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Mr. FAZIO of California (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer an additional privileged resolution (H. Res. 14) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 14

Resolved, That the following named Member be and is hereby elected to the following standing committees:

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Bernard Sanders of Vermont.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Bernard Sanders of Vermont.

Mr. FAZIO of California (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would like to enunciate an essential rule of decorum.

It is an essential rule of decorum in debate that Members should refrain from references in debate to the conduct of other Members where such conduct is not the question actually pending before the House by way of a report from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct or by way of any question of the privileges of the House. The principle is documented on pages 168 and 226 of the House Rules and Manual and reflects the consistent rulings of the Chair in prior Congresses and applies to one-minutes and special-order speeches.

Neither the filing of a complaint before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, nor the conduct of investigations in prior Congresses, nor the publication in another forum of charges that are personally critical of another Member, justify references to such charges on the floor of the House. This includes references to the motivations of Members who file complaints and to Members of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

Clause 1 of rule XIV is a prohibition against engaging in personality in debate. It derives from article I, section 5 of the Constitution, which authorizes each House to make its own rules and to punish its Members for disorderly behavior and has been part of the rules of the House in some relevant form

since 1789. This rule supersedes any claim of a Member to be free from questioning in any other place.

On January 27, 1909, the House adopted a report that stated the following, which is recorded in Cannon's Precedents, volume 8, at section 2497:

"It is * * * the duty of the House to require its Members in speech or debate to preserve that proper restraint which will permit the House to conduct its business in an orderly manner and without unnecessarily and unduly exciting animosity among its Members."

This report was in response to improper references in debate to the President, but clearly reiterated a principle that all occupants of the Chair in prior Congresses, both Republican and Democratic, have held to be equally applicable to Members' remarks in debate toward each other.

The Chair asks and expects the cooperation of all Members in maintaining a level of decorum that properly dignifies the proceedings of the House and respects proper rulings of the Chair.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Is it the Speaker's contention that he is stating what has been the rules of the House for many years?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The purpose of reading this is that we have adopted the rules, and this follows the precedents that have been set previously by previous Congresses, both Democrat and Republican, and the Chair wanted to reiterate it for all Members, particularly new Members.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, further inquiry. Does it require a Member to rise on the floor to ask for the enforcement of the rule, or is that at the discretion of the Speaker or his designee?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Either the Chair or a Member may initiate points of order.

Mr. FAZIO of California. So if it is not the position of a Member who perhaps hears a rule being violated and brings it to the Speaker's attention, the Speaker would be in a position to enforce it from the Chair. Would the Speaker therefore be required to do it under all circumstances and show no discretion?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair normally uses its initiative to enforce the rule with respect to references to the President and Members of the Senate.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Members of the House, I infer, would need to have the rule applied to them by an objection arising from among the membership?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That has generally been the practice of the Chair.

Mr. FAZIO of California. I appreciate that.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Not invariably.

ADJOURNMENT TO THURSDAY,
JANUARY 9, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Thursday, January 9, 1997.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING SPEAKER AND MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR BY THE HOUSE NOT WITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Tuesday, February 4, 1997, the Speaker and the Minority Leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that business in order under the Calendar Wednesday Rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, February 5, 1997.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE ON PROCEDURES FOR THE 105TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Policies of the Chair, January 7, 1997:

The Chair customarily takes this occasion on the opening day of a Congress to announce his policies with respect to particular aspects of the legislative process. The Chair will insert in the RECORD announcements by the Speaker concerning, first, privileges of the floor; second, the introduction of bills and resolutions; third, unanimous consent requests for the consideration of bills and resolutions; fourth, recognition for 1-minute speeches, morning hour debate and special orders; fifth, decorum in debate; sixth, the conduct of votes by electronic device and, seventh, the distribution of written material on the House floor.

These announcements where appropriate will reiterate the origins of the stated policies. The Speaker intends to continue in the 105th Congress the poli-

cies reflected in these statements. The policy announced in the 102d Congress with respect to judicial concepts related to clause 5(b) of rule XXI, tax and tariff measures, will continue to govern but need not be reiterated as it is adequately documented as precedent in the House Rules and Manual.

