

[H.A.S.C. No. 118-1]

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR THE
118TH CONGRESS**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

**HEARING HELD
FEBRUARY 2, 2023**



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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

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ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR THE 118TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, Thursday, February 2, 2023.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 9:02 a.m., in room 2118, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Mike Rogers (chairman of the committee) presiding.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MIKE ROGERS, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALABAMA, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

I ask unanimous consent the chair be authorized to declare a recess at any time.

Without objection, so ordered.

Without objection, members have five legislative days within which to submit written statements to be made part of the record.

So ordered.

We have four items of official business to consider today: adoption of the committee rules, approval of the committee security procedures, approval of the committee authorization and oversight plan, and appointment of the committee staff.

Before I begin consideration of the business, I want to recognize myself for a few minutes to welcome everybody to the Armed Services Committee.

This committee has the fundamental duty to provide for our Nation's common defense. The work we do here is critical to the security of our country and that of its partners and allies around the world.

And while we have our disagreements at times, we have a long tradition of carrying out our responsibilities in a very bipartisan manner. That tradition will continue.

I look forward to working closely with my friend and colleague, Ranking Member Smith, to enact the NDAA [National Defense Authorization Act] that strengthens our national defense and provides for our warfighters. That effort starts next week with our first two hearings.

On Tuesday, we will examine the threats we face from China and how best to prepare our military to deter and defeat them.

On Wednesday, we will hear about the state of the defense industrial base and the work we need to do to ensure that they are prepared for future conflicts.

I expect we will continue to have a very aggressive schedule of hearings and briefings that will lead up to the mark later this spring.

Oversight is going to be very important to Congress. At both the full committee and subcommittee level, we will be closely examining the decisions made by this administration. We will demand to know how these decisions impact our ability to build the ready, capable, and lethal fighting force that we need to deter China and our other adversaries.

As we build the fiscal year 2024 NDAA, we will be laser focused on the threats we face and the capabilities we need to defeat them. We will closely examine programs to determine if they actually provide the capabilities that we need to defeat the threats we face. If they don't, they will be cut.

At the end of the day, I expect we will find a lot of savings in the Pentagon. But I want to be clear about this: modernizing our military will cost a lot of money and we cannot shy away from that investment.

In many cases, our warfighters currently lack the advanced technologies needed to succeed in future battlefields. But China is fielding those technologies today.

We don't have a choice, we need to make robust investments in our national defense.

I look forward to working with all of you to enact the NDAA that accomplishes these goals.

With that, I want to quickly introduce our 11 new Republican members.

First, Representative Carlos Gimenez from Florida. He was born in Cuba and fled the island with his family shortly after the Communist takeover. He is the former mayor of Miami-Dade County and the first career firefighter ever elected to Congress.

Number two, Ms. Nancy Mace of South Carolina represents South Carolina's First Congressional District, home to one-half of the State's military installations and one-third of the State's veterans. She is the daughter of a retired Army General and the first woman to graduate from the Citadel's Corps of Cadets.

Number three, Brad Finstad, fourth-generation farmer. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in agriculture education, with an emphasis on rural leadership development.

Next, we have a great Alabamian. Congressman Dale Strong represents Alabama's Fifth District, which is the home of Redstone Arsenal, where Army Materiel Command and Missile Defense Agency are located. He was the chairman of the Madison County Commission and he is a lifelong firefighter and EMT [emergency medical technician]. So if we have a fire we have got two firefighters now.

Congressman Morgan Luttrell from Texas, Texas' Eighth Congressional District, is a native of Magnolia, Texas. He is a distinguished veteran of the Navy, serving over 14 years.

Congresswoman Jen Kiggans represents Virginia's Second District. She is a former Navy helicopter pilot who completed two tours of duty in the Persian Gulf. She is the daughter of a Green Beret who served in Vietnam, the wife of a former F/A-18 pilot, and the mother of four children, two of whom attend the United States Naval Academy and Virginia Military Institute.

