

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

(c) Whenever any hearing conducted by any such committee or subcommittee is open to the public, that hearing may be broadcast by radio or television, or both, under such rules as the committee or subcommittee may adopt.

(d) Whenever disorder arises during a committee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any person in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair to enforce order on his own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Senator. When the Chair finds it necessary to maintain order, he shall have the power to clear the room, and the committee may act in closed session for so long as there is doubt of the assurance of order.

APPENDIX B—"SUPERVISORS" DEFINED

Paragraph 12 of Rule XXXVII of the Standing Rules of the Senate reads as follows:

For purposes of this rule—

(a) a Senator or the Vice President is the supervisor of his administrative, clerical, or other assistants;

(b) a Senator who is the chairman of a committee is the supervisor of the professional, clerical, or other assistants to the committee except that minority staff members shall be under the supervision of the ranking minority Senator on the committee;

(c) a Senator who is a chairman of a subcommittee which has its own staff and financial authorization is the supervisor of the professional, clerical, or other assistants to the subcommittee except that minority staff members shall be under the supervision of the ranking minority Senator on the subcommittee;

(d) the President pro tempore is the supervisor of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, the Chaplain, the Legislative Counsel, and the employees of the Office of the Legislative Counsel;

(e) the Secretary of the Senate is the supervisor of the employees of his office;

(f) the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper is the supervisor of the employees of his office;

(g) the Majority and Minority Leaders and the Majority and Minority Whips are the supervisors of the research, clerical, and other assistants assigned to their respective offices;

(h) the Majority Leader is the supervisor of the Secretary for the Majority and the Secretary for the Majority is the supervisor of the employees of his office; and

(i) the Minority Leader is the supervisor of the Secretary for the Minority and the Secretary for the Minority is the supervisor of the employees of his office.

REVISIONS

RULES OF PROCEDURE—SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Date revised	Amendment
December 1989	Allows for a reduced quorum to take testimony except during an adjudicatory hearing.
February 1993	Adopted, under Admissibility of Evidence, paragraph (C), Rule 412 of the Federal Rules of Evidence.
May 1993	Corrected the following grammatical errors in the publication: page 2 section (d)(1) change paragraph 11 to paragraph 12; page 14 section (k)(6) change paragraph 11 to paragraph 12; page 15 section (5) change to "Whenever a member of the Committee is ineligible"
April 1997	Amends Rule 9(c) Procedures for Handling Committee Sensitive and Classified Documents: (1) Strike "Committee Sensitive and classified documents and materials shall be segregated in secure filing safes." Insert "Committee Sensitive documents and materials shall be stored in the Committee's offices, with appropriate safeguards for maintaining the security of such documents or materials. Classified documents and materials shall be further segregated in the Committee's offices in secure filing safes." (2) Strike "If necessary, requested materials may be taken by a member of the Committee staff to the office of a member of the Committee for his or her examination, but the Committee staff member shall remain with the Committee Sensitive or classified documents or materials at all times except as specifically authorized by the Chairman or Vice Chairman." Insert "If necessary, requested materials may be hand delivered by a member of the Committee staff to the member of the Committee, or to a staff person(s) specifically designated by the member, for the member's or designated staffer's examination. A member of the Committee who has possession of Committee Sensitive documents or materials shall take appropriate safeguards for maintaining the security of such documents or materials in the possession of the member or his or her designated staffer." (3) Committee Sensitive documents that are provided to a Member of the Senate in connection with a complaint that has been filed against the Member shall be hand delivered to the Member or to the Member's Chief of Staff or Administrative Assistant. Committee Sensitive documents that are provided to a Member of the Senate who is the subject of a preliminary inquiry, an initial review, or an investigation, shall be hand delivered to the Member or to his or her specifically designated representative. (4) [Renumbered] (5) [Renumbered] Amends Committee Rule 14 by adding the following sentence to paragraph (c). "The Committee shall rule on a waiver request by recorded vote, with a majority of those voting affirming the decision. With respect to an individual's request for a waiver in connection with the acceptance or reporting the value of gifts on the occasion of the individual's marriage, the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, acting jointly, may rule on the waiver."
November 1999	Extensively amends the Supplementary Procedural Rules to reflect changes to the Committee charter as agreed to by S. Res. 222 ["Senate Ethics Procedure Reform Resolution of 1999"].