The announcements referred to follow:

1. PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

The Speaker's instructions to the former Doorkeeper and the Sergeant-at-arms announced on January 25, 1983, and on January 21, 1986, regarding floor privileges of staff will apply during the 105th Congress. The Speaker's policy announced on August 1, 1996, regarding floor privileges of former Members will also apply during the 105th Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER, JANUARY 25, 1983

The SPEAKER. Rule XXXII strictly limits those persons to whom the privileges of the floor during sessions of the House are extended, and that rule prohibits the Chair from entertaining requests for suspension or waiver of that rule. As reiterated as recently as August 22, 1974, by Speaker Albert under the principle stated in Deschler's Procedure, chapter 4, section 3.4, the rule strictly limits the number of committee staff permitted on the floor at one time during the consideration of measures reported from their committees. This permission does not extend to Members' personal staff except when a Member has an amendment actually pending during the five-minute rule. To this end, the Chair requests all Members and committee staff to cooperate to assure that not more than the proper number of staff are on the floor, and then only during the actual consideration of measures reported from their committees. The Chair will again extend this admonition to all properly admitted majority and minority staff by insisting that their presence on the floor, including the areas behind the rail, be restricted to those periods during which their supervisors have specifically requested their presence. The Chair stated this policy in the 97th Congress, and an increasing number of Members have insisted on strict enforcement of the rule. The Chair has consulted with and has the concurrence of the Minority Leader with respect to this policy and has directed [the Doorkeeper] and the Sergeant-at-arms to assure proper enforcement of the rule.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER, JANUARY 21, 1986

The SPEAKER. Rule XXXII strictly limits those persons to whom the privileges of the floor during sessions of the House are extended, and that rule prohibits the Chair from entertaining requests for suspension or waiver of that rule. As reiterated by the Chair on January 25, 1983, and January 3, 1985, and as stated in chapter 4, section 3.4 of Deschler-Brown's Procedure in the House of Representatives, the rule strictly limits the number of committee staff on the floor at one time during the consideration of measures reported from their committees. This permission does not extend to members' personal staff except when a member's amendment is actually pending during the five-minute rule. It also does not extend to personal staff of members who are sponsors of pending bills or who are engaging in special orders. The Chair requests the cooperation of all members and committee staff to assure that only the proper number of staff are on the floor, and then only during the consideration of measures reported from their committees. The Chair is making this statement

and reiterating this policy because of concerns expressed by many members about the number of committee staff on the floor during the last weeks of the first session. The Chair requests each chairman, and each ranking minority member, to submit to the [Doorkeeper] Sergeant-at-arms a list of staff who are to be allowed on the floor during the consideration of a measure reported by their committee. Each staff person should exchange his or her ID for a "committee staff" badge which is to be worn while on the floor. The Chair has consulted with the Minority Leader and will continue to consult with him. The Chair has furthermore directed the [Doorkeeper and] Sergeant-at-arms to assure proper enforcement of rule XXXII.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER, AUGUST 1, 1996

The SPEAKER. The Chair will make a statement. On May 25, 1995, the Chair took the opportunity to reiterate guidelines on the prohibition against former Members exercising floor privileges during the consideration of a matter in which they have a personal or pecuniary interest or are employed or retained as a lobbyist.

Clause 3 of House rule XXXII and the subsequent guidelines issued by previous Speakers on this matter make it clear that consideration of legislative measures is not limited solely to those pending before the House. Consideration also includes all bills and resolutions either which have been called up by a full committee or subcommittee or on which hearings have been held by a full committee or subcommittee of the House.

Former Members can be prohibited from privileges of the floor, the Speaker's lobby and respective Cloakrooms should it be ascertained they have direct interests in legislation that is before a subcommittee, full committee, or the House. Not only do those circumstances prohibit former Members but the fact that a former Member is employed or retained by a lobbying organization attempting to directly or indirectly influence pending legislation is cause for prohibiting access to the House Chamber.

First announced by Speaker O'Neill on January 6, 1977, again on June 7, 1978, and by Speaker Foley in 1994, the guidelines were intended to prohibit former Members from using their floor privileges under the restrictions laid out in this rule. This restriction extends not only to the House floor but adjacent rooms, the Cloakrooms, and the Speaker's lobby.

Members who have reason to know that a former Member is on the floor inconsistent with clause 3, rule XXXII, should notify the Sergeant-at-arms promptly.

2. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

The Speaker's policy announced on January 3, 1983, will continue to apply in the 105th Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER, JANUARY 3, 1983

The SPEAKER. The Chair would like to make a statement concerning the introduction and reference of bills and resolutions. As Members are aware, they have the privilege today of introducing bills. Heretofore on the opening day of a new Congress, several hundred bills have been introduced. The Chair will do his best to refer as many bills as possible, but he will ask the indulgence of Members if he is unable to refer all the bills that may be introduced. Those bills which are not referred and do not appear in the Record as of today will be included in the next day's Record and printed with a date as of today.

The Chair has advised all officers and employees of the House that are involved in the processing of bills that every bill, resolution,