Next, we have Mr. Nick LaLota from New York's First District. He is a graduate of the Naval Academy and had a decorated career

in the Navy, deploying overseas several times and serving as a surface warfare officer on the USS *Curts* and the USS *Carl Vinson*.

Next, we have Congressman James Moylan, who serves Guam's congressional district. He served in the Army, protected his district as a law enforcement officer, and spent more than two decades in the private sector.

Next, we have the new Vicky Hartzler. It is Representative Mark Alford. He is a proud husband, father, and former small business owner. He spent 25 years anchoring Kansas City's number one morning news show prior to his time in Congress.

Next, we have Mr. Cory Mills of Florida. He spent the majority of his adult life serving our Nation. Through his military and government service, he spent more than seven years in Iraq, two and a half years in Afghanistan, and also spent time in Kosovo, Pakistan, Somalia, Kenya, and Ukraine.

Finally, we have Mr. Rich McCormick to come to the aid of Austin Scott in protecting Georgia. Rich McCormick served 20 years in the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy as a JFO [joint fires observer], fighter pilot, and medical doctor with deployments in Africa, the Persian Gulf, and Afghanistan.

I want to welcome all of you to our committee and I look forward to working with you.

Now I yield to my friend, the ranking member, Mr. Smith, for any opening remarks he may have.

STATEMENT OF HON. ADAM SMITH, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WASHINGTON, RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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

And first and foremost, I want to congratulate Mike Rogers on his elevation to being chairman of this committee. It is a richly deserved honor.

Look forward to working with you in that capacity. So congratulations.

And I concur with everything he said in his opening remarks. This committee has a very strong tradition of working together in a bipartisan and, yes, even in a bicameral fashion in order to do our job every year. I think it is 63 straight years now that we have passed the National Defense Authorization Act, the only piece of legislation that passes every single year.

It is not easy to do. It is a large piece of legislation involving a lot of issues which just about every member gets involved in. But it is enormously important that we do that to exercise our oversight of the Department of Defense and meet our paramount duty as a body to defend and protect this country.

So this is a very serious committee. When Mr. Rogers was the ranking member and I was the chairman, we worked incredibly well together, and I have no doubt whatsoever that that relationship will continue and all of the members of the committee, on both sides of the aisle, will do the same.

It is not that we don't disagree, it is that we understand that we do have to get work done. So at the end of it, we have to find a way to agree, pass our bill, and move forward. So I look forward to that process.

And Mr. Rogers is also right, we face a complex threat environment right now, there are a number of requirements to meet the national security needs of our country.

First and foremost to me is to make sure that Ukraine remains a sovereign and democratic state and that we end the war there and protect Ukraine and their sovereignty.

He is also right about the need for modernization. It is a fast-changing world. Technology is crucial to what happens on the battlefield. We are learning that every day in Ukraine.

We need to make sure that we here in the U.S. continue to be the leaders in using that technology to put us in the best position to meet our defense needs and be able to deter our adversaries.

And the other issue that I know Mr. Rogers cares a great deal about is recruitment and retention. What makes that military work is the people who serve in it. We need to make sure that we continue to be able to recruit and retain the best and the brightest, support them, and also support their families, to make sure that they get the support that they need to do the job that is so incredibly important.

With that, we have six new members of the committee that I would like to introduce.

First up, we have Representative Jeff Jackson from North Carolina. He is a former prosecutor and a veteran of the war in Afghanistan. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve as a private first class after the attack of September 11th and is currently a major in the North Carolina National Guard.

Second, we have Representative Gabriel Vasquez, who represents New Mexico's Second District, which includes the birthplace of America's missile and airspace operations, White Sands Missile Range. He served on the Las Cruces City Council from 2017 to 2021.

The district is also the home of the Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories, Kirtland and Holloman Air Force Bases, and is home to most of Fort Bliss' training area. It is a district with very, very strong ties to our national defense apparatus.

