

PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENSES OF CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

MARCH 8, 2023.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. STEIL, from the Committee on House Administration, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. Res. 197]

The Committee on House Administration, to whom was referred the resolution (H. Res. 197) providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the resolution as amended be agreed to.

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The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. COMMITTEE EXPENSES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives, in accordance with this primary expense resolution, not more than the amount specified in subsection (b) for the expenses (including the expenses of all staff salaries) of each committee named in such subsection.

(b) COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, \$14,194,000; Committee on Armed Serv-

ices, \$24,740,000; Committee on the Budget, \$11,990,000; Committee on Education and the Workforce, \$18,674,000; Committee on Energy and Commerce, \$27,411,000; Committee on Ethics, \$9,276,000; Committee on Financial Services, \$20,370,000; Committee on Foreign Affairs, \$21,654,000; Committee on Homeland Security, \$18,778,000; Committee on House Administration, \$15,307,000; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, \$17,195,000; Committee on the Judiciary, \$22,714,000; Committee on Natural Resources, \$17,546,000; Committee on Oversight and Accountability, \$29,923,000; Committee on Rules, \$8,336,000; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, \$14,111,000; Committee on Small Business, \$7,370,000; Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, \$8,892,000; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, \$21,766,000; Committee on Veterans' Affairs, \$10,753,000; and Committee on Ways and Means, \$24,232,000.

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

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the amount provided for in section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not more than the amount specified in such subsection shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2023, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2024.

(b) **COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.**—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, \$7,097,000; Committee on Armed Services, \$11,716,000; Committee on the Budget, \$5,995,000; Committee on Education and the Workforce, \$9,065,000; Committee on Energy and Commerce, \$13,611,000; Committee on Ethics, \$4,517,000; Committee on Financial Services, \$10,185,000; Committee on Foreign Affairs, \$10,827,000; Committee on Homeland Security, \$9,389,000; Committee on House Administration, \$7,405,000; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, \$8,197,000; Committee on the Judiciary, \$11,357,000; Committee on Natural Resources, \$8,773,000; Committee on Oversight and Accountability, \$14,772,000; Committee on Rules, \$4,168,000; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, \$6,845,000; Committee on Small Business, \$3,621,000; Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, \$4,471,000; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, \$10,883,000; Committee on Veterans' Affairs, \$5,271,000; and Committee on Ways and Means, \$11,540,000.

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

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the amount provided for in section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not more than the amount specified in such subsection shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2024, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2025.

(b) **COMMITTEES AND AMOUNTS.**—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, \$7,097,000; Committee on Armed Services, \$13,024,000; Committee on the Budget, \$5,995,000; Committee on Education and the Workforce, \$9,609,000; Committee on Energy and Commerce, \$13,800,000; Committee on Ethics, \$4,759,000; Committee on Financial Services, \$10,185,000; Committee on Foreign Affairs, \$10,827,000; Committee on Homeland Security, \$9,389,000; Committee on House Administration, \$7,902,000; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, \$8,998,000; Committee on the Judiciary, \$11,357,000; Committee on Natural Resources, \$8,773,000; Committee on Oversight and Accountability, \$15,151,000; Committee on Rules, \$4,168,000; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, \$7,266,000; Committee on Small Business, \$3,749,000; Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, \$4,421,000; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, \$10,883,000; Committee on Veterans' Affairs, \$5,482,000; and Committee on Ways and Means, \$12,692,000.

**SEC. 4. VOUCHERS.**

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the committee involved, signed by the chair of such committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Administration.

**SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.**

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

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

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established a reserve fund for unanticipated expenses of committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress.

(b) **AMOUNT.**—The reserve fund under this section shall have a balance of \$18,000,000, of which—

(1) \$9,000,000 shall be available for unanticipated expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2023, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2024; and

(2) \$9,000,000 shall be available for unanticipated expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2024, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2025.

(c) ALLOCATION TO COMMITTEES.—Amounts in the reserve fund under this section shall be paid to a committee pursuant to an allocation approved by the Committee on House Administration.

