

for a period not to exceed 24 months any necessary travel expenses in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

"(b) The Administrator shall transmit a copy of any test program approved by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before the effective date of the program.

"(c) An agency authorized to conduct a test program under subsection (a) shall provide to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the results of the program no later than 3 months after completion of the program.

"(d) No more than 10 test programs under this section may be conducted simultaneously.

"(e) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997."

(b) RELOCATION EXPENSES TEST PROGRAMS.—Subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 5737. Authority for relocation expenses test programs

"(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, under a test program which the Administrator of General Services determines to be in the interest of the Government and approves, an agency may pay for a period not to exceed 24 months any necessary relocation expenses in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

"(b) The Administrator shall transmit a copy of any test program approved by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before the effective date of the program.

"(c) An agency authorized to conduct a test program under subsection (a) shall provide to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the results of the program no later than 3 months after completion of the program.

"(d) No more than 10 test programs under this section may be conducted simultaneously.

"(e) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997."

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections for chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is further amended by—

(1) inserting after the item relating to section 5709 the following new item:

"5710. Authority for travel expenses test programs.";

and

(2) inserting after the item relating to section 5737 the following new item:

"5737. Authority for relocation expenses test programs."

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, 105TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2 of House rule XI, I hereby submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Rules of Procedure for the Committee on the Budget for the 105th Congress. The Budget Committee adopted its rules on February 4, 1997 in a public meeting by a rollcall vote.

GENERAL APPLICABILITY

Rule 1—Applicability of House Rules

Except as otherwise specified herein, the Rules of the House are the rules of the committee so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day is a motion of high privilege.

MEETINGS

Rule 2—Regular meetings

(a) The regular meeting day of the committee shall be the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m., while the House is in session.

(b) The chairman is authorized to dispense with a regular meeting when the chairman determines there is no business to be considered by the committee. The chairman shall give notice in writing or by facsimile to that effect to each member of the committee as far in advance of the regular meeting day as the circumstances permit.

(c) Regular meetings shall be canceled when they conflict with meetings of either party's caucus or conference.

Rule 3—Additional and special meetings

(a) The chairman may call and convene additional meetings of the committee as the chairman considers necessary, or special meetings at the request of a majority of the members of the committee in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(c).

(b) In the absence of exceptional circumstances, the chairman shall provide notice in writing or by facsimile of additional meetings to the office of each member at least 24 hours in advance while Congress is in session, and at least 3 days in advance when Congress is not in session.

Rule 4—Open business meetings

(a) Each meeting for the transaction of committee business, including the markup of measures, shall be open to the public except when the committee, in open session and with a quorum present, determines by rollcall vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day shall be closed to the public in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(g)(1).

(b) No person other than members of the committee and such congressional staff and departmental representatives as the committee may authorize shall be present at any business or markup session which has been closed to the public.

Rule 5—Quorums

A majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum. No business shall be transacted and no measure or recommendation shall be reported unless a quorum is actually present.

Rule 6—Recognition

Any member, when recognized by the chairman, may address the committee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration before the committee. The time of such member shall be limited to 5 minutes until all members present have been afforded an opportunity to comment.

Rule 7—Consideration of business

Measures or matters may be placed before the committee, for its consideration, by the chairman or by a majority vote of the members of the committee, a quorum being present.

Rule 8—Procedure for consideration of budget resolution

(a) It shall be the policy of the committee that the starting point for any deliberations on a concurrent resolution on the budget should be the estimated or actual levels for the fiscal year preceding the budget year.

(b) In developing a concurrent resolution on the budget, the committee shall first proceed, unless otherwise determined by the committee, to consider budget aggregates, functional categories, and other appropriate matters on a tentative basis, with the document before the committee open to amendment; subsequent amendments may be offered to aggregates, functional categories, or other appropriate matters which have already been amended in their entirety.

(c) Following adoption of the aggregates, functional categories, and other matters, the text of a concurrent resolution on the budget incorporating such aggregates, functional categories, and other appropriate matters shall be considered for amendment and a final vote.

Rule 9—Rollcall votes

A rollcall of the members may be had upon the request of at least one-fifth of those present. In the apparent absence of a quorum, a rollcall may be had on the request of any member.