Representative Chris Deluzio from Pennsylvania is a native of western Pennsylvania. Congressman Deluzio is an Iraq war veteran, Naval Academy graduate, voting rights attorney, and union organizer.

Congressman Deluzio was commissioned as an Active Duty surface warfare officer in the U.S. Navy and deployed three times, including a tour of duty as a U.S. Army civil affairs officer in Iraq. After returning from Iraq, Congressman Deluzio received his law degree from Georgetown Law School.

And then we have, as we always do and always should, a Representative from the great State of Hawaii, Representative Jill Tokuda, a fourth-generation Hawaiian who served in the Hawaii State Senate for 12 years and now represents Hawaii's Second Congressional District.

A proud product of Hawaii's public schools, she was the first in her family to go to college and attended George Washington University, where she earned a B.A. [Bachelor of Arts] in international relations with a minor in Japanese studies.

And we have Representative Don Davis from the great State of North Carolina. He is the fourth Air Force Academy graduate to be elected to Congress.

Congressman Davis knows the challenges faced by service members firsthand from returning to civilian life and for military families during and after their loved one's deployment.

Congressman Davis served eight years Active Duty in the Air Force, earning the rank of captain, and as a ranking member in the North Carolina State Senate, leading on military issues for over a decade.

And our sixth and last new member is actually a seven-term member of Congress, Congresswoman Terri Sewell from Alabama. So the chairman will appreciate that.

The CHAIRMAN. Roll Tide.

[Laughter.]

Mr. SMITH. As I said, she is in her seventh term and she represents the civil rights district, which includes the historic cities of Birmingham, Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, and her hometown of Selma, Alabama.

In the 118th Congress she was selected to serve as a chief Democratic whip and sits on the prestigious Steering and Policy Committee. She is an honors graduate of Princeton University and Oxford University and received her law degree from Harvard Law School.

So she is smart is what we are saying, which is always helpful in this committee.

[Laughter.]

So thank you, Mr. Chairman. Look forward to serving with you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

All right. Onto business. I call up Committee Resolution No. 1 regarding the committee rules for the 118th Congress.

The clerk shall read the resolution.

Mr. GREENE. Committee Resolution No. 1. Resolved, that the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, adopt the committee rules for the 118th Congress, which are stated in the copy distributed to each Member.

The CHAIRMAN. The proposed rules have been developed jointly with the ranking member and made available to members' offices on Tuesday, January 31.

I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and that the resolution be open to amendment at any point.

Without objection, so ordered.

At this time, is there any discussion or do we have any questions concerning the committee rules?

Seeing none, are there any amendments to the rules?

The chair now recognizes the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman, for the purpose of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 1, the committee rules.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 1.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman.

So many as are in favor, say aye.

Those opposed, no.

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

**RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
118TH CONGRESS**

RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

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

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

RULE 2. FULL COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

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

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

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES

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

RULE 4. JURISDICTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Jurisdiction

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

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

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

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

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

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

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces: Navy and Marine Corps acquisition programs and accounts related to shipbuilding and conversion, reconnaissance and surveillance, tanker, and airlift aircraft, ship and submarine-launched weapons, ammunition, and other procurements; Air Force programs and accounts related to bomber, tanker, and airlift aircraft; Army programs and accounts related to waterborne vessels; and Maritime policy and programs and accounts under the jurisdiction of the Committee as delineated in paragraphs 5 and 9 of clause 1(c) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) Membership of the Subcommittees

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

(2) The Chair of the Committee and the Ranking Minority Member thereof (hereinafter referred to as the "Ranking Minority Member") may sit as ex officio

members of all subcommittees. Ex officio members shall not vote in subcommittee hearings or meetings or be taken into consideration for the purpose of determining the ratio of the subcommittees or establishing a quorum at subcommittee hearings or meetings.

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

RULE 5. COMMITTEE PANELS AND TASK FORCES

(a) Committee Panels

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

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

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

(4) No panel shall have legislative jurisdiction.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee Task Forces

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

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

(3) No task force shall have legislative jurisdiction.

