

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

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ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 11:07 a.m., in room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. James Comer (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Comer, Jordan, Gosar, Foxx, Grothman, Palmer, Higgins, Sessions, Biggs, Mace, LaTurner, Fallon, Donalds, Armstrong, Perry, Timmons, Burchett, Greene, McClain, Boebert, Fry, Luna, Edwards, Langworthy, Burlison, Raskin, Norton, Lynch, Connolly, Krishnamoorthi, Khanna, Mfume, Ocasio-Cortez, Porter, Bush, Brown, Gomez, Robert Garcia of California, Frost, Balint, Lee of Pennsylvania, Casar, Crockett, and Moskowitz.

Chairman COMER. Without objection, the Chairman is authorized to declare a recess of the committee at any time.

I want to welcome everyone to the organizational meeting of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, the committee I believe will be the most exciting and effective committee for this Congress.

We are going to be returning this committee to its core mission, and that is to ensure that taxpayer dollars are not being mismanaged, abused, or wasted; to shine a light in the darkness of the Federal bureaucracy to prevent corruption and self-dealing; to make sure our Federal Government is working efficiently for the American people.

For this meeting, we will be proceeding as follows. First, Ranking Member Raskin and I will introduce our new members. Then we will officially adopt the committee rules.

I want to welcome all of our returning members. It is great to have you again this Congress. I want to also welcome back to the committee Chairman Mike Turner from Ohio, Congressman Gary Palmer from Alabama, Congressman Kelly Armstrong from North Dakota, and Congressman Paul Gosar from Arizona.

Last, I want to welcome our new members to the committee. They hail from all parts of our great country. First of all—we will go in order of seniority—I want to recognize Scott Perry from Pennsylvania.

Welcome.

William Timmons from South Carolina. Tim Burchett from Tennessee. Marjorie Taylor Greene from Georgia. Lisa McClain from Michigan. Lauren Boebert from Colorado. Russell Fry from South Carolina. Anna Paulina Luna from Florida. Chuck Edwards from

North Carolina. Nick Langworthy from New York. And Eric Burlison from Missouri.

Welcome to the Oversight Committee, which, again, I think you will find is the best committee in Congress. We are really glad you all are on the committee. I look forward to working with each and every one of you this Congress. We have a big agenda, and we are just going to work really hard and try to be very effective for the taxpayers and the American people.

With that, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland, Ranking Member Jamie Raskin, to introduce his members.

But, first, I want to publicly say, Mr. Raskin, we are all rooting for you. We know that you are going to win this battle. You are in our thoughts and prayers. And it is good to see you here today.

I yield to Ranking Member Raskin.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman, thank you so much. It means a lot to me. I have been gratified to receive so many kinds words of encouragement and sympathy from colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I hope that these expressions of concern and solidarity will become seeds of friendship over the year. I certainly plan on getting through this thing and beating it. And I thank you for your patience and indulgence.

[Applause.]

Mr. RASKIN. Now it is my turn to welcome the members on our side of the aisle, Mr. Chairman, beginning with Eleanor Holmes Norton, who represents the great people of the District of Columbia. Mr. Lynch of Massachusetts. Mr. Connolly of Virginia. Mr. Krishnamoorthi of Illinois. Mr. Khanna of California. Mr. Mfume of Maryland. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez of New York, who is our vice ranking member for this Congress. Ms. Porter of California. Ms. Bush. Ms. Brown. And Mr. Gomez. Those are the returning members. Ms. Brown of Ohio, Mr. Gomez of California, Ms. Bush of Missouri.

But from across the country our new members, Mr. Chairman, are Ms. Stansbury, Melanie Stansbury of New Mexico. Robert Garcia of California. Maxwell Frost from Florida. Becca Balint of Vermont. Summer Lee from Pennsylvania. Greg Casar of Texas. Jasmine Crockett, also from Texas. Dan Goldman from New York. And Jared Moskowitz from Florida.

Mr. Chairman, it is hard for me today not to think of my fellow Marylander and my friend, Elijah Cummings, who was chairman and ranking member of this committee not so long ago. Elijah recruited me to Oversight and taught me the central purpose of this committee. Our job is to make government and America serve not as an opportunity for greed and self-enrichment, not as a violator of the rights and liberties of the people, but rather as the protector of the rights and liberties of the people, and always the effective and efficient instrument of the common good, the greatest good for the greatest number of Americans we can serve every single day. I take this duty seriously, and I am committed to ensuring with you an effective and efficient government that delivers meaningful benefits to the people that we serve.

I have taken the liberty, Mr. Chairman, of purchasing—out my own pocket, I hasten to add—a copy of Tom Paine’s “Common Sense” for every member of this committee—Republican, Democrat—the pamphlet that launched the American Revolution, be-

cause what we need to proceed and succeed in this committee is common sense, to use our five senses and our reason in order to make sure that we are vindicating the public interests that our Constitution exists for. So, that will be coming to everybody's office this week.

We pledge to work closely with you in the days ahead. And wherever we can find grounds for bipartisan work and collaboration we will pursue it. Obviously, we will be standing up for the Constitution, for the Bill of Rights, and for the laws of the land.

I know our staffs have already begun meeting to discuss different ways the committee can begin a process of collaboration, and I am optimistic that we will be able to find a good, constructive, collaborative path forward.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your many courtesies in working with us and hope that we will be able to work successfully together over the next couple years.

Happy to yield back.

Chairman COMER. I want to thank the Ranking Member.

We will now move to consider our committee rules. The rules package before you is substantially the same as last Congress with only a few changes. Those changes include the following.

First, I want to highlight rule 6, which outlines our new subcommittees and their jurisdictions. Through these subcommittees we are once again focused on the priorities of the American people.

Second, we are including a change to allow members of the committee to participate in subcommittee and select committee hearings at the discretion of the Chair.

Last, to align our deposition authority rule with House rules, we made clear that a witness can only bring two personal nongovernmental attorneys to the deposition to advise them to their rights.

Now before I yield to Ranking Member Raskin, I want to thank the Ranking Member and his staff for providing their feedback to the rules. I know we have had lots of communication back and forth over the last several days. I know we did not come to an agreement on all the suggested edits, but I know we will be able to find a bipartisan solution on the items not reflected in the committee rules.

With that, I yield back to the Ranking Member for his opening statement on the rules.

Mr. RASKIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have an amendment at the desk.

And perhaps, while the clerk prepares to report the amendment, I will just say that thank you for working with us on the rules. Much of it—most of it—we are able to go along with, but we definitely have a few issues that we wanted to raise today, and I am hoping that we might be able to work them out. That is the source of the first amendment.

Chairman COMER. OK. The clerk will designate the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 1 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability as offered by Representative Raskin.

Chairman COMER. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

Chairman COMER. Mr. Raskin is recognized to explain the amendment.

Mr. RASKIN. Thank you kindly, Mr. Chairman.

So, I am offering the amendment to strike the provision of rule 7 granting the Chair the unilateral discretion to allow committee members to participate in the hearings of subcommittees on which they are not members.

Now, this has been a common and replete practice on our committee, but such authority has historically been granted through unanimous consent requests on both sides. This is a practice that allows our members to enjoy great flexibility and accountability to each other. I am certain that members on both sides will not recall a single occasion when anyone has ever objected to waiving someone on.

So, this practice has worked seamlessly in a bipartisan way for decades, and there is no need to break from precedent to centralize this authority in the chair.

You know, the danger, of course, is that this authority, whether the chair is a Democrat or a Republican, will be used to allow certain members to do it and other members not to do it. So, we prefer to stick with the unanimous consent practice, Mr. Chairman, and so this moves to just strike that one part.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Would the distinguished Ranking Member yield for a second?

Mr. RASKIN. Yes. I am happy to yield.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I thank my friend.

I want to join him in supporting this amendment. I have been on this committee now, this is my 15th year, under Republican chairs, Democratic chairs, Republican majorities, Democratic majorities, and we have never, ever had a problem in unanimously waiving somebody on who seeks to participate. I need to know what the rationale would be for changing that procedure.

So I just think, as we begin the new year, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Ranking Member, I think this amendment, adopting the amendment Mr. Raskin has put forward, would be a good faith action on the part of all of us. So, I urge adoption and this modification of the rules.

And I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. RASKIN. So Mr. Chairman, it looks like there might be some other members who want to weigh in. Should I—

Chairman COMER. Just yield back.

Mr. RASKIN. OK. I will yield back to you, and we can go back and forth. Thanks.

Chairman COMER. If left silent, the House rules require a vote that needs unanimous consent by the committee to allow this.

This rule change only memorializes what is already the case. So, it can still be used. There is nothing changed. It can still be used. This just speeds things up with some of these committee hearings. We don't have to do that to disrupt the flow.

So, I am bound by House rules, and I pledge to follow them.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the amendment.

Do any members have further discussion?

Ms. Norton.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Chairman, this is merely a courtesy. So, I support the Ranking Member's change so that, as a courtesy, any member could be waived on.

I yield back.

Chairman COMER. Does any other member seek recognition?

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. Mr. Lynch.

The Chair will recognize Mr. Lynch.

Mr. LYNCH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I don't want to repeat what my colleagues have said, but in the past—and I have been on this committee now, this is my 22nd year—and we have always had an agreement, a gentleman's or gentlewoman's agreement between our parties.