HEARINGS

Rule 10—Announcement of hearings

The chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any committee hearing at least 1 week before the hearing, beginning with the day in which the announcement is made and ending the day preceding the scheduled hearing unless the chairman, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the committee by majority vote with a quorum present for the transaction of business, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, in which case the chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

Rule 11—Open hearings

(a) Each hearing conducted by the committee or any of its task forces shall be open to the public except when the committee or task force, in open session and with a quorum present, determines by rollcall vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing on that day shall be closed to the public because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger the national security, or would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. The committee or task forces may be the same procedure vote to close one subsequent day of hearing.

(b) For the purposes of House Rule XI, clause 2(g)(2), the task forces of the committee are considered to be subcommittees.

Rule 12—Quorums

For the purpose of hearing testimony, not less than two members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 13—Time for questioning witnesses

(a) Committee members shall have not to exceed 5 minutes to interrogate each witness until such time as each member who so desires has had an opportunity to interrogate such witness.

(b) After all members have had an opportunity to ask questions, the round shall begin again under the 5-minute rule.

(c) In questioning witnesses under the 5-minute rule, the chairman and the ranking minority member may be recognized first, after which members may be recognized in

the order of their arrival at the hearing. Among the members present at the time the hearing is called to order, seniority shall be recognized. In recognizing members to question witnesses, the chairman may take into consideration the ratio of majority members to minority members and the number of majority and minority members present and shall apportion the recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of the majority.

Rule 14—Subpoenas and oaths

(a) In accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(m) subpoenas authorized by a majority of the committee may be issued over the signature of the chairman or of any member of the committee designated by him, and may be served by any person designated by the chairman or such member.

(b) The chairman, or any member of the committee designated by the chairman, may administer oaths to witnesses.

Rule 15—Witnesses' statements

(a) So far as practicable, any prepared statement to be presented by a witness shall be submitted to the committee at least 24 hours in advance of presentation, and shall be distributed to all members of the committee in advance of presentation.

(b) To the greatest extent possible, each witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the 2 preceding fiscal years.

PRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Rule 16—Committee prints

All committee prints and other materials prepared for public distribution shall be approved by the committee prior to any distribution, unless such print or other material shows clearly on its face that it has not been approved by the committee.

Rule 17—Committee publications on the Internet

To the maximum extent feasible, the committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

STAFF

Rule 18—Committee staff

(a)(1) Subject to approval by the committee, and to the provisions of the following paragraphs, the professional and clerical staff of the committee shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the chairman.

(2) Committee staff shall not be assigned any duties other than those pertaining to committee business, and shall be selected without regard to race, creed, sex, or age, and solely on the basis of fitness to perform the duties of their respective positions.

(3) All committee staff shall be entitled to equitable treatment, including comparable salaries, facilities, access to official committee records, leave, and hours of work.

(4) Notwithstanding paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, staff shall be employed in compliance with House Rules, the Employment and Accountability Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and any other applicable Federal statutes.

(b) Associate staff for members of the committee may be appointed only at the discretion of the chairman (in consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party associate staff), after taking into consideration any staff ceilings and budgetary constraints in effect at the time, and any terms, limits, or conditions established by the Committee on House Oversight under clause 6 of House Rule XI. Such staff members shall be compensated at a rate, de-

termined by the member, not to exceed \$60,000 per year from the committee's budget. Members shall not appoint more than one person pursuant to these provisions. Members designating a staff member under this subsection must certify by letter to the chairman that the employee is needed and will be utilized for committee work and, to the extent space is available, will spend no less than 10 hours per week in committee offices performing committee work.

Rule 19—Staff supervision

(a) Staff shall be under the general supervision and direction of the chairman, who shall establish and assign their duties and responsibilities, delegate such authority as he deems appropriate, fix and adjust staff salaries (in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 6(c)) and job titles, and, in his discretion, arrange for their specialized training.

(b) Staff assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the minority members of the committee, who may delegate such authority as they deem appropriate.

RECORDS

Rule 20—Preparation and maintenance of committee records

(a) An accurate stenographic record shall be made of all hearings and business meetings.

(b) The proceedings of the committee shall be recorded in a journal which shall, among other things, include a record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded.

(c) Members of the committee shall correct and return transcripts of hearings as soon as practicable after receipt thereof, except that any changes shall be limited to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections.

(d) Any witness may examine the transcript of his own testimony and make grammatical, technical, and typographical corrections.

(e) The chairman may order the printing of a hearing record without the corrections of any member or witness if he determines that such member or witness has been afforded a reasonable time for correction, and that further delay would seriously impede the committee's responsibility for meeting its deadlines under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(f) Transcripts of hearings and meetings may be printed if the chairman decides it is appropriate, or if a majority of the members so request.