RULE 6. REFERENCE AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

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

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

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

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

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

RULE 7. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chair, or the Chair of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, shall make a public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing or meeting for the transaction of business before that body at least one week before the commencement of a hearing and at least three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day) before the commencement of a meeting. However, if the Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, or the Chair of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, with the concurrence of the respective ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause to begin the hearing or meeting sooner, or if the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, such Chair shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. Any announcement made under this rule shall be promptly published in the Daily Digest, and promptly made publicly available in electronic form.

(b) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an announcement under paragraph (a) made within 24 hours

before such meeting, the Chair, or the Chair of any subcommittee, panel, or task force shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(g)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 8. BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

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

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

RULE 9. MEETINGS AND HEARINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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

(b) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a) and the provisions of clause 2(g)(2)(A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and in accordance with the provisions of clause 2(g)(2)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, such evidence or testimony shall be presented in executive session, if by a majority vote of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force, the Committee, subcommittee, panel,

or task force determines that such evidence may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. A majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force may also vote to close the hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force shall proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force, a majority being present, determines that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

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

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

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

RULE 10. QUORUM

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

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

- (1) Reporting a measure or recommendation;
- (2) Closing Committee or subcommittee meetings and hearings to the public;

(3) Authorizing the issuance of subpoenas;

(4) Authorizing the use of executive session material; and

(5) Voting to proceed in open session after voting to close to discuss whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

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

RULE 11. THE FIVE-MINUTE RULE

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

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

(2) Pursuant to rule 4 and subject to rule 15, a member of the Committee who is not a member of a subcommittee, panel, or task force may be recognized by a subcommittee, panel, or task force Chair in order of their arrival and after all present subcommittee, panel, or task force members have been recognized.

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

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

RULE 12. POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER

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

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

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

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

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

(c) For depositions ordered pursuant to subparagraph (a)(2), such depositions shall be conducted in a manner consistent with House Rules and regulations.

RULE 13. WITNESS STATEMENTS

(a) Any prepared statement to be presented by a witness to the Committee or a subcommittee, panel, or task force shall be submitted to the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force at least 48 hours in advance of presentation and shall be distributed to all members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation. A copy of any such prepared statement shall also be submitted to the Committee in electronic form. If a prepared statement contains national security information bearing a classification of Confidential or higher, the statement shall be made available in the Committee rooms to all members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation; however, no such statement shall be removed

from the Committee offices. The requirement of this rule may be waived by a majority vote of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force, a quorum being present. In cases where a witness does not submit a statement by the time required under this rule, the Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, or the Chair of a subcommittee, panel, or task force, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the respective ranking minority member, may elect to exclude the witness from the hearing.

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

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

RULE 14. ADMINISTERING OATHS TO WITNESSES

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

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

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

RULE 15. QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES

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

(b) Members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force who so desire shall have not more than five minutes to question each witness or panel of witnesses, the responses of the witness or witnesses being included in the five-minute period, until such time as each member has had an opportunity to question each witness or panel of witnesses. Thereafter, additional rounds for questioning witnesses by members are within the discretion of the Chair or the subcommittee, panel, or task force Chair, as appropriate.

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

RULE 16. PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MARKUPS

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

RULE 17. VOTING AND ROLLCALLS

(a) Voting on a measure or matter may be by record vote (including a vote by electronic device under such regulations as the Chair may prescribe, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member), division vote, voice vote, or unanimous consent.

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

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

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

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

RULE 18. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

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

RULE 19. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF COMMITTEE ROLLCALLS

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

RULE 20. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND OTHER INFORMATION

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

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

have the appropriate security clearances and the need to know, who has requested the opportunity to review such material.

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

RULE 21. COMMITTEE STAFFING

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

RULE 22. COMMITTEE RECORDS

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

RULE 23. HEARING PROCEDURES

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

RULE 24. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORTS

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

The next order of business is Committee Resolution No. 2 regarding the committee security procedures for the 118th Congress. I call up Resolution No. 2. The clerk will read the resolution.