As you will see during this session—and I am sure you know, Mr. Chairman—with the competing activities going on in other hearings, it is often challenging to get members to come in because they have also got commitments on other hearings. So, making that process fluid and generous and bipartisan has really helped the way this committee has worked together in the past.

So, I would hope that you would see fit to support Mr. Raskin's amendment. I think it would be good not for one party or the other, but for the work that we are about to embark on here.

Thank you. I yield back.

Chairman COMER. Any other member seek recognition?

The question is on the amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the nos have it.

Mr. RASKIN. I would like to request a recorded vote, please, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman COMER. OK. Roll call votes will be postponed, and the time will be announced in advance, same way we did this last year.

I will get this down after about the third vote here.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Mr. Lynch.

Mr. LYNCH. I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman COMER. The clerk will designate the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 2 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability as offered by Representative Lynch.

Mr. RASKIN. Does the Chairman recognize Mr. Lynch?

Chairman COMER. Yes. The Chair recognizes Mr. Lynch.

Mr. LYNCH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think in the interest of fairness and efficiency this amendment would simply afford the Ranking Member, the distinguished gentleman from Maryland, the same discretion that the proposed committee rules currently grant to the Chairman over member participation on subcommittees and, quote, "other proceedings."

In support of this amendment, I would underscore that granting our chairman the unilateral authority to determine whether a committee member may participate in an Oversight Committee hearing or additional oversight activities does not align with previous committee practices or precedent during my time on this committee.

As previous chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Security for at least the past eight years, I can attest that our subcommittee rules and committee rules have not granted our chairs such authority under either Democratic or Republican majorities.

In stark contrast, we have primarily left the question of member participation to our colleagues through bipartisan unanimous consent requests to waive interested members onto the subcommittee for hearings, which has never been denied.

So, whether a Republican member or a Democratic member wanted to come in and—look, the Oversight Committee has unlimited jurisdiction, so oftentimes we have members who are on other jurisdictional committees that share our interests.

The proposed rule regarding member participation also contravenes the fundamental mission of our committee to conduct oversight, to identify waste, fraud, and abuse and hold government accountable, and also in favor of reform on behalf of the American people.

As recommended by the nonpartisan Project on Government Oversight, “congressional oversight is stronger and more credible when it is bipartisan,” close quote.

So, rather than fostering a bipartisan examination of the critical issues facing the American people—and they are considerable—this proposed rule encourages the partisan selection of which members can be afforded the opportunity to undertake congressional oversight at all.

The amendment under consideration would at least ensure that our oversight efforts do not fall victim to partisanship or capriciousness when it comes to member participation.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this amendment. I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman COMER. Gentleman yields back.

Here, the Ranking Member is asking for more consideration than is contemplated under the House rules, and, therefore, our committee rules would then be in conflict.

The Democrat members can still be considered and added to any subcommittee hearing at the discretion of the Chair and upon a request for unanimous consent at any hearing. So, nothing changes.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. Any other member seek recognition?

Mr. Raskin.

Mr. RASKIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The only problem with the statement you just made is that it does create a change in introducing asymmetry into the rules. And, again, members should consider this from the perspective of both being in the majority now and potentially being in the minority later, because if an asymmetrical rule is adopted that seems to benefit one team at one point, it will come to disadvantage you in the future.

In the past, because we have had a universal unanimous consent practice, no one has had an incentive to object, and everybody understands that that should be a privilege of membership of the committee, that you should be able to go to various subcommittees.

Now, if we centralize the power exclusively in the chair, whether that is a Republican or a Democrat, that person will be able to grant it as a matter of course to members of his or her own party, but deny it to others or use unanimous consent to have somebody block it in that case.

The rules work best when they work symmetrically and fairly for everyone. So, I like very much the approach that Mr. Lynch has taken given that we seem to be going down this road. If the chair has the power to unilaterally grant a member participation in a subcommittee proceeding, the ranking member should have that same power regardless of whether red or blue is in the majority or the minority.

Yield back.

Chairman COMER. The Ranking Member yields back.

Again, I pledge to work with the Ranking Member on whomever he deems necessary to be waived in. It doesn't change anything.

So, any further member seek recognition?

Seeing not, the question is on the amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the nos have it.

Mr. RASKIN. I would request a recorded vote, please.

Chairman COMER. Roll call votes have been requested. They will be postponed, and the time will be announced in advance.

Are there any more amendments at the table?

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes the Ranking Member.

Mr. RASKIN. I have one other amendment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This will allow remote participation—

Chairman COMER. I am sorry. The clerk will designate the amendment. That is three times. I will get it right from now on.

The clerk will designate the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 3 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability as offered by Representative Raskin.

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes the Ranking Member.

Mr. RASKIN. Thank you kindly, Mr. Chairman.

This amendment would simply allow remote participation in committee activities for members when in-person participation would potentially compromise the member's health.

I know there is a desire to have all members in person moving forward. I certainly share that desire. But that should not prevent members who may need reasonable accommodations in light of extremely exceptional medical circumstances from participating in committee proceedings, for example, if someone has COVID-19.

I appreciate the willingness that Chairman Comer has displayed to work on ways for members with health conditions to participate. I think it is important that we enshrine any exceptions of this nature in our rules.

I want all of our members to be able to participate fully in the committee. No one should be prevented from performing their duties on behalf of their constituents due to unavoidable and uncontrollable health conditions, whether it is being immunocompromised or having COVID-19 or being injured in some way that prevents him or her from coming to work.

With that, I submit the amendment to you, Mr. Chairman, for consideration.

Chairman COMER. The Ranking Member yields back.

As the Chairman, I already have the discretion to make reasonable accommodations in the exact situations like the Ranking Member just mentioned. I have said—he and I have had several conversations. I will say this publicly.

I will do everything in my ability to work with you to make sure that we can accommodate anything with respect to committee work while you are undergoing treatment. I am very sympathetic to what you are going through. We have members on our side. My mother went through this. So, we are going to work with you. I have given you that pledge.

For example, we made an accommodation at this afternoon's transcribed interview to enable the Ranking Member to appear remotely. And we will work with you on that.

But this amendment is not necessary. I pledge to continue working with the Ranking Member, as I already have. We demonstrated that in good faith today with the transcribed interview later on today.

So, I urge my colleagues to vote no.

Does any other member seek recognition?

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Mr. Connolly.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I thank the Chair, and I really appreciate his accommodation, both to the Ranking Member personally and his pledge to work in a reasonable fashion to accommodate legitimate health needs.

But what we are debating here today is the rule, and the rule is the architecture for the next two years. We need a rule that assures that, should somebody else be in that chair, we have protection, we have rights.

So, I think the amendment is not unnecessary. I think it, in fact, improves things. Over a million and a half Americans have succumbed to COVID-19. People have died from this terrible virus. People are terribly vulnerable. People have immune-compromised systems and long-term symptoms because of this virus.

So, that is not just a nice thing to do if somebody asks for it. It is an essential thing to do, both for members and for witnesses, as we proceed as a committee. I think it is going to be essential, hopefully in a diminishing basis, but we don't know that yet. We have had many, many rounds and many variants of this virus, all of them deadly.

So, I urge adoption of this change and urge that we also do it for witnesses.

I thank the Chairman for giving me time, and I thank the Ranking Member for his amendment.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes Ms. Norton.

Ms. NORTON. Well, I note that the Chair seems to agree with the underlying purpose of the amendment.

I think the amendment is necessary, because the Congress is so closely divided. Because of this close division, we don't know whether, for partisan purposes, there would be a disagreement. I think this is a fail-safe amendment that would be important for both sides to have in their pocket.

I yield back.

Chairman COMER. The gentlelady yields back.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Donalds.

Mr. DONALDS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Members, I oppose the amendment to the rules, obviously understanding the health conditions of the Ranking Member and the Chairman's desire to help him with that as we move through this Congress.

But let's be very clear. As a member of this committee in the last Congress, there were many members who, frankly, abused the virtual nature of our hearings. They would be in their offices doing these hearings and not here in this room. We are going to be touching a lot of critical topics in this Congress, and attendance is necessary.

So, I urge my members and my colleagues to vote down on this amendment, understanding fully the issues that the Ranking Member is dealing with, with his health personally. But this amendment is not needed, and I back the Chairman on this.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes Ms. Ocasio-Cortez.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think one of the things that we all want to acknowledge is gratitude for your willingness to be able to work to accommodate the Ranking Member and the various conditions that we would have to adapt to.

But I think that the Ranking Member would also be one of the first to say that this rule is not about him, and it is really about the vast majority of—or the vast amount of people who encounter disabilities at some point in their life or another.

The rules here are about the rules of our workplace, and this rule is in place so that it is not up to one individual's discretion to protect a person that may encounter a disability, who may find themselves with a condition such as the Ranking Member's, pregnancy, et cetera.

A rule to protect individuals based on health outcome should be part of our workplace protections. I think the examples that we set here are an example for the country.

I extend quite a bit of understanding toward the Representative from Florida about making sure that we are here. But in the rule it states explicitly about an extraordinary, extenuating healthcare-related circumstance.