Rule 21—Access to committee records

(a)(1) The chairman shall promulgate regulations to provide for public inspection of rollcall votes and to provide access by members to committee records (in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(e)).

(2) Access to classified testimony and information shall be limited to Members of Congress and to House Budget Committee staff and stenographic reporters who have appropriate security clearance.

(3) Notice of the receipt of such information shall be sent to the committee members. Such information shall be kept in the committee safe, and shall be available to members in the committee office.

(b) The records of the committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with Rule XXXVI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The chairman shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, 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.

OVERSIGHT

Rule 22—General oversight

(a) The committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject of which is within its jurisdiction.

(b) The committee is authorized at any time to conduct such investigations and studies as it may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under clause (1)(d)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House, and, subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by clause 5 of rule XI, to incur expenses (including travel expenses) in connection therewith.

(c) Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the committee shall meet in open session, with a quorum present, to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress for submission to the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight in accordance with the provisions of clause (2)(d) of House Rule X.

REPORTS

Rule 23—Availability before filing

No committee report on a bill or resolution shall be filed with the House until copies of the proposed report have been available to all members for at least 36 hours prior to filing, unless the chairman deems it necessary to waive this requirement. No material change (other than the filing of supplemental, minority, or additional views by any member) shall be made in the report distributed to members unless agreed to by majority vote or authorized by the chairman with the concurrence of the ranking minority member.

Rule 24—Report on the budget resolution

The report of the committee to accompany a concurrent resolution on the budget shall include a comparison of the estimated or actual levels for the year preceding the budget year with the proposed spending and revenue levels for the budget year and each out year along with the appropriate percentage increase or decrease for each budget function and aggregate. The report shall include any rollcall vote on any motion to amend or report any measure.

Rule 25—Parliamentarian's Status Report and Section 302 Status Report

(a)(1) In order to carry out its duty under section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act to advise the House of Representatives as to the current level of spending and revenues as compared to the levels set forth in the latest agreed-upon concurrent resolution on the budget, the committee shall advise the Speaker on at least a monthly basis when the House is in session as to its estimate of the current level of spending and revenue. Such estimates shall be prepared by the staff of the committee, transmitted to the Speaker in the form of a Parliamentarian's Status Report, and printed in the Congressional Record.

(2) The committee authorizes the chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, to transmit to the Speaker the Parliamentarian's Status Report described above.

(b)(1) In order to carry out its duty under section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act to advise the House of Representatives as to the current level of spending within the jurisdiction of committees as compared to the appropriate allocations made pursuant to the Budget Act in conformity with the latest agreed-upon concurrent resolution on the budget, the committee shall, as necessary, advise the Speaker as to its estimate of the current level of spending within the jurisdiction of appropriate committees. Such estimates shall be prepared by the staff of the

committee and transmitted to the Speaker in the form of a Section 302 Status Report.

(2) The committee authorizes the chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, to transmit to the Speaker the Section 302 Status Report described above.

Rule 26—Activity report

After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, the chair of the committee may file any time with the Clerk the committee's activity report for that Congress pursuant to clause (1)(d)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House without the approval of the committee, if a copy of the report has been available to each member of the committee for at least 7 calendar days and the report includes any supplemental, minority, or additional views submitted by a member of the committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rule 27—Broadcasting of meetings and hearings

(a) It shall be the policy of the committee to give all news media access to open hearings of the committee, subject to the requirements and limitations set forth in House Rule XI, clause 3.

(b) Whenever any committee business meeting is open to the public, that meeting may be covered, in whole or in part, by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 3.

Rule 28—Appointment of conferees

(a) Majority party members recommended to the Speaker as conferees shall be recommended by the chairman subject to the approval of the majority party members of the committee.

(b) The chairman shall recommend such minority party members as conferees as shall be determined by the minority party; the recommended party representation shall be in approximately the same proportion as that in the committee.

Rule 29—Waivers

When a reported bill or joint resolution, conference report, or anticipated floor amendment violates any provision of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the chairman may, if practical, consult with the committee members on whether the chairman should recommend, in writing, that the Committee on Rules report a special rule that enforces the act by not waiving the applicable points of order during the consideration of such measure.