Mr. GREENE. Committee Resolution No. 2. Resolved, that the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, adopt the committee security procedures for the 118th Congress, a copy of which has been distributed to each Member.

The CHAIRMAN. The security procedures were coordinated with Mr. Smith and were made available to members' offices on Tuesday, January 31. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and that the resolution be open to amendment at any point.

Without objection, so ordered.

SECURITY PROCEDURES
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
118th Congress
(Effective February 2, 2023)

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

The following committee and House rules apply to classified information:

COMMITTEE RULE 9(c)

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

RULE 20. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND OTHER INFORMATION

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

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

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

HOUSE RULE XXIII: CODE OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

law, regulations, and related guidance when requests are made for access to special access program information.

7. Notice to Originating Agency – In the event that the Chairman or committee authorizes the disclosure of classified information, which is provided to the committee by an agency of the executive branch, to a Member who is not a Member of the committee or staff, the Chairman may notify the providing agency of the committee's action prior to the transmission of such classified information.
8. Application to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence – The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may prescribe additional or supplementary guidance with regard to the sharing of classified information with the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in a manner that preserves the jurisdictional interests of the House Committee on Armed Services.

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

1. All classified information will be stored in secure safes in the committee offices or at the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, House Security. Members or staff seeking to review classified information should contact the Staff Director or Deputy Staff Director of the Armed Services Committee and identify the specific classified materials which are requested for review.
2. Any classified information stored by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, House Security remains the property of the committee and shall be subject to the same requirements for access as all other classified materials in the committee's possession.
3. Following consultation with the Staff Director or Deputy Staff Director, access to the classified information will be coordinated with the committee's Security Manager. Classified documents will be made available for review during regular committee business hours (8:30AM- 6:00PM, Monday through Friday).
4. Classified materials may only be reviewed in an appropriately secured space and must remain in the custody of appropriately cleared committee staff or the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, House Security. An appropriately cleared committee staff member will be present while classified information is being reviewed, unless the Chairman directs otherwise.
5. No reproduction or recordings may be made of any portion of the classified information reviewed by Members of Congress or staff and shall be subject to the same requirements for access and storage as other classified materials in the committee's possession..

6. Any notes made by a Member or by staff must be provided to the committee's Security Manager for proper storage or destruction.
7. In accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, classified information may only be disclosed in an appropriately secured location to individuals with the appropriate level of security clearance and on an established need-to-know basis.
8. Members or staff will be asked to sign the *Access Information Sheet*, a copy of which is attached to this document, if they gain access to classified information.

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

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

PROCEDURES FOR CLASSIFIED HEARINGS AND BRIEFINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES

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

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

**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118th CONGRESS**

Description of Material:

Classification:

Member's Name:

HASC Staff Member Assigned:

Date:

Time In:

Time Out:

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

Signature, Member of Congress

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

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118th CONGRESS**

Description of Material:

Classification:

Name:

Date:

Time In:

Time Out:

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

Signature

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

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118th CONGRESS**

Description of Material:

Classification:

Member's Name:

HASC Staff Member Assigned:

Date:

Time In:

Time Out:

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

Signature, 9(c) staff

At this time, is there any discussion or are there any questions concerning the security procedures?

There being no further discussion, are there any amendments to the security procedures?

The chair now recognizes the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman, for the purpose of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 2, the security procedures for the 118th Congress.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 2.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman.

So many as are in favor will say aye.

Those opposed, no.

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

The next order of business is Committee Resolution No. 3 regarding the committee's authorization and oversight plan for the 118th Congress. I call up Committee Resolution No. 3. The clerk will read the resolution.

Mr. GREENE. Committee Resolution No. 3. Resolved, that the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, adopt the committee authorization and oversight plan for the 118th Congress, a copy of which has been distributed to each Member.