So, in that spirit, I would hope that we would all be able to set that example in protecting the millions of people who encounter disabilities, immunocompromised conditions, et cetera. And I would hope that we would enshrine that protection, not just for the ranking member, but for all of us in the rules of this committee.

I yield back.

Chairman COMER. I thank the gentlelady for yielding back.

Any further—the Chair recognizes Ms. Marjorie Taylor Greene.

Ms. GREENE. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I oppose this amendment. I think it is important for us to all recognize that the White House just announced that they will be calling an end to the COVID-19 emergency. So, there is no need for us to vote to amend the rules to allow for this.

Of course we extend our heartfelt prayers and good well wishes to Mr. Raskin as he is going through cancer treatment, something certainly all of us can understand and hope the best for him.

As far as pregnancy, pregnancy is a wonderful gift for women, and becoming a mother is a wonderful thing. It doesn't stop many women from showing up for work. So, I don't think that should be considered to be a concern of why we need to adopt this amendment that members can't show up.

I think it is important for all members to come and to be present as much as they possibly can because we have a job to do for the American people.

And I yield back.

Chairman COMER. Gentlelady yields back.

Is there any further discussion?

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Mr. Fallon.

Mr. FALLON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is great to call you Mr. Chairman.

I oppose the amendment. But I want to—just on a personal level, Ranking Member Raskin, so many of us have lost loved ones to cancer. I want you to fight, and I want you to win.

God bless you.

Chairman COMER. Gentleman yields back.

Any further discussion?

Again, we, the Chair, pledges to work with any member depending on the various circumstances. That has been the rule. That will continue to be the rule.

So, if no one else seeks recognition, the question is on the amendment. Again, I urge my colleagues to vote no.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the nos have it.

Mr. RASKIN. Seek a recorded vote, please.

Chairman COMER. The roll call votes will be postponed, and the time will be announced in advance.

Does any member seek recognition? Any further amendments?

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman COMER. The clerk will designate the amendment.

The clerk will designate the amendment.

We don't have the amendment?

Mr. MFUME. It is Amendment No. 4.

Chairman COMER. We don't have it. OK.

Mr. MFUME. It is at the desk.

Chairman COMER. One moment, Mr. Mfume, please.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 4 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability as offered by Representative Mfume.

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Mr. Mfume for five minutes.

Mr. MFUME. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I want to first say congratulations to Ranking Member Raskin for his continued leadership and dedication to the committee.

And, Mr. Chairman, I want to congratulate you as well. It has been great working with you in the previous Congress, and I congratulate you also on your new position.

I move to offer Amendment No. 4 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

House Rule XI, clause 2(m) authorizes House committees and subcommittees to issue subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and the production of documents.

This amendment will, quite simply, require a majority vote approval by members of the committee prior to authorizing and issuing a subpoena in the conduct of any investigation or activity within the jurisdiction of this committee.

I think we have a real opportunity today to execute strong, bipartisan oversight, and this is a rule, quite frankly, that both Democrats and Republicans have supported in the past. Mr. Chairman, I am particularly pleased that you supported this amendment the last time and we hope today that it will carry.

I hope we embrace this sort of moment so that we can show, quite frankly, the American people and Members of Congress that we are still prepared in this committee to unite, regardless of our different political beliefs.

So, I would encourage my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support the amendment.

I thank you, sir, and I yield back any time I may have remaining.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes himself.

A congressional subpoena is a powerful tool which should be used in limited circumstances. Its use is appropriate when attempts to reach an accommodation with a witness are at an impasse; when necessary to obtain certain sensitive information, such as financial information; or when a friendly subpoena is needed, just simply to protect the witness.

In the normal course of committee business, I hope to work with the Ranking Member on proposed subpoenas in advance.

The American people have made clear that they want this committee to conduct fair and rigorous oversight, and we will do that. That will require this committee to work quickly and efficiently and at times provide less opportunity for debate and markup in order to uncover the truth in the timeliest fashion.

I appreciate Mr. Mfume pointing out that I supported this amendment last Congress, but you all opposed it.

So, we just want to keep the rules the way that you all had them in the last Congress with respect to—yes, things change, right?

During the past two Congresses, committee Democrats, as I said, voted against this change and refused on at least two occasions my written request to vote for a subpoena before it was issued. If we need to provide that for any fact-finding friends out in the audience, we will be happy to do that.

Yet, with this amendment, they now ask the committee to change its rules to give them rights refused to Republicans when Democrats were in charge.

So, as former Chairwoman Maloney pointed out during our last organizational meeting, hundreds of subpoenas have been issued under both Republican- and Democrat-controlled Congresses in this committee without any vote. Democrats have provided no valid rea-

son today to depart from this precedent. So, I oppose this amendment and urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Does any member seek—the Chair recognizes Mr. Raskin.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

I rise in support of the gentleman's amendment. Indeed, one of the great things about Congress changing hands is we get to quote each other from the prior Congress.

Mr. Chairman, then you did say the subpoena is a powerful tool and notice and consultation are just commonsense measures that the majority should afford the minority to the fullest extent possible.

You are absolutely correct, and we are joined here to point out that the majority didn't accept that. But I will say that, if we are simply going to be in a race to the bottom, then the precedent was set by the Trump administration when President Trump said he would not cooperate with any subpoenas at all and simply shut down the process and ignored and rejected hundreds of congressional subpoenas.

I don't think we want to go down that route, and I don't want we want to encourage the Biden administration to go down that route.

So, I would encourage a complete reset at this point. Let's resolve to do better together. Let's issue subpoenas together and let's make those subpoenas stick and work by making sure that the administration complies with them.

I urge all my colleagues to support Mr. Mfume's amendment, and I yield back.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. Does any further member seek recognition?

Mr. Connolly.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

You know, the issue of subpoenas in this committee has a long and sorry history. When Dan Burton was chairman of the committee he issued hundreds of subpoenas—losing track of who he had subpoenaed, as a matter of fact—and it kind of made a mockery of the process.

When Tom Davis, my predecessor, and Henry Waxman kind of switched back and forth as chairman and ranking member, they actually set a model where they genuinely did consult each other and try to cooperate on the issuance of subpoenas.

Why is that important? Because from an institutional point of view if we simply proliferate the world with subpoenas we are going to dilute the importance of that as a tool, as you correctly pointed out, Mr. Chairman. It is a tool that ought to be used sparingly, and it ought to have force.

I happen to believe that Congress ought to revive inherent contempt enforcing subpoenas institutionally as the separate but co-equal legislative branch of government. That is a fight someday we will, I hope, revisit.

But we want to make sure—I think all of us, as members of this committee—that a subpoena has force, that it has meaning, that it has broad support behind it. And I hope, as we move forward, that is the spirit in which we look at subpoenas and issue subpoenas for

the sake of the institution, for the sake of the integrity of this committee.

I thank the Chair and the Ranking Member, and I yield back. Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Sessions.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman, I do understand the debate that is going on back and forth. We have got a lot of members here who seemingly are also brand-new. Back in 1997 and 1998, when I sat on this committee, the gentleman, Chairman Burton, was in charge and was forced into having several hundred subpoenas.

As a matter of fact, I remember items to which I was, in particular, a part of with Johnny Chung, a Communist Chinese who came to this country to infiltrate our national security, a man who did come in and compromise the Clinton Administration, a man who compromised companies, a man who compromised to use political contributions, not just to get in the White House, but to have the Commerce Department to allow export of important items of national security that dealt directly with rockets and their ability to work off a gyroscope. It was one of the biggest political, important things that Dan Burton did.

The Attorney General of the United States chose not to answer questions when almost everybody in her Department, including the U.S. attorney from San Diego, who was bringing forth the case against Johnny Chung, and she used her political power to stop those things—national security, things dealing with not just this committee, but the entire country needed to know.

So, he was forced to issue these. Three times, the Attorney General of the United States went into the hospital for exhaustion rather than coming to be a part of what this committee was asking for.

So, I am aware of the games that get played. I am aware of the things that are hidden behind executive privilege and other things.

I would like to see us, as opposed to that now, since the shoe is on the other foot, to encourage this administration to be forthright as we ask things, because this committee and other committees have gained knowledge about how to use the power of not just this committee, but of Congress against Donald Trump. And, if you don't think those things are not going to be expected now when the shoe is on the other foot, we have lost it.

So, I think that the Ranking Member and others on your side should use this as a commonality, a stick to avoid what we have to do. But it means that you have to be forthright in the administration, which is an oath of office that you took. So, I think that it is not lay down your sword and leave yourself defenseless. I think it is let's work for common sense.

I appreciate the gentleman giving me time to express my ideas.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman from Texas yields back.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Perry.

Mr. PERRY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to observe that, now that Republicans are in the lead, it is not lost on me that suddenly it has become a race to the bottom. Don't you all find that fascinating?

I yield back.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

But before we call for a vote, if I may, I am excited about this newfound willingness to work with Republicans. So, I think that—I think we will have some opportunities, Mr. Raskin, to work together in the future on subpoenas.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Palmer for five minutes.

Mr. PALMER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I congratulate you on your chairmanship and Mr. Raskin as ranking member.

We have worked together before, and you are in our prayers.