SUPREME COURT DECISION ON VOTING RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore [Mr. PEASE]. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk primarily today about the Supreme Court decision with respect to voting rights in New York City. They have of course come down with a decision in New York that obeys the Supreme Court decision and the precedent it set. So the courts have ordered that one district, the district of my colleague, the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. VELÁZQUEZ], the 12th Congressional District of New York, be redrawn; and the courts have said this must take place by July 30. The legislature has until July 30 to redraw the district.

I think that this process has been going on for some time now. We understood that the Supreme Court, when it made its decision on the Georgia case and the North Carolina cases and the Texas case, all those cases let us know that it was almost inevitable that eventually some district in New York that was being challenged would be struck down and the district that has the oddest shape of course was the 12th Congressional District, presently held by Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ.

We knew it was coming but nevertheless my neighbors seemed very alarmed. In the surrounding area, people are alarmed. The whole city is alarmed, asking questions as if this was a brand new situation. So for that reason, I find it important to comment. I have been on about four radio stations, and the kinds of questions I receive show that previous discussions of this matter, and I have spoken on the floor at least twice about the Voting Rights Act and the implications of the Voting Rights Act, the reason for the Voting Rights Act, the justice of the Voting Rights Act, but at home it has not come through because they did not feel it concerned them. It was in Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Louisiana, recently Virginia. Now it has come home to New York.

So it is important, and I think that the fact that Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ is appealing the decision is important. She knows that the likelihood that that appeal will be upheld, the likelihood that her appeal will receive success is very slim. She wants to make the point that the decision has come down, and it is a district court ruling in a matter that they consider consistent with the Supreme Court and the inevitability of that is one thing but the justice of it is another.

It is not just that the Supreme Court that set the process in motion was wrong, that it was a 5 to 4 decision. Any 5 to 4 decision should be questioned and requestioned. The morality of it, the legality of it, all should be questioned, and she did not want to accept that.

So we set in motion a process of having a dialog in New York that should have been going on all along because there is something more at stake here than just the redrawing of lines at one time. The whole act, the Voting Rights Act and the essence of the Voting Rights Act is now in jeopardy because the principle applied to congressional districts is also to be applied to State legislative districts and also city council districts and any other jurisdiction of the government, same principles would be applied. So it is a matter that deserves extensive discussion.

Now, in the process of this discussion, I want to also talk about a few other things that seem unrelated but I intend to put them together, I assure you. I want to talk about some good news that has taken place in the past 24 hours. The Swiss Government announced that they were going to set up

a \$5 billion fund to compensate or to help victims of catastrophes, especially victims of human rights violations, such as victims of the Holocaust. Let me just make it clear that this is a Swiss Government taking this action, following an action that was previously taken by the Swiss banks. The Swiss banks already established a fund, I think, of 100-some million dollars, a fund to directly compensate victims of the Holocaust.

Now the Swiss Government, the President of Switzerland has gone further, and that act of reconciliation is what I want to talk about. Where does reconciliation come in the process of evaluating the justice or injustice of the Voting Rights Act?

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What is the Voting Rights Act all about? Why was the Voting Rights Act, why is the Voting Rights Act being questioned on the basis of race, on the basis of its denial of equal rights?

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor argues in the majority opinion that we cannot draw a district with predominant consideration of race. That violates the equal protection clause in the 14th amendment.

What Justice Sandra Day O'Connor does not tell us is that the 14th amendment is not about equal protection for everybody in a colorblind society. The 14th amendment is about a remedy of slavery.

The 14th amendment came about as a result of the need to take care of the long pattern of injustices established in 232 years of slavery. And when the Civil War was fought and finally won, Congress had to pass first the 13th amendment, which freed the slaves. Abraham Lincoln freed a certain segment of the slaves in the Emancipation Proclamation, but he did not free all the slaves and it was not a constitutional matter.

A President can issue an Executive order. When he goes out of office, the Executive order no longer applies. So the Emancipation Proclamation did not free the slaves permanently. It was the 13th amendment.

Following the 13th amendment was the 14th amendment, which talked at great length about slavery. Most people think the 14th amendment is a little line about equal protection under the law. That is only one tiny part of the 14th amendment. The 14th amendment is about slavery and certain steps that the Government had to take to remedy the effects of slavery and to deal with the people who are now the descendants of slaves.

So the Swiss Government's action is a process of reconciliation dealing with what they did not do 50 years ago, 50 years ago when the Nazis invaded most of Europe. The Nazis subjected the Jews to the Holocaust, 6 million people being wiped out. They stole their money and their goods and so forth. A lot of the gold and the money of Jewish victims of the Holocaust ended up in