The CHAIRMAN. The authorization and oversight plan was coordinated with Mr. Smith and made available to members' offices on Tuesday, January 31. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be considered as read and that the resolution be open to amendment at any point.

Without objection, so ordered.

At this time, is there any discussion or are there any questions concerning the authorization and oversight plan?

If there is no discussion, are there any amendments to the authorization and oversight plan?

The chair now recognizes the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman, for the purpose of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 3, the authorization and oversight plan for the 118th Congress.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 3.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman.

So many as are in favor will say aye.

Those opposed, no.

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

Committee on Armed Services
118th Congress Authorization and Oversight Plan

Introduction

Providing for the common defense of the United States is one of the fundamental duties of Congress. Members of the Committee on Armed Services acutely understand this responsibility. The committee's legislative and oversight responsibilities are critical to the security of our country and that of its partners and allies around the world. That is why the committee will continue to work in a bipartisan manner to conduct oversight of the national defense.

Oversight of the national defense enterprise is complex. Each day, critical decisions are made by military and civilian personnel leading hundreds of agencies, departments, and commands located at thousands of facilities throughout the world. It is the committee's Constitutional duty to conduct the oversight of these decisions to ensure they are consistent with federal law and Congressional intent. The complexity of the current threat environment, with an on-going conflict in Europe, strategic competition with the Chinese Communist Party, and shifting policy priorities at the Department of Defense makes the committee's oversight even more essential.

Comprehensive oversight is instrumental in the committee's development of the annual national defense authorization bill (NDAA), which covers the breadth of the operations of the Department of Defense (DoD), as well as the defense activities of the Department of Energy and related agencies. The committee believes that regular oversight and reauthorization of these programs and activities through enactment of an annual NDAA best supports Congress' Article I prerogatives. For over 60 years, the committee has led Congressional efforts to enact an NDAA. The annual enactment of the NDAA provides robust opportunities for congressional review and ensures national security programs and activities are carried out as Congress intends.

Jurisdiction

The committee has jurisdiction over laws, programs, and agencies under permanent authority in numerous titles of the United States Code, including title 10 (Armed Forces), title 32 (National Guard), title 37 (Pay and Allowances of the Uniformed Services), title 41 (Public Contracts), title 42 (Atomic Energy), title 46 (Shipping), and title 50 (War and National Defense).

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the jurisdiction of the committee is as follows:

1. Ammunition depots; forts; arsenals; Army, Navy, and Air Force, and Space Force reservations and establishments.
2. Common defense generally.
3. Conservation, development, and use of naval petroleum and oil shale reserves.

4. The Department of Defense generally, including the Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force generally.
5. Interoceanic canals generally, including measures relating to the maintenance, operation, and administration of interoceanic canals.
6. Merchant Marine Academy and State Merchant Marine Academies.
7. Military applications of nuclear energy.
8. Tactical intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the Department of Defense.
9. National security aspects of merchant marine, including financial assistance for the construction and operation of vessels, the maintenance of the U.S. shipbuilding and ship repair industrial base, cabotage, cargo preference, and merchant marine officers and seamen as these matters relate to national security.
10. Pay, promotion, retirement, and other benefits and privileges of members of the armed services.
11. Scientific research and development in support of the armed services.
12. Selective service.
13. Size and composition of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, and Space Force.
14. Soldiers' and sailors' homes.
15. Strategic and critical materials necessary for the common defense.
16. Cemeteries administered by the Department of Defense.

In addition to its legislative jurisdiction, the committee has special oversight functions with respect to international arms control and disarmament and the education of military dependents in schools, pursuant to clause 3(b) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Administration of Oversight Activities

The committee carries out its oversight of the DoD and its subordinate departments and agencies, as well as portions of the Department of Energy (DoE), through public hearings, classified briefings, roundtables, and other activities involving the full committee and its standing subcommittees. Pursuant to House Rule X, clause 2(b)(2), each subcommittee with assigned topical or programmatic responsibilities conducts oversight of the programs within its jurisdiction as specified in the committee's rules. Certain issues and activities requiring more extensive, lengthy, and in-depth review may be assigned to a task force or panel pursuant to committee rules to allow for focused or cross-cutting examination. Subcommittees will be assisted by staff from the full committee at the Chair or Ranking Member's discretion to ensure that appropriate resources are available to carry out oversight activities.