**SEC. 7. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.**

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

**BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR THE RESOLUTION**

Pursuant to House rule X, clause 6, the Committee on House Administration (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”) reports an omnibus, biennial “primary expense resolution” to cover the expenses of each standing, permanent select and select committee of the House, except the Committee on Appropriations.

On March 8, 2023, by voice vote, the Committee agreed to a motion to report H. Res. 197, as amended, favorably to the House. The resolution authorizes the aggregate amount of funding for standing, select and permanent select committees for the 118th Congress.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

During the first three months of each new Congress, House rule X, clause 7, authorizes House committees to continue operations based on their funding authorization from the preceding session. The continuing authorization allows committees to organize, adopt legislative and oversight agendas, and seek spending authority through the adoption of primary expense resolution by the House.

The funding process begins after a House standing or select committee determines its biennial funding needs, and introduces a House resolution seeking those funds. Under House rule X, clause 6, all funding resolutions are referred to the Committee on House Administration. The Committee used these specific requests from individual committees to create an omnibus expense resolution, introduced by Chairman Steil and Ranking Member Morelle, to authorize funding for all of the committees.

After requesting and reviewing committee budget submissions, the Committee recommends an appropriate allocation of funds. Since this funding process merely authorizes the expenditure of funds already provided (or to be provided) in appropriations acts, the funding measure takes the form of a simple House resolution, which does not require Senate or presidential approval.

*118th Congress proceedings*

To gather the information necessary to create the omnibus primary expense resolution, the Committee required the standing, permanent select committees and select committees (with the exception of the Committee on Appropriations, pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives) to submit estimates for expected expenses for both sessions of the 118th Congress. The Committee

required that committees provide line-item estimates for the following expenses: personnel compensation (including salaries and lump sum payments), travel, communications and printing and reproduction costs.

The Committee also requested that committees estimate their expenses for other services, including consultant contracts, detailees from executive and other agencies, training, technology service contracts and other services. Furthermore, the Committee requested budget estimates for the costs of supplies, materials, and equipment.

To further gather the information necessary to create the omnibus primary expense resolution, the Committee convened a hearing to provide the Chairs and Ranking Members of the standing, permanent select and select committees an opportunity to present and share their views on their respective budget requests for the 118th Congress.

During the hearing, Members of the committee asked the Chairs and Ranking Members about how their budget request would impact their ability to conduct oversight or pursue their legislative goals. Members of the Committee asked whether the committee plans to hold field hearings and conduct oversight trips this Congress and, if so, what additional resources are needed on a committee level and what resources would it be helpful for the House to provide as committees endeavor to take Congress to the people. In addition, Members of the Committee asked if there are any enterprise-wide solutions and services the House could provide that would help committees operate more efficiently, such as software and subscriptions to publications.

Members of the Committee also asked the Chairs and Ranking Members how they were managing and will manage their resources with equity and prudence. Since the 104th Congress, House majority leadership and the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee have encouraged Chairs of the standing, permanent select and select committees to provide the minority with no less than one-third of committee staff and/or resources, as determined by each committee. These exchanges indicated that all of the committees appear to be in compliance with the traditional “two-thirds/one-third” distribution of funds among the majority and minority.

In reporting out this resolution, the committee is recommending to the House an authorization to expend approximately \$179,705,000 the first session, and \$185,527,000 in the second session, exclusive of the reserve fund for unanticipated expenses. The resolution includes such a reserve fund for unanticipated expenses of \$9,000,000 for each session.

#### *Authorization and oversight plans*

The Committee expects the funding allocated for each committee to be appropriately assigned by each committee to its subcommittees to ensure that the committees are able to accomplish their goals, as outlined by each committee’s authorization and oversight plans as required by House rule X, clause 3(d)(5).

#### SUMMARY OF THE RESOLUTION

Section 1 adjusts the aggregate amount paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives with respect to the 118th

Congress for the expenses (including the expense of all staff salaries) of the standing, permanent select and select committees of the House (except the Committee on Appropriations).

Section 2 adjusts the amount provided for the expenses of each standing, permanent select and select committee of the House (except the Committee on Appropriations) for expenses incurred during the first session of the 118th Congress (the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2023, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2024).

