of confidential, secret, or top secret, including all codeword and special access classified information.

**Members and staff of the Committee on Armed Services and 9(c) staff of
Members of the Committee on Armed Services:**

1. Members of Congress, who are Members of the committee and have signed the *Oath for Access to Classified Information*, shall have access to all classified papers and other materials received by the committee from any source.
2. Armed Services Committee staff members and appropriately cleared personal office staff who are designated under committee rule 9(c), who have signed the *Oath for Access to Classified Information* and have a need to know, may also have access to classified information that is in the possession of the committee and that corresponds with their respective clearance levels.

**Members who are NOT Members of the Committee, House Leadership Staff,
and Outside Committee Staff:**

Members of Congress, who are not Members of the committee, House leadership staff, and outside committee staff may be granted access to classified materials which are in the possession of the committee only in the following manner (these requirements apply whether or not the non-committee Member or any such staff seeks access to classified documents at the invitation of a HASC Member):

1. **Written Request Required** — Members, House leadership staff, and outside committee staff who desire to examine classified materials in the possession of the committee must submit a request to the Chairman of the committee in writing. Each written request shall bear the signature of the requesting Member, specify the classified materials to which access is requested, and identify the person or persons for whom such access is requested. Such written requests must bear the signature of the employing Member for leadership staff and the relevant committee chairman for outside committee staff.
2. **Committee Consideration** — The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Member, shall consider each such request by non-committee Members or staff at the

earliest practicable opportunity. The Chairman shall determine what action he deems appropriate in light of all of the circumstances of each request. In his determination, the Chairman shall consider:

- the sensitivity to the national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States of the information sought;
 - the jurisdictional interest of the Member or staff making the request; and
 - such other concerns, constitutional or otherwise, as may affect the public interest of the United States.
3. Chairman Action — After consideration of the Member or staff request, the Chairman may take any action that he may deem appropriate under the circumstances, including but not limited to:
 - approving the request, in whole or in part;
 - denying the request; or
 - providing the requested information or material in a different form than that sought by the Member or staff.
 4. Requirements for Access by Non-Committee Members or staff — Prior to a non-committee Member or staff being given access to classified information, the requesting Member or staff shall:
 - affirm in writing that a copy of the oath executed by such Member or staff pursuant to House Rule XXIII, clause 13, is, for members, on file with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, and for staff, on file with the Office of House Security;
 - agree in writing not to divulge any classified information provided to the Member or staff pursuant to these committee procedures to any person not authorized by House rules, law or regulation; and
 - agree not to divulge such classified information in a non-secure environment; and
 - for staff, provide verification of appropriate security clearances
 5. Consultation Authorized — When considering a Member or staff request, the Chairman may consult the Secretary of Defense and such other officials as he considers to be necessary.
 6. Committee Decisions —
 - Should the Member making such a request disagree with the Chairman's determination with respect to that request, or any part thereof, the Member may request full committee consideration of his/her request by notifying the Chairman in writing of his disagreement with the decision and the Member's request for the committee's consideration and a vote on the request.
 - The committee shall subsequently consider the matter and decide, by record vote, what further action or recommendation, if any, the committee will take.

7. Notice to Originating Agency — In the event that the chairman or committee authorizes the disclosure of classified information, which is provided to the committee by an agency of the executive branch, to a Member who is not a Member of the committee or staff, the Chairman may notify the providing agency of the committee's action prior to the transmission of such classified information.

ALL Members and House Leadership, Outside Committee, and 9(c) Staff
Requesting Access to Classified Information:

1. All classified information will be stored in secure safes in the committee offices or at the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, House Security. Members or staff seeking to review classified information should contact the Staff Director or Deputy Staff Director of the Armed Services Committee and identify the specific classified materials which are requested for review.
2. Any classified information stored by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, House Security remains the property of the committee and shall be subject to the same requirements for access as all other classified materials in the committee's possession.
3. Following consultation with the Staff Director or Deputy Staff Director, access to the classified information will be coordinated with the committee's Security Manager. Classified documents will be made available for review during regular committee business hours (8:30AM- 6:00PM, Monday through Friday).
4. Classified materials may only be reviewed in an appropriately secured space and must remain in the custody of appropriately cleared committee staff or the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, House Security. An appropriately cleared committee staff member will be present while classified information is being reviewed.
5. No reproduction or recordings may be made of any portion of the classified information reviewed by Members of Congress or staff.
6. Any notes made by a Member or by staff must be provided to the committee's Security Manager for proper storage or destruction.
7. In accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, classified information may only be disclosed in an appropriately secured location to individuals with the appropriate level of security clearance and on an established need-to-know basis.
8. Members or staff will be asked to sign the *Access Information Sheet*, a copy of which is attached to this document, if they gain access to classified information.