Lapsed Authorizations

The annual NDAA authorizes the DoD activities that require recurrent authorization. The current NDAA for fiscal year (FY) 2023 was enacted on December 23, 2022 (P.L. 117-263). It authorizes the programs and activities of the DoD through FY2023. As a result, there are currently no lapsed authorizations within the committee's jurisdiction receiving appropriated funding in FY2023.

Programs to be Authorized in the Current Congress

The committee anticipates authorizing a wide range of DoD and DoE programs and activities in the 118th Congress. Annual funding authorizations in the FY2023 NDAA totaled over 2,800 line items, each reflective of the national security priorities of Congress. These items include procurement programs and accounts, operations and maintenance programs and accounts, military construction projects, research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) programs and accounts, nuclear weapons and associated activities, military personnel programs and accounts, military health programs and accounts, military justice programs and accounts, intelligence programs and accounts, Joint Staff and Combatant Commander accounts, and various other matters relating to the national defense. Each of these authorizations expire at the end of FY2023. The committee anticipates reviewing each these authorizations to determine whether to reauthorize them as part of the FY2024 NDAA.

Oversight to Support Authorizations

In support of the enactment of annual NDAA's during the 118th Congress, the committee will conduct numerous oversight hearings, classified briefings, roundtables, and other activities. The Committee anticipates holding public hearings and classified briefings with the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, individual service secretaries and chiefs of staff, combatant commanders, other officials of the DoD and the military departments, officials from the Intelligence Community, and the Secretary of Energy, the Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, and other officials of the DoE. In addition, the committee will seek views and perspectives from outside experts in industry, associations, advocacy organizations, and those in private life with expertise on matters of national security. The committee will work closely with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Inspector Generals (IG) from DoD agencies to eliminate waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement at the DoD. Finally, the committee expects that it will continue to receive credible reports from whistleblowers that it intends to investigate and take appropriate action when warranted.

Discretionary and Mandatory Spending

As part of its annual oversight and authorization process, the committee carefully reviews and determines whether changes need to be made to the manner in which discretionary and mandatory national security programs are carried out. If the committee determines that certain mandatory programs would be better administered through discretionary appropriations, the NDAA would carry out that change consistent with Congressional Budget Act rules and regulations. The committee will continue to conduct rigorous oversight of the mandatory programs under its jurisdiction and will implement reforms when necessary to protect beneficiaries, eliminate waste, and improve administration.

Redundant Programs and Agencies

One of the focuses of the oversight process the committee undertakes annually to produce the NDAA is identifying redundant programs or agencies in the defense enterprise. The committee has a record of enacting laws to realign, streamline, or eliminate these programs and agencies when necessary. The committee will continue to work with GAO and the DoD IG on efforts to uncover redundant and wasteful programs and to pursue legislative remedies in the NDAA.

Other Oversight Activities

The national security enterprise spans beyond the jurisdiction of the committee and includes matters in the jurisdiction of several other committees of the House of Representatives. As the committee has in past Congresses, it will continue to work closely with these committees to conduct important oversight on national security matters of shared jurisdictional interest.

On the final order of business, I call up Resolution No. 4, appointing committee staff in the 118th Congress. The clerk shall read the resolution.

Mr. GREENE. Committee Resolution No. 4. Resolved, that the persons listed on the sheet distributed to the Members, and such other personnel as may be required by the committee within the limits and terms authorized under the Rules of the House of Representatives, are hereby appointed to the staff of the Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives, for the 118th Congress, it being understood that according to the provisions of law, the Chairman will fix the basic salary per annum.