Having been on this committee previously and now returning, I think many of us who have been on this committee before have been through the process where we issued subpoenas and also issued evidence preservation orders, particularly involving the Obama Administration, some of their administrators, and saw that those subpoenas and evidence preservation orders were not honored.

Mr. Connolly, the gentleman from Virginia, raises an interesting point about using contempt in cases where our subpoena power is not honored. I have full confidence that you will only issue subpoenas, Mr. Chairman, judiciously and full confidence that you, Mr. Chairman, and your staff will not lose track of any of them.

But in the case where we do issue subpoenas, or in cases where we issue evidence preservation orders, which I think could very likely be the case in this committee, I think we might need an additional tool to ensure that those subpoenas and those contempt—and those evidence preservation orders are complied with and that we do the duty, the due diligence that this committee is required to do in some of these investigations that we will most undoubtedly have to engage in over the next couple of years.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Mfume for five minutes.

Mr. MFUME. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

Just a few other words in support of my amendment.

I have heard Representative Burton's name mentioned a couple of times. And let me just say this about Dan. He and I fought like hell on a number of issues all through the 1980's and halfway through the 1990's. But we tried to find, where we could, commonality on things that didn't push us and push the Congress in the wrong direction.

In fact, we got in one argument in front of President Reagan, who jokingly said: Well, can I take you guys out and buy you an ice cream cone and get you to agree?

Dan and I were—we had strong differences, very, very strong differences of opinion. But at the end of the day I thought where you could make a commonsense argument you could win over his support. And he thought where he could make a commonsense argument he could win over mine.

So, when I look up at the portrait of Elijah Cummings hanging here, I am reminded that Elijah always said: We can do better than this.

And, Mr. Chairman, you are absolutely right about the last Congress. You voted to have this sort of amendment in place and the majority ruled. In that instance I think the majority may have been misplaced in its support.

But having said all of that, this provides us with a fresh opportunity not to turn left or to turn right, but to go ahead together as a committee, recognizing if not then, who knows, two years from now we might be back in the same position with someone on the other side making the argument for this amendment.

Life is too short for that, and I think, more than anything else, when it comes to subpoenaing witnesses and documents that there ought to be, at least where we can provide it, a semblance of unity, a semblance of bipartisanship, so that Democrats and Republicans are, in fact, agreeing on those subpoenas.

So, I would ask people just to kind of keep that in the back of your mind. Someone used the term reset. I think that is the perfect word for this situation. We can reset the clock now and start moving in the right direction or we can continue in the path we are going, which, as both the Ranking Member and the Chairman said, is a back and forth sort of seesaw on whoever controls the gavel.

I yield back. Thank you, sir.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Biggs.

Mr. BIGGS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am fascinated on this desire for freshness, this desire for a reset, having wandered through these halls for some period of time. What this rule is without the amendment is not dissimilar from what we see in the Judiciary chair. That happens, and we have been contented with that. We have lived with that. We know how it works.

And, quite frankly, we know how it works in here, because that is what my friends across the aisle have engaged in for the last four years. This is nothing unusual.

The notion that this is going to provide unity if we adopt this amendment is almost laughable on its face, that it will provide a Clinton, Secretary of State Clinton-Russian reset moment, is also laughable.

The reality is we have a disparity here. We view the world differently. Where we can find accommodation, we should, and we will. But there is nothing unique, bizarre, or out of the order on the current underlying rule that we are going to be voting on.

So, to say that we must have this freshness, this reset, and basically saying, well, now that you have control, we don't want you to treat us the way you have treated us. You don't want to be treated the way you have been treating us. You are saying, please, please, have mercy.

And the reality for me is the pendulum may have begun real far to the left. It will swing back a bit to the right. Ultimately it will find equilibrium. And the equilibrium will come as we find points of accommodation, points that we agree on, and going forward. But this amendment does not begin to do what I think you are telling me it is going to do, and so I irredeemably oppose it.

I yield back.

Mr. MFUME. Would the gentleman yield for 10 seconds?

Mr. BIGGS. I have already yielded back, but if I can, then I am happy to yield to you, Mr. Mfume.

Mr. MFUME. I just want to set the record straight. I am not saying please, please, have mercy. No, no, no, no.

Mr. BIGGS. Fair enough.

Mr. MFUME. I am a fighter. That is not what I am saying.

Mr. BIGGS. Fair enough.

Mr. MFUME. I am saying, please, please, let's try to correct a wrong.

Mr. BIGGS. Yes, that is fair enough. Thank you. I appreciate that. And I think everybody on this committee are fighters. That is why we are on this committee. That is part of the reason that we love being on this committee. We are each fighting for what we truly believe is the best direction of the country.

Thank you. Thank you, sir. Yield back.

Chairman COMER. OK. The gentleman yields back.

Chair recognizes the gentlelady from Georgia, Ms. Greene.

Ms. GREENE. I really appreciate the sentiments of bipartisanship. I think that is what is missing in Congress.

But I would also like to remind the committee that after two years of a very heavy controlled hand here in Congress and on committees, where Republicans didn't have a voice—I, in particular, had no voice, having no committees, being stripped of them by our former Speaker and Democrats in Congress.

I think it is also important to point out that, as far as subpoenas are concerned and bringing up President Trump and how his family has been treated by Democrats, Eric Trump in particular has been subpoenaed over 400 times and has never broken a law.

So, I think subpoena power is extremely important, but I oppose this amendment, because the Democrats have proven what they do with subpoena power, especially with the January 6th Committee, and I think we can trust Republicans on this committee and our new chairman, Jamie Comer, to do a great job with it.

I yield back.

Chairman COMER. The gentlelady yields back.

If no one else seeks recognition, the question is on the amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the nos have it.

Mr. RASKIN. Recorded vote, please.

Chairman COMER. A recorded vote has been requested. Roll call votes will be postponed, and the time will be announced in advance.

Does any—

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman COMER. The clerk will designate the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 5 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability as offered by Representative Porter.

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Representative Porter for five minutes.

Ms. PORTER. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I move to offer this amendment so that our subcommittee rules are consistent with the House rules that we just enacted. This

amendment would set forth a simple, clear process for the chair to determine when it is appropriate and if it is appropriate for a non-governmental witness to appear remotely.

Before I served in Congress I was a witness before Congress many times, and it is difficult for people of regular means, people in rural areas, people from Tribal communities, to be able to travel here to Washington, often on very short notice, and always at their personal expense.

I think this committee room and the Halls of Congress need to be filled with the voices of regular Americans, Americans who are living and experiencing the very problems, the very challenges that we are trying to do oversight of. This should not be a committee room where the voices of lobbyists, again and again and again, are heard and are heard loudly.

So, I think this is an important rule to allow everyday Americans from modest means, from rural areas, from indigenous areas, people with disabilities who can't travel, when the chair determines it is appropriate, to allow them to appear remotely.

Again, this is entirely consistent with the Republican rules package that was just enacted. It is simply setting forth a procedure so that the chair, in his discretion, may exercise that authority clearly.

Chairman COMER. The gentlelady yields back.

As I have said before, I pledge to follow the House rules. In fact, I am bound by them to take all the steps necessary to seek permission for a witness to appear remotely. The House rules give permission for witnesses to appear remotely and provide the instructions for this accommodation.

So, I don't believe my friends on the other side of the aisle have demonstrated why this amendment is necessary. So, I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Does any other member seek recognition?

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. Ranking Member Raskin.

Mr. RASKIN. Thank you kindly.

I would that this would be a commonsense amendment universally adopted as completely consistent with and following through on the rules of the House itself. The amendment ensures that the public is not robbed of essential testimony from people across the country.

Oftentimes we talk about wanting the voices of America to be heard here. This is precisely the way to do it. It protects equal access to the right to testify, ensuring that witnesses are not barred from participation by distance or money or travel delays or whatever might be the circumstances beyond their control. It is common sense, and I would hope we can all endorse it.

I yield back to you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Ms. Norton.

Ms. NORTON. I support this amendment.

Again, I call to the attention of the committee that the Congress is evenly divided, so it will make a difference often that such a member be able to vote remotely. I strongly support this amendment.

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Chair?

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Ms. Porter.

Ms. PORTER. I just want to clarify.

The amendment does not permit voting remotely. The amendment at the desk is to allow nongovernmental witnesses, who would otherwise have to potentially travel to this committee on short notice, to be able, in the chair's discretion, to appear remotely.

So, it does not affect our duties. It is about lifting up the voice of the full swath of the American people.

Chairman COMER. And I will do everything in my ability. If someone—if you have a witness that demonstrates they don't have the financial means or whatever to be able to appear in person, then we will work with them any way we can to accommodate. We will take that on a case-by-case basis. That is my pledge. I don't think this amendment is necessary.

Any other member seek recognition?

If no one else seeks recognition, the question is on the amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the nos have it.

Any other member seek recognition?

Mr. RASKIN. I would like to request a recorded vote also.

Chairman COMER. Recorded vote has been requested.

Roll call votes will be postponed, and the time will be announced in advance.

Any other member seek recognition?

Mr. CROCKETT. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman COMER. The clerk will designate the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 6 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability as offered by Representative Crockett.

Chairman COMER. OK. The Chair recognizes Ms. Crockett.