The committee's Security Manager will maintain the *Access Information Sheet* identifying the material, the staff assigned, and the time of arrival and departure of Members of Congress or staff who were given access to classified information at the request of their respective Member.

9. The committee's Security Manager will ensure that the classified information reviewed by the Member of Congress or staff is returned to the proper custodian and/or secured appropriately.

**PROCEDURES FOR CLASSIFIED HEARINGS AND BRIEFINGS OF
THE COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES**

1. In accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, classified information may only be disclosed to Members of Congress, committee staff, 9(c) staff, House leadership staff, or outside committee staff with the appropriate level of security clearance and an established need-to-know.
2. No classified material provided at a hearing, briefing or meeting may be removed from the secure meeting room.
3. Any notes made by a Member or House leadership, outside committee, or 9(c) staff during a classified hearing or briefing must be provided to the committee's Security Manager at the conclusion of the classified hearing or briefing for proper storage or destruction.
4. No electronic communication devices of any kind may be taken into a classified hearing or briefing. Committee staff will make arrangements for the proper safekeeping of such electronic communication devices outside the meeting room.

**CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS ACCESS INFORMATION SHEET
FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117th CONGRESS**

Description of Material:

Classification:

Member's Name:

HASC Staff Member Assigned:

Date:

Time In:

Time Out:

I agree not to divulge any classified information provided to me pursuant to the committee's procedures to any person not authorized by House rules, law or regulation. I also agree not to divulge such classified information in a non-secure environment.

Signature, Member of Congress

**CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS ACCESS INFORMATION SHEET
FOR MEMBERS NOT ON THE COMMITTEE, HOUSE
LEADERSHIP STAFF, AND OUTSIDE COMMITTEE STAFF**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117th CONGRESS**

Description of Material:

Classification:

Name:

Date:

Time In:

Time Out:

I affirm that I have duly executed the oath pursuant to House Rule XXIII, clause 13, and that the oath is on file with the clerk of the House of Representatives. I agree not to divulge any classified information provided to me pursuant to the committee's procedures to any person not authorized by House rules, law or regulation. I also agree not to divulge such classified information in a non-secure environment.

Signature

**CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS ACCESS INFORMATION SHEET
FOR 9(c) STAFF OF THE COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117th CONGRESS**

Description of Material:

Classification:

Member's Name:

HASC Staff Member Assigned:

Date:

Time In:

Time Out:

I, _____, agree not to divulge any classified information provided to me pursuant to the committee's procedures to any person not authorized by House rules, law or regulation. I also agree not to divulge such classified information in a non-secure environment.

Signature, 9(c) staff

And at this time there is any discussion? Are there any questions concerning the security procedures?

There is no discussion.

Are there any amendments to the security procedures?

Hearing no amendments, the chair now recognizes the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. Langevin, for the purposes of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 2, the security procedures of the 117th Congress.

Mr. Langevin.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 2, the security procedures for the 117th Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. Langevin.

So many as are in favor will say aye.

As opposed, say no.

A quorum being presented, the ayes have it and the resolution is adopted. Without objection, a motion to reconsider is laid upon the table, which brings us to the final order of business.

I call up Committee Resolution No. 3, appointing committee staff for the 117th Congress. The clerk shall read the resolution.

Ms. QUINN. Committee Resolution No. 3. Resolved, That the persons listed on the sheet distributed to the Members and such other personnel as may be required by the committee within the limits and terms authorized under the rules of the House of Representatives are hereby appointed to the staff of the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, for the 117th Congress, it being understood that according to the provisions of law, the Chairman will fix the basic salary per annum.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

As many of you know, our committee is unique in that the committee staff is a combined staff. What that means basically is most—every other committee you divide up Democrats, Republicans, go your separate ways. Here our staff works for everybody, and I hope members will recognize that and take advantage of that. Every single member of the staff that we have is open to every member of this committee, and they have incredibly valuable experience that will help us do our job.

So please take advantage of that. Build those relationships with the staff. They have a lot of knowledge to share. They are a very talented group of professionals.

A copy of the committee staff in the 117th Congress was prepared in consultation with the minority and made available to members' offices on Friday, January 29th.