The CHAIRMAN. As many of you know, our committee is unique in that the committee staff is a combined staff. The staff is here to provide advice and counsel to all of you, Republican and Democrat members alike. Please feel free to avail yourself of their services. They a talented group of professionals.

A copy of the committee staff for the 118th Congress was prepared in consultation with the minority and made available to members' offices on Tuesday, January 31. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

Without objection, so ordered.

Christopher Vieson, *Staff Director*
 Brian Garrett, *Minority Staff Director*
 Geoff Gosselin, *Deputy Staff Director*
 Betty B. Gray, *Executive Assistant*
 Rebecca A. Ross, *Professional Staff Member*
 Heath R. Bope, *Professional Staff Member*
 David Sienicki, *Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Zach Steacy, *Director, Legislative Operations*
 Craig Greene, *Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Phil MacNaughton, *Professional Staff Member*
 William S. Johnson, *Minority General Counsel*
 Katie Thompson, *Security Manager*
 David Giachetti, *Professional Staff Member*
 Mark Morehouse, *Professional Staff Member*
 Katy Quinn, *Minority Deputy Staff Director*
 Shenita White, *Office Manager*
 Glen Diehl, *Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Maria Vastola, *Professional Staff Member*
 Michael Hermann, *Professional Staff Member*
 Sapna Sharma, *Professional Staff Member*
 Kelly Goggin, *Professional Staff Member*
 William T. Johnson, *Professional Staff Member*
 Joshua Stiefel, *Professional Staff Member*
 Jeanine Womble, *Professional Staff Member*
 James Vallario, *Professional Staff Member*
 Hannah Kaufman, *Professional Staff Member*
 Forrest McConnell, *General Counsel*
 Michael Kirlin, *Senior Advisor and Professional Staff Member*
 Sarah Moxley, *Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Whitney Verett, *Senior Advisor and Professional Staff Member*
 Kyle Noyes, *Professional Staff Member*
 Ian Bennett, *Senior Advisor and Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Patrick Nevins, *Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Ilka Regino, *Professional Staff Member*
 Ryan Tully, *Subcommittee Staff Director*
 Wendell Frank White, Jr., *Professional Staff Member*
 Robert Ikoku, *Professional Staff Member*
 William Metzger, *Budget Director*
 Justine Sanders, *Communications Director*
 Payson Ruhl, *Research Assistant*
 Brooke Alred, *Research Assistant*
 Owen McGear, *Research Assistant*
 Zachary Calderon, *Research Assistant*
 Everett Winnick, *Director of Information Technology*
 Ryan Breitenbach, *Deputy General Counsel*
 Ethan Pelissier, *Research Assistant*
 Walker Barrett, *Professional Staff Member*
 Joe Bartlett, *Professional Staff Member*
 Tracy Manzer, *Minority Communications Director*
 Caroline Kehrli, *Professional Staff Member*
 Taylor Burns, *Staff Assistant*
 Max Huntley, *Professional Staff Member*

At this time, is there any discussion or are there any questions concerning the committee staff?

The chair now recognizes the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman, for the purpose of offering a motion regarding Committee Resolution No. 4, appointing the committee staff for the 118th Congress.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt Committee Resolution No. 4.

The CHAIRMAN. The question now occurs on the motion of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Wittman.

So many as are in favor will say aye.

Those opposed, no.

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

Without objection, committee staff is authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the action of the committee in adopting Committee Resolution No. 1 through 4.

Before I go to Mr. Smith, I want to tell y'all, if you look at the other committees, they don't do what we just did. Those people are fighting like cats and dogs, trying to figure out the rules.

This is my eleventh Congress. We have never had an amendment or discussion. We get this stuff done in a bipartisan fashion before we meet in here. We are the only committee that does that and we should all take pride in that.

With that, I now recognize Mr. Smith for any closing comments.

Mr. SMITH. Only closing comment is to completely agree with what you just said.

[Laughter.]

And thank you for running a good meeting.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

We are adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 9:21 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]