Ms. CROCKETT. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

This amendment would, quite simply, restore the Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee that has been a vital part of this committee's work for the past four years.

In light of the tragedy of this past weekend, passage of the amendment and the restoration of the Civil Rights Subcommittee would show the American people what this committee stands for, whether we will waste taxpayers' time and money on fishing expeditions or whether we will dedicate ourselves to holding those who violate the civil and human rights of our constituents accountable, because under the current rules package if one of our constituents has their civil rights violated or their civil liberties curtailed this committee offers no place for them to turn.

The rules, as written, send an unmistakable message to the American people that their civil rights and civil liberties are no longer a priority in the 118th Congress as they have been in the past sessions of Congress.

I know that each of us, regardless of our political backgrounds, believes earnestly in the importance of civil rights and liberties. So, why would we turn a blind eye to their violation, especially in a

time like this when, across the Nation, from small towns to big cities, Americans are crying out against the horrible injustice that was perpetrated against Tyre Nichols and so many others every single day.

It is undeniable that the civil rights of American people are under threat, and this committee must do something about it.

Our Congress has a proud legacy conducting history-making investigations that rally the Nation to its most humane resolutions. In 1871, less than two years after the passage of the 15th Amendment guaranteeing the right to vote regardless of race, the Ku Klux Klan used domestic terrorism to infringe on the newly guaranteed civil right to vote.

And unlike later times where members of the KKK were vigilantes in the 1870's, local officials of all stripes took part in this vile organization.

In the face of this brazen attack on American civil rights, the Congress rolled up its sleeves and conducted real investigatory oversight, producing, after a 10-month investigation, 13 pages of reports. The findings of that investigation were the cornerstone on which, after great struggle, the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1875 was built.

As the committee charged with oversight and accountability, this is the legacy we inherit, and we owe it to the American people to live up to it. So, when over a hundred people every year are losing their lives in routine traffic stops, when over a dozen large police departments are operating under consent decrees for violations of their citizens' civil liberties, and when the attention of a Nation is focused on the issue of civil rights, it is our duty to rise to the occasion and conduct oversight and provide accountability on this crucial subject and not shrink from this shared responsibility. But without this amendment that is what passage of the current rules would do.

Now, one might argue that the Government Ops and Federal Workforce Committee is the right venue to address these issues. Accepting that argument only gives more reason for concern.

Of the five clauses concerning the jurisdiction of the committee, comprised themselves of 18 identified subjects, only one of which could be construed to be used to investigate the tragic circumstances of the death of Tyre Nichols. The current rules package buries civil rights as one of over a dozen charges of that subcommittee when upholding Americans' civil rights and liberties should be one of the core functions of this committee.

It is a question of values, a question of legacy, a question of justice. Let us live up to the legacy of this committee. Let us show the American people that we hear them and we are fighting for them. Let us restore the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Remedies.

I urge passage.

With that, I yield back.

Chairman COMER. The gentlelady yields back.

Let me be very clear. Any topic that is not mentioned in the subcommittee jurisdiction is reserved for the full committee. So, we can have a committee hearing in this committee on basically anything we want.

I know there are a lot of new members on the committee, so I just want to go back in history a little bit. I requested, with Chairwoman Maloney, who I had a lot of respect for—and I think even the members on the other side of the aisle that were on the committee last year would agree we had a very good working relationship. I worked—we worked together, not just Maloney and I, but several members of this committee, on bipartisan legislation.

Despite what the media says, there is a lot of bipartisan work that takes place in this committee, and there could be a lot more. Last year, Chairwoman Maloney and I and Mr. Connolly and Mr. Lynch worked together to pass what I think was the most significant bipartisan bill last year in Congress, the postal reform bill.

We will have Postmaster General DeJoy before the committee soon to give us an update of how that is going to see what other improvements need to be made moving forward with the Postal Service, which we have legislative jurisdiction on over here.

Chairman COMER. Chairwoman Mace and Ro Khanna worked together on a lot of cybersecurity bills, bipartisan bills. I worked. Former Ranking Member Hice worked with Mr. Connolly on many good government bills to come out of this committee. So, there were some bipartisan successes in this committee.

But I requested several committee hearings to Chairwoman Maloney to have in that would have been and should have been bipartisan, and I am going to go through these.

We were very interested and very concerned about how some of the COVID funds were being spent, but we never had a committee hearing like we are going to have tomorrow to examine the COVID thing. Now, I know the COVID select committee, which is a different committee, had some hearings on that. But this Oversight Committee, we never had a single hearing on that.

We were concerned about the origination of COVID. Now, I know there is a select committee, but, again, there was a little separation between this committee and the select committee. I hope that we are closer, and I am confident we will be closer next year, because I wasn't on the select committee last year. The chairman serves as ex officio on that committee. I think we will be working a lot closer with that select subcommittee next year—or this year—than we did last year.

I requested a hearing with the FDA to look at the CBD oil. We are all over the board on this. There are people that support CBD oil, hemp-derived products. There are people that oppose it on both sides of the aisle. That is something that we should have done and could have done, but she refused.

Then the last one and the most baffling to me, something that we will definitely have very soon in this committee, we wanted a bipartisan hearing on the PBMs, the pharmacy benefit managers. We had several hearings in this committee on prescription drug pricing, but we never touched on the thing that I think is an area where there is bipartisan support—do you agree, Ms. Porter?—on the PBMs. We are going to have those hearings in this committee.

So, I think there are going to be a lot of opportunities to work together. There are going to be opportunities where, as Mr. Mfume said, we will disagree. But I do believe there will be a lot of opportunities to work together.

If there are hearings that my friends on the other side of the aisle are interested in having that would have bipartisan support, I am very open to that. We are going to meet a lot in this committee. So, you are going to have to work hard to be on this committee. We are going to have a very active subcommittee process.

So, any topic that is not mentioned in the names or the subcommittee jurisdiction is reserved for the full committee. So, I don't believe this amendment is necessary, and I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Does any other member seek recognition?

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. Ranking Member Raskin.

Mr. RASKIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you for that expression of openness to having hearings on a whole range of matters that would bring us together as a committee in interesting ways, and I very much appreciate that sensibility that you have brought to the job.

I am glad that we are, indeed, going to begin on COVID-19 relief and some abuses that have taken place under that program. That is certainly something that we pursued very aggressively in the COVID-19 select committee—select subcommittee, rather. But I am delighted that the Oversight Committee will take it up.

Having said that, I do want to strongly support the gentlelady's amendment, the gentlelady from Texas, who, herself, is a civil rights and constitutional lawyer, distinguished in her field, raises the important point that we had a civil rights-civil liberties subcommittee, which just seems to have vanished under the rules. And with Mr. Cummings looking down on us, I feel the obligation to stand in defense of this subcommittee, which I was the first and I guess the only chair up until this point. I got to serve with Ms. Mace from South Carolina as the ranking member, and we did terrific bipartisan work in that Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

But there is an important point that makes this something far more than a semantic issue being raised by the gentlelady from Texas. Mr. Cummings was always adamant that there are two major purposes for the Oversight Committee and one is to make sure that the laws and programs that Congress adopts actually go to the benefit of the people that they are intended for and not siphoned off in waste and self-enrichment and corruption and other forms of fraud and abuse.

But the other purpose is to make sure that the government is always respecting the rights and the freedoms and the civil liberties of the people in the conduct of its operations.

So, the gentlelady raises an important point about our structural focus as a committee. Our subcommittee was able to look at things that brought us together across partisan lines, including certain kinds of abuses in the war on drugs, the treatment of marijuana, governmental seizures and forfeitures that violated the civil liberties of the people.

We looked at extremist political violence being led by dangerous extremist groups in the country. We had multiple hearings on that even before the explosion of violence that overcame Congress in the Capitol on January 6, 2021.

So, I strongly support the gentlelady's amendment.

I yield back to you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

The Chair recognizes Ms. Greene.

Ms. GREENE. Thank you.

Ms. Crockett, I do agree with you about Tyre Nichols' death. I watched the video, and it was tragic and extremely difficult to watch.

I would also like to point out that that city is Democrat-controlled, and the five officers that have been arrested and charged are Black. And I think that this isn't an issue of racism or anything like that. I think that the judge and the jury and the trial needs to work out what happened there. But I share that with you.

But I would like to also point something that I would hope you would share with me. There is a woman in this room whose daughter was murdered on January 6, Ashli Babbitt. And Ashli Babbitt, there has never been a trial. As a matter of fact, no one has cared about the person that shot and killed her, and no one in this Congress has really addressed that issue. The January 6th Committee didn't address it.

I believe that there are many people that came into the Capitol on January 6 whose civil rights and liberties are being violated heavily. This committee will, I hope, Mr. Chairman, look into those civil rights abuses, because they are happening in a jail right here in this city, and I hope Ms. Norton will care about that as well, as well as jails across the country.

I have been in that jail. And it is not just the January 6 defendants pretrial, by the way. It is many of the inmates in there living in horrific conditions. So, I think that is something that you and I can care about.

Mr. RASKIN. Will the gentlelady yield just for a moment?

Ms. GREENE. No, I will not yield.

But I would like to say and point out that civil rights and liberties are important, but we have to make sure that we crack down on the two-tiered justice system, because that needs to end.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

Chairman COMER. The gentlelady yields back.