Section 3 adjusts the amount provided for the expenses of each standing, permanent select and select committee of the House (except the Committee on Appropriations) for expenses incurred during the second session of the 118th Congress (the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2024, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2025).

The amounts provided each committee is as follows:

	1st Session	2nd Session	Total
Committee on Agriculture .....	\$7,097,000	\$7,097,000	\$14,194,000
Committee on Armed Services .....	11,716,000	13,024,000	24,740,000
Committee on the Budget .....	\$5,995,000	5,995,000	11,990,000
Committee on Education & the Workforce .....	\$9,065,000	9,609,000	18,674,000
Committee on Energy & Commerce .....	\$13,611,000	13,800,000	27,411,000
Committee on Ethics .....	\$4,517,000	4,759,000	9,276,000
Committee on Financial Services .....	\$10,185,000	10,185,000	20,370,000
Committee on Foreign Affairs .....	\$10,827,000	10,827,000	21,654,000
Committee on Homeland Security .....	\$9,389,000	9,389,000	18,778,000
Committee on House Administration .....	\$7,405,000	7,902,000	15,307,000
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence .....	\$8,197,000	8,998,000	17,195,000
Committee on the Judiciary .....	\$11,357,000	11,357,000	22,714,000
Committee on Natural Resources .....	\$8,773,000	8,773,000	17,546,000
Committee on Oversight & Accountability .....	\$14,772,000	15,151,000	29,923,000
Committee on Rules .....	\$4,168,000	4,168,000	8,336,000
Committee on Science, Space & Technology .....	\$6,845,000	7,266,000	14,111,000
Committee on Small Business .....	\$3,621,000	3,749,000	7,370,000
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure .....	\$10,883,000	10,883,000	21,766,000
Committee on Veterans' Affairs .....	\$5,271,000	5,482,000	10,753,000
Committee on Ways & Means .....	\$11,540,000	12,692,000	24,232,000
Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party .....	\$4,471,000	4,421,000	8,892,000
Reserve Fund .....	\$9,000,000	9,000,000	18,000,000

<sup>1</sup>The amount provided to the Committee on Foreign Affairs includes \$696,080 (\$348,040 for each session) to provide funding for the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, and \$476,700 (\$238,350 for each session) for the House Democracy Partnership.

#### INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL

On March 7, 2023, Representative Bryan Steil of Wisconsin, Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, and Representative Joseph Morelle of New York, Ranking Member of the Committee on House Administration, introduced H. Res. 197 which was referred to the Committee on House Administration.

#### HEARINGS

On February 28 and March 1, 2023, the Committee held an oversight hearing to review the budget requests for all the standing, permanent select, and select committees (except the Committee on Appropriations) for the 118th Congress. The Chairs and Ranking Members of the select and standing committees provided testimony on their respective use of committee funds.

## COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On Wednesday, March 8, 2023, the Committee met in open session to mark up House Resolution 173. The committee ordered the resolution, as amended, reported favorably to the House by voice vote, a quorum being present.

## COMMITTEE VOTES

In compliance with House rule XIII, clause 3(b), with respect to each record vote on an amendment or motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and against, the Committee states that there were no recorded votes during the consideration of this resolution.

## COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII and clause (2)(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are incorporated into the general discussion section of this report.

## STATEMENT OF BUDGET AUTHORITY AND RELATED ITEMS

The resolution does not provide new budget authority, new spending authority, new credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures and a statement under House rule XIII, clause 3(c)(2), and section 308(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is not required.

## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATE

In compliance with House rule XIII, clause 3(c)(3), the Committee states, with respect to House Resolution 316, that the Director of the Congressional Budget Office did not submit a cost estimate and comparison under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

## PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In compliance with House rule XIII, clause 3(c)(4), the Committee states that H. Res. 197, as amended, serves as the biennial "primary expense resolution" to cover the expenses of each standing, permanent select, and select committee of the House, except the Committee on Appropriations. The performance goal and objective of H. Res. 197 is thus to provide adequate expenses for each standing, permanent select, and select committee of the House, ensuring that each may acquire and retain appropriate staff and equipment to carry out their legislative and oversight duties.