

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 443

To establish the Joint Select Committee on Reorganization and Reform of Foreign Assistance Agencies and Programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. FORTUÑO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To establish the Joint Select Committee on Reorganization and Reform of Foreign Assistance Agencies and Programs.

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT.**

4 There is hereby established in the Senate and the
5 House of Representatives a joint select committee to be
6 known as the “Joint Select Committee on Reorganization
7 and Reform of Foreign Assistance Agencies and Pro-
8 grams” (hereinafter referred to as the “Joint Select Com-
9 mittee”).

1 **SEC. 2. FUNCTIONS.**

2 The Joint Select Committee is authorized and di-
3 rected to conduct a full and complete investigation of—

4 (1) the organization of the various Federal
5 agencies and departments that oversee and imple-
6 ment United States foreign assistance programs,
7 and the interaction and coordination of such agen-
8 cies and departments with respect to such programs;

9 (2) the objectives of United States foreign as-
10 sistance programs, including the relationship be-
11 tween development goals and United States national
12 security goals;

13 (3) the staffing levels and funding levels of
14 United States foreign assistance programs;

15 (4) the performance of United States foreign
16 assistance programs in meeting United States na-
17 tional interests; and

18 (5) legislative procedures, practices, and organi-
19 zation related to the authorization and appropriation
20 of funding for and oversight of United States foreign
21 assistance programs and agencies and departments
22 which implement such programs.

23 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

24 (a) REPORT ON RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.—The
25 Joint Select Committee shall submit a report to the Sen-
26 ate and House as soon as practicable, but not later than

1 January 20, 2010, on the results of its investigation under
2 section 2, and may include in the report such rec-
3 ommendations, including proposed legislation to carry out
4 such recommendations, as it deems advisable.

5 (b) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED LEG-
6 ISLATION.—

7 (1) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of sec-
9 tion 2908 (other than subsection (a)) of the De-
10 fense Base Closure and Realignment Act of
11 1990 shall apply to the consideration of a bill
12 described in paragraph (2) in the same manner
13 as such provisions apply to a joint resolution
14 described in section 2908(a) of such Act.

15 (B) SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of ap-
16 plying subparagraph (A) with respect to such
17 provisions, the following rules shall apply:

18 (i) Any reference to the Committee on
19 Armed Services of the House of Represent-
20 atives shall be deemed a reference to the
21 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
22 House of Representatives and any ref-
23 erence to the Committee on Armed Serv-
24 ices of the Senate shall be deemed a ref-

1 erence to the Committee on Foreign Rela-
2 tions of the Senate.

3 (ii) Any reference to the date on
4 which the President transmits a report
5 shall be deemed a reference to the date on
6 which a bill described in paragraph (2) is
7 introduced in the House of Representatives
8 or Senate (as the case may be).

9 (2) BILL DESCRIBED.—For purposes of para-
10 graph (1), a bill described in this paragraph is a
11 bill—

12 (A) which is introduced in the House of
13 Representatives by the designated House mem-
14 ber described in paragraph (3)(A) or which is
15 introduced in the Senate by the designated Sen-
16 ate member described in paragraph (3)(B);

17 (B) which is introduced during the 30-day
18 period which begins on the date the Joint Select
19 Committee submits the report required under
20 subsection (a);

21 (C) which consists solely of the proposed
22 legislation which is included in such report to
23 carry out the recommendations made by the
24 Joint Select Committee in the report; and

1 (D) the title of which is as follows: “A bill
2 to carry out the recommendations of the Joint
3 Select Committee on Reorganization and Re-
4 form of Foreign Assistance Agencies and Pro-
5 grams.”.

6 (3) DESIGNATED MEMBERS DESCRIBED.—For
7 purposes of paragraph (2)(A), the “designated
8 House member” and “designated Senate member”
9 shall be determined as follows:

10 (A) If the chair of the Joint Select Com-
11 mittee is a Member of the House of Represent-
12 atives, the chair shall be the designated House
13 member. If the vice chair of the Joint Select
14 Committee is a Member of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives and the chair is not a Member of
16 the House of Representatives, the vice chair
17 shall be the designated House member. If nei-
18 ther the chair or vice chair is a Member of the
19 House of Representatives, a member of the
20 Joint Select Committee who is a Member of the
21 House of Representatives shall be selected joint-
22 ly by the chair and vice chair as the designated
23 House member.