Any further?

Seeing none, the question is on the amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the nos have it.

Mr. RASKIN. I would like to request a recorded vote, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman COMER. A recorded vote has been requested.

Roll call votes will be postponed, and the time will be announced in advance.

Are there any other amendments?

Mr. DONALDS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment.

Chairman COMER. The clerk will designate the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment No. 7 to the rules of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, as offered by Representative Donalds.

Chairman COMER. The Chair recognizes Mr. Donalds for five minutes.

Mr. DONALDS. Well, Mr. Chairman, and to the members, what my rule would do is actually what we have been doing under the discussion of the rules of this committee.

For the freshmen who are just here, people who have watched committees, obviously for my colleagues who have been here for a very long time, the process of all the committees in Congress has typically been seniority recognition. So, the members typically come in by their seniority. You have your five minutes. You are recognized. And not all members, but a lot of our members do leave at the end of their five minutes.

So, when we have witnesses in the room, what you actually witness is a situation where there is no dialog between the Members of Congress. There is a back and forth of witnesses who are in the room, and then there is no broader discussion by the committee.

My rule change, what it would provide, is an ability for all members to be recognized through the chair so that the members, at their discretion of when they want to engage in dialog, will go through the chair. You wouldn't be constrained to simply your five minutes. You would have an ability to engage in dialog, whether it is with a witness directly that says something later in discussion that you want to come back and circle around and speak to, or to even have dialog through witnesses with members on the other side of the aisle.

This rule change actually facilitates debate in committees, something that I found, coming in as a freshman, we do very little of in committees. This rule change will actually help our committees be more efficient in time because instead of being structured in five-minute blocks where, obviously, we have many staff members in the room, where the staff write our commentary to five minutes, it would give us the ability to actually get to the point. And sometimes, instead of needing five minutes, you only need two, or maybe even one.

The third thing it will do is that we have issues with government official who do have to come before this committee, and sometimes their time is limited. So, what this amendment will provide for is the ability for their time to be respected and for the members of the committee, some, of course, who have less seniority, you freshmen, have the ability to engage with these members before they have to leave because some of them only have two hours or three hours.

So, that is the structure of the amendment, Mr. Chairman.

Now, I will also add that I am aware that there are members on my side of the aisle who have concerns about this amendment because we are in a process where we kind of structure our days and our time based upon when we come in and come out. Many of us have committees that meet at the same time, another issue for the structure of the House that I think should be changed.

To my colleague on the other side of Florida, we know how that works in the state legislature where you actually schedule your committees in blocks so members can be where they need to be.

But because this is something that is new to Congress, and I think this is something that Congress does need, but also to respect

the discretion of our chair, my hope is that the chairman would work with us all to try to make sure we facilitate more debate in our process. Because in the Oversight Committee, we are going to be touching many topics that are going to require the debate of the members through witnesses instead of just speechifying to the witnesses for clips and reels and all that fun stuff.

So, in the essence of being supportive of my Chair, and want to make sure that we are working effectively and officially in this committee, I am going to withdraw my amendment. But I do think it is something that the members should think about, not just in this Congress but in the evolution of Congress in the years to come.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Chairman COMER. The gentleman yields back.

And if I may respond. I will work with you on that. I agree with what you are saying and will make every accommodation possible to do exactly what you just said there.

Any other members seek recognition on amendments?

Seeing none, we are going to recess until 12:30, and then we will have those votes at 12:30, and we will try to get through this as quickly as possible. We want to be very efficient and respectful of your time. We will have 10 minutes to gather everybody up for votes and then we will—or 11 minutes—and then we will have votes at promptly 12:30.

The committee is now in recess.

[Recess.]

Chairman COMER. It is now in order to take up the postponed recorded votes.

A recorded vote has been requested for amendment Raskin's No.

1. The clerk will call the roll.

The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?

Mr. JORDAN. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Jordan votes no.

Mr. Turner?

[No response.]

The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?

[No response.]

The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?

Ms. FOXX. No.

The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes no.

Mr. Grothman?

Mr. GROTHMAN. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes no.

Mr. Palmer?

Mr. PALMER. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes no.

Mr. Higgins?

Mr. HIGGINS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes no.

Mr. Sessions?

Mr. SESSIONS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes no.

Mr. Biggs?

Mr. BIGGS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes no.

Ms. Mace?
Ms. MACE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes no.
Mr. LaTurner?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Fallon?
Mr. FALLON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fallon votes no.
Mr. Donalds?
Mr. DONALDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes no.
Mr. Armstrong?
Mr. ARMSTRONG. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes no.
Mr. Perry?
Mr. PERRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes no.
Mr. Timmons?
Mr. TIMMONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes no.
Mr. Burchett?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Ms. Greene?
Ms. GREENE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes no.
Mrs. McClain?
Mrs. MCCLAIN. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes no.
Mrs. Boebert?
Mrs. BOEBERT. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes no.
Mr. Fry?
Mr. FRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes no.
Mrs. Luna?
Mrs. LUNA. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes no.
Mr. Edwards?
Mr. EDWARDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes no.
Mr. Langworthy?
Mr. LANGWORTHY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
Mr. Burlison?
Mr. BURLISON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes no.
Mr. Raskin?
Mr. RASKIN. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes aye.
Ms. Norton?
Ms. NORTON. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes yes.
Mr. Lynch?
Mr. LYNCH. Aye.

The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes yes.
Mr. Connolly?
Mr. CONNOLLY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes yes.
Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes yes.
Mr. Khanna?
Mr. KHANNA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes yes.
Mr. Mfume?
Mr. MFUME. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Mfume votes yes.
Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes yes.
Ms. Porter?
Ms. PORTER. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes yes.
Ms. Bush?
Ms. BUSH. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes yes.
Ms. Brown?
Ms. BROWN. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes yes.
Mr. Gomez?
Mr. GOMEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes yes.
Ms. Stansbury?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
Mr. GARCIA. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes yes.
Mr. Frost?
Mr. FROST. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes yes.
Ms. Balint?
Ms. BALINT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes yes.
Ms. Lee?
Ms. LEE. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes yes.
Mr. Casar?
Mr. CASAR. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes yes.
Ms. Crockett?
Ms. CROCKETT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes yes.
Mr. Goldman?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?
Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes yes.
Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. No.

Are there any other members who haven't recorded a vote?

Mr. LATURNER. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?

Chairman COMER. How is Mr. LaTurner recorded?

The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner is not recorded.

Mr. LATURNER. I vote no.

The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes no.

Chairman COMER. Will the clerk report the tally.

The CLERK. The vote is 23 in favor, 19 opposed.

Chairman COMER. I think that is wrong.

The CLERK. My apologies. Twenty-three nos, 19 yes.

Chairman COMER. All right. The amendment fails.

A recorded vote has been requested for Raskin's Amendment No.

2. The clerk will call the roll.

The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?

Mr. JORDAN. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Jordan votes no.

Mr. Turner?

[No response.]

The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?

[No response.]

The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?

Ms. FOXX. No.

The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes no.

Mr. Grothman?

Mr. GROTHMAN. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes no.

Mr. Palmer?

Mr. PALMER. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes no.

Mr. Higgins?

Mr. HIGGINS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes no.

Mr. Sessions?

Mr. SESSIONS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes no.

Mr. Biggs?

Mr. BIGGS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes no.

Ms. Mace?

Ms. MACE. No.

The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes no.

Mr. LaTurner?

Mr. LATURNER. No.

The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes no.

Mr. Fallon?

Mr. FALLON. No.

The Clerk. Mr. Fallon votes no.

Mr. Donalds?

Mr. DONALDS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes no.

Mr. Armstrong?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes no.

Mr. Perry?
Mr. PERRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes no.
Mr. Timmons?
Mr. TIMMONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes no.
Mr. Burchett?
Mr. Burchett?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Ms. Greene?
Ms. GREENE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes no.
Mrs. McClain?
Mrs. McCLAIN. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes no.
Mrs. Boebert?
Mrs. BOEBERT. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes no.
Mr. Fry?
Mr. FRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes no.
Mrs. Luna?
Mrs. LUNA. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes no.
Mr. Edwards?
Mr. EDWARDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes no.
Mr. Langworthy?
Mr. LANGWORTHY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
Mr. Burlison?
Mr. BURLISON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes no.
Mr. Raskin?
Mr. RASKIN. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes yes.
Ms. Norton?
Ms. NORTON. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes yes.
Mr. Lynch?
Mr. LYNCH. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes yes.
Mr. Connolly?
Mr. CONNOLLY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes yes.
Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna?
Mr. KHANNA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes yes.
Mr. Mfume?
Mr. MFUME. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Mfume votes yes.

Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes yes.
Ms. Porter?
Ms. PORTER. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes yes.
Ms. Bush?
Ms. BUSH. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes yes.
Ms. Brown?
Ms. BROWN. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes yes.
Mr. Gomez?
Mr. GOMEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes yes.
Ms. Stansbury?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
Mr. GARCIA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes yes.
Mr. Frost?
Mr. FROST. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes yes.
Ms. Balint?
Ms. BALINT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes yes.
Ms. Lee?
Ms. LEE. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes yes.
Mr. Casar?
Mr. CASAR. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes yes.
Ms. Crockett?
Ms. CROCKETT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes yes.
Mr. Goldman?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?
Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes yes.
Mr. Chairman?
Chairman COMER. Vote no.
Does any other member seek to be recognized to vote?
If not, the clerk will report the tally.
The CLERK. Twenty-three nos, 19 yeses.
Chairman COMER. The amendment fails.
A recorded vote has been requested for the Lynch amendment.
The clerk will call the roll.
The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Turner?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?
[No response.]

