

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 385

Expressing the Sense of the Senate regarding the use of electronic devices
on the floor of the Senate.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 13, 2014

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

RESOLUTION

Expressing the Sense of the Senate regarding the use of
electronic devices on the floor of the Senate.

1 *Resolved*, That it is the Sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) certain uses of electronic devices by Sen-

3 ators on the floor of the Senate are necessary and

4 proper in the conduct of official Senate business,

5 would not distract, interrupt, or inconvenience the

6 business of Members of the Senate, and should

7 therefore be permissible, including—

8 (A) delivering floor remarks from text dis-

9 played on personal digital assistant devices and

10 tablet computers;

1 (B) reviewing and editing documents on
2 personal digital assistant devices and tablet
3 computers while seated or standing at a desk,
4 except when the Senator who wishes to use the
5 device holds the floor or seeks to be recognized;
6 and

7 (C) sending email and other data commu-
8 nication using personal digital assistant devices
9 and tablet computers while seated or standing
10 at a desk, except when the Senator who wishes
11 to use the device holds the floor or seeks to be
12 recognized;

13 (2) necessary and proper uses of electronic de-
14 vices on the floor of the Senate do not include—

15 (A) transmitting sound for any purpose
16 other than through earphones or in such a
17 manner as would not disturb proceedings on the
18 floor of the Senate for the purpose of assisting
19 a person with a disability;

20 (B) using telephones or other devices for
21 voice communication; or

22 (C) using desktop computers, laptop com-
23 puters, or other large devices;

24 (3) the Committee on Rules and Administration
25 should consider an amendment to the Rules for the

1 Regulation of the Senate Wing consistent with the
2 principles stated above; and

3 (4) any amendment to the Rules for the Regu-
4 lation of the Senate Wing should take into account
5 possible future changes in technology.

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