24 (B) If the chair of the Joint Select Com-
25 mittee is a Member of the Senate, the chair

1 shall be the designated Senate member. If the
2 vice chair of the Joint Select Committee is a
3 Member of the Senate and the chair is not a
4 Member of the Senate, the vice chair shall be
5 the designated Senate member. If neither the
6 chair or vice chair is a Member of the Senate,
7 a member of the Joint Select Committee who is
8 a Member of the Senate shall be selected jointly
9 by the chair and vice chair as the designated
10 Senate member.

11 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.**

12 (a) COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b),
14 the Joint Select Committee shall be composed of 60
15 Members of the House of Representatives and Sen-
16 ate, of whom—

17 (A) 30 shall be Members of the House of
18 Representatives (of whom 15 shall represent the
19 majority political party and 15 shall represent
20 the minority political party) and shall be ap-
21 pointed by the Speaker of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives with the concurrence of the minor-
23 ity leader of the House of Representatives; and

24 (B) 30 shall be Members of the Senate (of
25 whom 15 shall represent the majority political

1 party and 15 shall represent the minority polit-
2 ical party) and shall be appointed by the major-
3 ity leader of the Senate with the concurrence of
4 the minority leader of the Senate.

5 (2) TREATMENT OF DELEGATE AND RESIDENT
6 COMMISSIONER.—For purposes of this subsection, a
7 “Member” of the House of Representatives includes
8 a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Con-
9 gress.

10 (b) PRIORITY OF APPOINTMENT.—Each of the fol-
11 lowing individuals shall be appointed by the Speaker or
12 the President pro Tempore (as the case may be) to serve
13 as one of the 60 Members of the Joint Select Committee:

14 (1) The Speaker of the House of Representa-
15 tives (or the Speaker’s designee).

16 (2) The majority leader and minority leader of
17 the House of Representatives (or their designees).

18 (3) The majority leader and minority leader of
19 the Senate (or their designees).

20 (4) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
21 ber of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
22 House of Representatives (or their designees).

23 (5) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
24 ber of the Committee on Armed Services of the
25 House of Representatives (or their designees).

1 (6) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
2 ber of the Committee on Rules of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives (or their designees).

4 (7) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
5 ber of the Committee on Appropriations of the
6 House of Representatives (or their designees).

7 (8) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
8 ber of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Oper-
9 ations and Related Programs of the Committee on
10 Appropriations of the House of Representatives (or
11 their designees).

12 (9) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
13 ber of the Committee on Agriculture of the House
14 of Representatives (or their designees).

15 (10) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
16 ber of the Committee on Financial Services of the
17 House of Representatives (or their designees).

18 (11) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
19 ber of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
20 Senate (or their designees).

21 (12) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
22 ber of the Committee on Armed Services of the Sen-
23 ate (or their designees).

1 (13) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
2 ber of the Committee on Rules and Administration
3 of the Senate (or their designees).

4 (14) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
5 ber of the Committee on Appropriations of the Sen-
6 ate (or their designees).

7 (15) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
8 ber of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Oper-
9 ations and Related Programs of the Committee on
10 Appropriations of the Senate (or their designees).

11 (16) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
12 ber of the Committee on Agriculture of the Senate
13 (or their designees).

14 (17) The chairman and ranking minority mem-
15 ber of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
16 Urban Affairs of the Senate.

17 (c) LEADERSHIP.—

18 (1) CHAIR.—The members of the Joint Select
19 Committee who represent the majority political party
20 shall designate one of those members to serve as
21 chair of the Joint Select Committee.

22 (2) VICE CHAIR.—The members of the Joint
23 Select Committee who represent the minority polit-
24 ical party shall designate one of those members to
25 serve as vice-chair of the Joint Select Committee.

1 (d) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the membership of the
2 Joint Select Committee shall not affect the power of the
3 remaining members to execute the functions of the Joint
4 Select Committee, and shall be filled in the same manner
5 as in the case of the original appointment.

6 **SEC. 5. POWERS.**

7 (a) HEARINGS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.—For the
8 purpose of carrying out its duties, the Joint Select Com-
9 mittee may hold such hearings and undertake such other
10 activities as the Joint Select Committee determines to be
11 necessary to carry out its duties, whether the Congress
12 is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned.