The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?
Ms. FOXX. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes no.
Mr. Grothman?
Mr. GROTHMAN. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes no.
Mr. Palmer?
Mr. PALMER. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes no.
Mr. Higgins?
Mr. HIGGINS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes no.
Mr. Sessions?
Mr. SESSIONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes no.
Mr. Biggs?
Mr. BIGGS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes no.
Ms. Mace?
Ms. MACE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes no.
Mr. LaTurner?
Mr. LATURNER. No.
The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes no.
Mr. Fallon?
Mr. FALLON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fallon votes no.
Mr. Donalds?
Mr. DONALDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes no.
Mr. Armstrong?
Mr. ARMSTRONG. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes no.
Mr. Perry?
Mr. PERRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes no.
Mr. Timmons?
Mr. TIMMONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes no.
Mr. Burchett?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Ms. Greene?
Ms. GREENE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes no.
Mrs. McClain?
Mrs. MCCLAIN. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes no.
Mrs. Boebert?
Mrs. BOEBERT. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes no.
Mr. Fry?
Mr. FRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes no.
Mrs. Luna?

Mrs. LUNA. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes no.
Mr. Edwards?
Mr. EDWARDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes no.
Mr. Langworthy?
Mr. LANGWORTHY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
Mr. Burlison?
Mr. BURLISON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes no.
Mr. Raskin?
Mr. RASKIN. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes yes.
Ms. Norton?
Ms. NORTON. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes yes.
Mr. Lynch?
Mr. LYNCH. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes yes.
Mr. Connolly?
Mr. CONNOLLY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes yes.
Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes yes.
Mr. Khanna?
Mr. KHANNA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes yes.
Mr. Mfume?
Mr. MFUME. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Mfume votes yes.
Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes yes.
Ms. Porter?
Ms. PORTER. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes yes.
Ms. Bush?
Ms. BUSH. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes yes.
Ms. Brown?
Ms. BROWN. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes yes.
Mr. Gomez?
Mr. GOMEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes yes.
Ms. Stansbury?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
Mr. GARCIA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes yes.
Mr. Frost?
Mr. FROST. Aye.

The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes yes.
 Ms. Balint?
 Ms. BALINT. Aye.
 The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes yes.
 Ms. Lee?
 Ms. LEE. Yes.
 The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes yes.
 Mr. Casar?
 Mr. CASAR. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes yes.
 Ms. Crockett?
 Ms. CROCKETT. Aye.
 The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes yes.
 Mr. Goldman?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?
 Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes yes.
 Mr. Chairman?
 Chairman COMER. The Chairman votes no.
 How has Mr. Burchett been recorded?
 The CLERK. He is not recorded.
 Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Burchett votes no.
 The CLERK. Mr. Burchett votes no.
 Chairman COMER. Has any other member not been recognized
 for a vote?
 The clerk will please report the tally.
 The CLERK. Twenty-three no, 19 yes.
 Chairman COMER. The amendment fails.
 Now, the recorded vote has been requested for the Mfume
 amendment. The clerk will call the roll.
 The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Turner?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?
 Ms. FOXX. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes no.
 Mr. Grothman?
 Mr. GROTHMAN. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes no.
 Mr. Palmer?
 Mr. PALMER. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes no.
 Mr. Higgins?
 Mr. HIGGINS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes no.
 Mr. Sessions?
 Mr. SESSIONS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes no.
 Mr. Biggs?
 Mr. BIGGS. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes no.
 Ms. Mace?
 Ms. MACE. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes no.
 Mr. LaTurner?
 Mr. LATURNER. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes no.
 Mr. Fallon?
 Mr. FALLON. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Fallon votes no.
 Mr. Donalds?
 Mr. DONALDS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes no.
 Mr. Armstrong?
 Mr. ARMSTRONG. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes no.
 Mr. Perry?
 Mr. PERRY. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes no.
 Mr. Timmons?
 Mr. TIMMONS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes no.
 Mr. Burchett?
 Mr. BURCHETT. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Burchett votes no.
 Ms. Greene?
 Ms. GREENE. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes no.
 Mrs. McClain?
 Mrs. MCCLAIN. No.
 The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes no.
 Mrs. Boebert?
 Mrs. BOEBERT. No.
 The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes no.
 Mr. Fry?
 Mr. FRY. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes no.
 Mrs. Luna?
 Mrs. LUNA. No.
 The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes no.
 Mr. Edwards?
 Mr. EDWARDS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes no.
 Mr. Langworthy?
 Mr. LANGWORTHY. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
 The CLERK. Mr. Burlison?
 Mr. BURLISON. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes no.
 Mr. Raskin?
 Mr. RASKIN. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes yes.
 Ms. Norton?
 Ms. NORTON. Yes.

The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes yes.
Mr. Lynch?
Mr. LYNCH. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes yes.
Mr. Connolly?
Mr. CONNOLLY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes yes.
Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes yes.
Mr. Khanna?
Mr. KHANNA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes yes.
Mr. Mfume?
Mr. MFUME. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Mfume votes yes.
Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes yes.
Ms. Porter?
Ms. PORTER. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes yes.
Ms. Bush?
Ms. BUSH. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes yes.
Ms. Brown?
Ms. BROWN. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes yes.
Mr. Gomez?
Mr. GOMEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes yes.
Ms. Stansbury?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
Mr. GARCIA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes yes.
Mr. Frost?
Mr. FRY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes yes.
Ms. Balint?
Ms. BALINT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes yes.
Ms. Lee?
Ms. LEE. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes yes.
Mr. Casar?
Mr. CASAR. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes yes.
Ms. Crockett?
Ms. CROCKETT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes yes.
Mr. Goldman?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes yes.
 Mr. Chairman?
 Chairman COMER. The Chairman votes no.
 And how has Mr. Jordan been recorded?
 Chairman COMER. Mr. Jordan has not been recorded.
 Mr. JORDAN. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Jordan votes no.
 Chairman COMER. Has Mr. Fallon been recorded?
 The CLERK. Yes. Mr. Fallon votes no.
 Chairman COMER. Any other member seek recognition?
 Seeing none, the clerk will record the tally.
 The CLERK. Twenty-four nos, 19 yes.
 Chairman COMER. The amendment fails.
 A recorded vote has been requested for the Porter amendment.
 The clerk will call the roll.
 The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?
 Mr. JORDAN. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Jordan votes no.
 Mr. Turner?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?
 Ms. FOXX. Foxx votes no.
 The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes no.
 Mr. Grothman?
 Mr. GROTHMAN. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes no.
 Mr. Palmer?
 Mr. PALMER. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes no.
 Mr. Higgins?
 Mr. HIGGINS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes no.
 Mr. Sessions?
 Mr. SESSIONS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes no.
 Mr. Biggs?
 Mr. BIGGS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes no.
 Ms. Mace?
 Ms. MACE. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes no.
 Mr. LaTurner?
 Mr. LATURNER. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes no.
 Mr. Fallon?
 Mr. FALLON. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Fallon votes no.
 Mr. Donalds?
 Mr. DONALDS. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes no.
 Mr. Armstrong?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes no.
Mr. Perry?
Mr. PERRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes no.
Mr. Timmons?
Mr. TIMMONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes no.
Mr. Burchett?
Mr. BURCHETT. It is Burchett. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burchett votes no.
Ms. Greene?
Ms. GREENE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes no.
Mrs. McClain?
Mrs. MCCLAIN. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes no.
Mrs. Boebert?
Mrs. BOEBERT. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes no.
Mr. Fry?
Mr. FRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes no.
Mrs. Luna?
Mrs. LUNA. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes no.
Mr. Edwards?
Mr. EDWARDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes no.
Mr. Langworthy?
Mr. LANGWORTHY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
Mr. Burlison?
Mr. BURLISON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes no.
Mr. Raskin?
Mr. RASKIN. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes yes.
Ms. Norton?
Ms. NORTON. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes yes.
Mr. Lynch?
Mr. LYNCH. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes yes.
Mr. Connolly?
Mr. CONNOLLY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes yes.
Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes yes.
Mr. Khanna?
Mr. KHANNA. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes yes.
Mr. Mfume?

Mr. MFUME. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Mfume votes yes.
Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes yes.
Ms. Porter?
Ms. PORTER. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes yes.
Ms. Bush?
Ms. BUSH. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes yes.
Ms. Brown?
Ms. BROWN. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes yes.
Mr. Gomez?
Mr. GOMEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes yes.
Ms. Stansbury?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
Mr. GARCIA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes yes.
Mr. Frost?
Mr. FROST. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes yes.
Ms. Balint?
Ms. BALINT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes yes.
Ms. Lee?
Ms. LEE. Yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes yes.
Mr. Casar?
Mr. CASAR. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes yes.
Ms. Crockett?
Ms. CROCKETT. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes yes.
Mr. Goldman?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?
Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes yes.
Mr. Chairman?
Chairman COMER. Vote no.
Does any other member seek recognition to vote?
Seeing none, the clerk will report the tally.
The CLERK. Twenty-four no, 19 yes.
Chairman COMER. The Porter amendment fails.
A recorded vote has been requested for the Crockett amendment.
The clerk will now call the roll.
The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?
Mr. JORDAN. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Jordan votes no.
Mr. Turner?