Following conversations—or consultation—with Mr. Rogers, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

STAFF - HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Paul Arcangeli, *Staff Director*
Christopher Vieson, *Minority Staff Director*
Douglas Bush, *Deputy Staff Director*
Betty B. Gray, *Executive Assistant*
Jesse D. Tolleson, Jr., *Professional Staff Member*
Rebecca A. Ross, *Professional Staff Member*
Heath R. Bope, *Professional Staff Member*
David Sienicki, *Professional Staff Member*
Zach Steacy, *Director, Legislative Operations*
Everett Coleman, *Professional Staff Member*
Craig Greene, *Professional Staff Member*
Phil MacNaughton, *Professional Staff Member*
William S. Johnson, *General Counsel*
Brian Garrett, *Professional Staff Member*
Katie Thompson, *Security Manager*
David Giachetti, *Professional Staff Member*
Katy Quinn, *Professional Staff Member*
Barron YoungSmith, *Counsel*
Danielle Steitz, *Clerk*
Shenita White, *Office Manager*
Glen Diehl, *Professional Staff Member*
Maria Vastola, *Professional Staff Member*
Kimberly Lehn, *Professional Staff Member*
Jamie Jackson, *Deputy General Counsel*
Caroline Kehrli, *Clerk*
Zachary Taylor, *Clerk*
William Sutey, *Professional Staff Member*
Elizabeth Griffin, *Professional Staff Member*
Michael Hermann, *Budget Director*
Carla Zeppieri, *Professional Staff Member*
Sapna Sharma, *Professional Staff Member*
Kelly Goggin, *Professional Staff Member*
Melanie Harris, *Professional Staff Member*
William T. Johnson, *Professional Staff Member*
Chidi Blyden, *Professional Staff Member*
Grant Schneider, *Professional Staff Member*
Joshua Stiefel, *Professional Staff Member*
Jonathan Lord, *Professional Staff Member*
Jeanine Womble, *Professional Staff Member*
Jessica Carroll, *Professional Staff Member*
Matt Rhoades, *Professional Staff Member*
Bess Dopkeen, *Professional Staff Member*
Sean Falvey, *Clerk*
Laura Rauch, *Professional Staff Member*
Monica Matoush, *Communications Director*
Shannon Green, *Professional Staff Member*
Caleb Randall-Bodman, *Deputy Communications Director*
Alonzo Webb, *Clerk*
Alexis Hasty, *Clerk*
Emma Morrison, *Clerk*
Troy Nienberg, *Professional Staff Member*
Sidney Faix, *Clerk*
Natalie De Benedetti, *Clerk*
James Vallario, *Professional Staff Member*

Naajidah Khan, *Clerk*
Hannah Kaufman, *Professional Staff Member*
Karen Thornton, *Professional Staff Member*
Jeff Bozman, *Professional Staff Member*
Geoff Gosselin, *Professional Staff Member*
Michael Kirlin, *Professional Staff Member*
Sarah Moxley, *Professional Staff Member*
Kyle Noyes, *Professional Staff Member*
Whitney Verrett, *Professional Staff Member*
Forrest McConnell, *Minority General Counsel*
Michaela Sundermann, *Press Secretary*
Ian Bennett, *Professional Staff Member*

And at this time is there any discussion or are there any questions regarding the committee staff?

Hearing none, the chair now recognizes the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. Langevin, for the purposes of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 3, appointing the committee staff for the 117th Congress.

Mr. Langevin.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 3, regarding committee staffing for the 117th Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. Langevin.

So many as in favor will say aye.

Those opposed, no.

A quorum being present, the ayes have it and the motion is adopted. Without objection, a motion to reconsider is laid upon the table.

Without objection, committee staff is authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the action of the committee in adopting Committee Resolutions 1 through 3.

Before we adjourn, let me raise an administrative matter. As chairman I plan—oh, yes. Okay. Yeah, this is the issue surrounding our committee hearings. There is a 5-minute rule, as you are all aware. We try to get to absolutely every member. We this year have 59 members of this committee. We have a lot of hearings, and there is a 5-minute rule for every member.

You can do the math on that one and figure out how long it would take to do a committee hearing if all 59 members took all 5 minutes. We don't always get to everybody. But we try to make sure that the members of this committee, regardless if they are senior or junior, have an opportunity.

So in doing that, when have you 5 minutes, you have 5 minutes. There used to be the old trick of, you know, making your question last 4 minutes and 50 seconds and then letting the guy take 5 or 10 minutes to answer it. We don't do that. When the 5 minutes is up, the 5 minutes is up. And the reason we do that is not to be mean to the member asking the question. It is to try to respect all members of the committee.

It is my honest and heartfelt opinion that every single member of this committee is equally important, whether you just got here

or whether you have been here for 24 years. So we want to try to be as inclusive as possible and get everybody's perspectives and views as best as we can. So that is what we will try to do.

That is all I have. Let me recognize Mr. Rogers for any closing comments he wishes to add to the discussion.

Mr. ROGERS. I have nothing other than to say it is just an honor to be here. And this committee does have a bipartisan history that we value and we want to see continue and we will be working in that vein and look forward to it.

The CHAIRMAN. Absolutely. I think it is a great note to end on. So no further business, the committee stands adjourned subject to the call of the chair. Thank you very much.

[Whereupon, at 11:21 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