13 (b) OBTAINING INFORMATION.—

14 (1) AUTHORITY TO USE SUBPOENAS.—The
15 Joint Select Committee may require by subpoena the
16 attendance of such witnesses and the production of
17 such books, papers, and documents, as it considers
18 appropriate.

19 (2) PROCEDURES.—Subpoenas may be issued
20 over the signature of the chair of the Joint Select
21 Committee or of any member designated by the
22 chair or by the Joint Select Committee to the extent
23 the chairman or such member is authorized by a
24 majority of the joint committee to issue such sub-

1 poenas, and may be served by any person designated
2 by such chairman or member.

3 (c) ACCESS TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SERVICES.—

4 The Joint Select Committee shall have access to the serv-
5 ices of the Government Accountability Office, the Congres-
6 sional Budget Office, and the Congressional Research
7 Service in the same manner and under the same terms
8 and conditions as any standing committee of the House
9 of Representatives or Senate.

10 (d) ADOPTION OF RULES.—Not later than 30 days
11 after all of its members have been appointed, the Joint
12 Select Committee shall adopt rules governing its oper-
13 ations and shall submit such rules to the Clerk of the
14 House of Representatives and Secretary of the Senate for
15 publication in the Congressional Record.

16 **SEC. 6. STAFF; TRAVEL.**

17 (a) APPOINTMENT OF STAFF.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Joint Select Committee
19 may appoint, prescribe the duties and responsibil-
20 ities of, and fix the pay of such personnel as the
21 chair and vice chair consider appropriate to assist
22 the Joint Select Committee in carrying out its du-
23 ties, except that no individual appointed under this
24 authority may receive pay at a rate greater than the
25 highest annual rate of pay which may be paid under

1 level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316
2 of title 5, United States Code.

3 (2) ALLOCATION OF APPOINTMENTS.—Of the
4 full-time equivalent personnel positions appointed
5 under this subsection—

6 (A) 50 percent shall be appointed by the
7 chair (with the concurrence of the vice chair);
8 and

9 (B) 50 percent shall be appointed by the
10 vice chair (with the concurrence of the chair).

11 (3) DETAIL OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Upon
12 the joint request of the chair and vice chair, the
13 head of any Federal agency or of any office in the
14 legislative branch is authorized to detail, without re-
15 imbursement, any of the personnel of such agency or
16 office to the Joint Select Committee to assist the
17 Joint Select Committee in carrying out its duties.

18 (b) REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Sub-
19 ject to the rules adopted by the Joint Select Committee
20 pursuant to section 5(d), the chair and vice chair may re-
21 imburse members and staff of the Joint Select Committee
22 for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses in-
23 curred in the performance of their duties and responsibil-
24 ities for the Joint Select Committee, other than expenses
25 in connection with any meeting of the Joint Select Com-

1 mittee, or any subcommittee thereof, held in the District
2 of Columbia.

3 **SEC. 7. FUNDING.**

4 (a) **VOUCHERS.**—Payments for expenses of the Joint
5 Select Committee shall be made using vouchers authorized
6 by the Joint Select Committee, signed by the chair and
7 vice chair of the Joint Select Committee, and approved
8 in a manner directed by the Committee on Rules and Ad-
9 ministration of the Senate and the Committee on House
10 Administration of the House of Representatives.

11 (b) **SOURCE OF FUNDS.**—There are authorized to be
12 appropriated not more than \$7,000,000 for the operation
13 of the Joint Select Committee, of which—

14 (1) 50 percent shall be derived from the appli-
15 cable accounts of the House of Representatives; and

16 (2) 50 percent shall be derived from the contin-
17 gent fund of the Senate.

18 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION.**

19 (a) **TERMINATION DATE.**—The Joint Select Com-
20 mittee shall terminate 30 days after filing the report re-
21 quired under section 3 or upon the expiration of the 1-
22 year period which begins on the date of the adoption of
23 this resolution, whichever occurs earlier.

24 (b) **TRANSFER OF RECORDS.**—Upon termination of
25 the Joint Select Committee, the records of the Joint Select

1 Committee shall be transferred jointly to, and held jointly
2 by, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and Sec-
3 retary of the Senate.

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