[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?
Ms. FOXX. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes no.
Mr. Grothman?
Mr. GROTHMAN. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes no.
Mr. Palmer?
Mr. PALMER. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes no.
Mr. Higgins?
Mr. HIGGINS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes no.
Mr. Sessions?
Mr. SESSIONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes no.
Mr. Biggs?
Mr. BIGGS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes no.
Ms. Mace?
Ms. MACE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes no.
Mr. LaTurner?
Mr. LATURNER. No.
The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes no.
Mr. Fallon?
Mr. FALLON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fallon votes no.
Mr. Donalds?
Mr. DONALDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes no.
Mr. Armstrong?
Mr. ARMSTRONG. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes no.
Mr. Perry?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Timmons?
Mr. TIMMONS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes no.
Mr. Burchett?
Mr. BURCHETT. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burchett votes no.
Ms. Greene?
Ms. GREENE. No.
The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes no.
Mrs. McClain?
Mrs. MCCLAIN. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes no.
Mrs. Boebert?
Mrs. BOEBERT. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes no.
Mr. Fry?

Mr. FRY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes no.
Mrs. Luna?
Mrs. LUNA. No.
The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes no.
Mr. Edwards?
Mr. EDWARDS. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes no.
Mr. Langworthy?
Mr. LANGWORTHY. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes no.
Mr. Burlison?
Mr. BURLISON. No.
The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes no.
Mr. Raskin?
Mr. RASKIN. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes yes.
The CLERK. Ms. Norton?
Ms. NORTON. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes yes.
The CLERK. Mr. Lynch?
Mr. LYNCH. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes yes.
Mr. Connolly?
Mr. CONNOLLY. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes yes.
Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. It is Burchett. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes yes.
Mr. Khanna?
Mr. KHANNA. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes yes.
Mr. Mfume?
Mr. MFUME. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Mfume votes yes.
Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes yes.
Ms. Porter?
Ms. PORTER. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes yes.
Ms. Bush?
Ms. BUSH. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes yes.
Ms. Brown?
Ms. BROWN. Aye.
The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes yes.
Mr. Gomez?
Mr. GOMEZ. Aye.
The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes yes.
Ms. Stansbury?
[No response.]
The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
Mr. GARCIA. Aye.

The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes yes.
 Mr. Frost?
 Mr. FROST. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes yes.
 Ms. Balint?
 Ms. BALINT. Aye.
 The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes yes.
 Ms. Lee?
 Ms. LEE. Yes.
 The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes yes.
 Mr. Casar?
 Mr. CASAR. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes yes.
 Ms. Crockett?
 Ms. CROCKETT. Aye.
 The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes yes.
 Mr. Goldman?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?
 Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes yes.
 Mr. Chairman?
 Chairman COMER. Vote no.
 How has Mr. Perry been recorded?
 The CLERK. Mr. Perry is not recorded.
 Mr. PERRY. Mr. Perry votes no.
 The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes no.
 Chairman COMER. Any other members not been recorded?
 Seeing none, the clerk will please report the tally.
 The CLERK. Twenty-four nos, 19 yes.
 Chairman COMER. The Crockett amendment fails.
 Since we have concluded our votes on the amendments, I move
 that the proposed rules be adopted as the rules of the Committee
 on Oversight and Accountability for the 118th Congress.
 All those in favor, say aye.
 All those opposed, say no.
 In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it, and the proposed
 rules are adopted.
 Mr. RASKIN. I would like to seek a recorded vote, Mr. Chairman.
 Chairman COMER. A recorded vote has been requested. Will the
 clerk please call the roll?
 The CLERK. Mr. Jordan?
 Mr. JORDAN. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Jordan votes yes.
 Mr. Turner?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Gosar?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Ms. Foxx?
 Ms. FOXX. Yes.
 The CLERK. Ms. Foxx votes yes.
 Mr. Grothman?
 Mr. GROTHMAN. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Grothman votes yes.

Mr. Palmer?
 Mr. PALMER. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Palmer votes yes.
 Mr. Higgins?
 Mr. HIGGINS. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Higgins votes yes.
 Mr. Sessions?
 Mr. SESSIONS. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Sessions votes yes.
 Mr. Biggs?
 Mr. BIGGS. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Biggs votes yes.
 Ms. Mace?
 Ms. MACE. Aye.
 The CLERK. Ms. Mace votes yes.
 Mr. LaTurner?
 Mr. LATURNER. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. LaTurner votes yes.
 Mr. Fallon?
 Mr. FALLON. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Fallon votes yes.
 Mr. Donalds?
 Mr. DONALDS. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Donalds votes yes.
 Mr. Armstrong?
 Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Armstrong votes yes.
 Mr. Perry?
 Mr. PERRY. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Perry votes yes.
 Mr. Timmons?
 Mr. TIMMONS. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Timmons votes yes.
 Mr. Burchett?
 Mr. BURCHETT. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Burchett votes yes.
 Ms. Greene?
 Ms. GREENE. Aye.
 The CLERK. Ms. Greene votes yes.
 Mrs. McClain?
 Mrs. MCCLAIN. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mrs. McClain votes yes.
 Mrs. Boebert?
 Mrs. BOEBERT. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mrs. Boebert votes yes.
 Mr. Fry?
 Mr. FRY. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Fry votes yes.
 Mrs. Luna?
 Mrs. LUNA. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mrs. Luna votes yes.
 Mr. Edwards?
 Mr. EDWARDS. Yes.
 The CLERK. Mr. Edwards votes yes.

Mr. Langworthy?
 Mr. LANGWORTHY. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Langworthy votes yes.
 Mr. Burlison?
 Mr. BURLISON. Aye.
 The CLERK. Mr. Burlison votes yes.
 Mr. Raskin?
 Mr. RASKIN. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Raskin votes no.
 Ms. Norton?
 Ms. NORTON. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Norton votes no.
 Mr. Lynch?
 Mr. LYNCH. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Lynch votes no.
 Mr. Connolly?
 Mr. CONNOLLY. Nay.
 The CLERK. Mr. Connolly votes no.
 Mr. Krishnamoorthi?
 Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Krishnamoorthi votes no.
 Mr. Khanna?
 Mr. KHANNA. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Khanna votes no.
 Mr. Fumef?
 Mr. MFUME. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Fumef votes no.
 Ms. Ocasio-Cortez?
 Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Ocasio-Cortez votes no.
 Ms. Porter?
 Ms. PORTER. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Porter votes no.
 Ms. Bush?
 Ms. BUSH. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Bush votes no.
 Ms. Brown?
 Ms. BROWN. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Brown votes no.
 Mr. Gomez?
 Mr. GOMEZ. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Gomez votes no.
 Ms. Stansbury?
 [No response.]
 The CLERK. Mr. Garcia?
 Mr. GARCIA. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Garcia votes no.
 Mr. Frost?
 Mr. FROST. No.
 The CLERK. Mr. Frost votes no.
 Ms. Balint?
 Ms. BALINT. No.
 The CLERK. Ms. Balint votes no.
 Ms. Lee?

Ms. LEE. No.

The CLERK. Ms. Lee votes no.

Mr. Casar?

Mr. CASAR. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Casar votes no.

Ms. Crockett?

Ms. CROCKETT. No.

The CLERK. Ms. Crockett votes no.

Mr. Goldman?

[No response.]

The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz?

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. No.

The CLERK. Mr. Moskowitz votes no.

Mr. Chairman?

Chairman COMER. Yes.

Does any member need to vote? Everybody voted?

Will the clerk please report the tally?

The CLERK. Twenty-four yes, 19 no.

Chairman COMER. The rules are adopted. And without objection, the motion to reconsider is laid on the table. Pursuant to House rules, the rules adopted by the Committee on Oversight and Accountability for the 118th Congress will be published and in the Congressional Record, and made available to all members and the public on the committee's website.

Before we conclude the organizational meeting, I want to yield to Ranking Member Raskin for some closing remarks.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

I just want to briefly return to something you mentioned at the start of the meeting. Our staffs have been working hard to update a bipartisan agreement that outlines how we will jointly handle certain issues, such as maintaining whistleblower protections for witnesses, the use of committee records, committing to not investigate each other's staff, our security clearance policy, and several other such items.

The agreement, based on committee precedent, is intended to facilitate bipartisan cooperation, transparency, and fairness so the committee can conduct its mission as efficiently and effectively and in as united a way as possible.

I hope we can continue our productive conversations and appreciate your continuing thoughtful consideration in this regard.

I yield back.

Chairman COMER. I just love this newfound willingness for bipartisanship. I think we are going to get along just fine.

This concludes today's organizational meeting. Without objection, committee staff are authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the action of the committee in adopting the resolution embodying our rules.

Without objection, the committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 1:09 p.m., the committee was adjourned.]