ENDNOTES

1. As amended by S. Res. 4, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977), S. Res. 110, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977), S. Res. 204, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977), S. Res. 230, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977), S. Res. 312, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977), S. Res. 271, 96th Cong., 1st Sess. (1979), S. Res. 78, 97th Cong., 1st Sess. (1981). Brackets reflect renumbering of paragraphs in Senate Rule XXXVII effected by S. Res. 236, 101st Cong., 2d Sess. (1990). Amended by S. Res. 222, 106th Cong., 1st Sess. (1999). The amendments made by S. Res. 222, Senate Ethics Procedure Reform Resolution of 1999, shall take effect on November 5, 1999, except that the amendments shall not apply with respect to further proceedings in any preliminary inquiry, initial review, or investigation commenced before November 5, 1999, under Senate Resolution 338, agreed to July 24, 1964.

2. Subsection (c) was amended by S. Res. 222, 106th Cong., 1st Sess. (1999).

3. Subsection 3 was amended by S. Res. 78, 97th Cong., 1st Sess. (1981).

4. Subsection d(1)–(3) was added by S. Res. 110, §203, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977), and amended by S. Res. 222, 106th Cong., 1st Sess. (1999).

5. Reference to Senate Code of Official Conduct was added by S. Res. 110, §201, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977).

6. Subsections (b)–(h) were added by and subsection (i) was amended by S. Res. 110, §202, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977). Subsections (a)–(e) and (g)–(h) were amended by S. Res. 222, 106th Cong., 1st Sess. (1999).

7. Paragraph 7 was amended by S. Res. 110, §204, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977).

8. Paragraph 8 was added by S. Res. 230, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977).

9. Subsection (b)(1) was added by S. Res. 110, §204, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977).

10. Subsection (b)(2) was amended by S. Res. 222, 106th Cong., 1st Sess. (1999).

11. Subsection (c) was added by S. Res. 110, §204, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977).

12. Subsection (d) was added by S. Res. 312, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977) and was amended by S. Res. 222, 106th Cong., 1st Sess. (1999).

13. Subsection was added by S. Res. 110, §206, 95th Cong., 1st Sess. (1977).

14. As amended 145 Cong. Rec. S14203 (daily ed. Nov., 5, 1999).

U.S. SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, for myself as chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics and for Senator COONS, vice chairman of the committee, that the annual report of the Select Committee on Ethics for calendar year 2024 be printed in the RECORD.

The committee issued this report on January 31, 2025, as required by the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

119TH CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

January 31, 2025

The Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 (the Act) calls for the Select Committee on Ethics of the United States Senate to issue an annual report no later than January 31st of each year providing information in certain categories describing its activities for the preceding year. Reported below is the information describing the Committee's activities in 2024 in the categories set forth in the Act:

(1) The number of alleged violations of Senate rules received from any source, including the number raised by a Senator or staff of the Committee—158. (In addition, 6 alleged violations from previous years were carried into 2024.)

(2) The number of alleged violations that were dismissed—

(A) For lack of subject matter jurisdiction or in which, even if the allegations in the complaint are true, no violation of Senate rules would exist: 142.

(B) Because they failed to provide sufficient facts as to any material violation of the Senate rules beyond mere allegation or assertion: 7.

(3) The number of alleged violations for which the Committee staff conducted a preliminary inquiry: 15. (This figure includes 6 matters from previous years carried into 2024.)

(4) The number of alleged violations for which the Committee staff conducted a preliminary inquiry that resulted in an adjudicatory review: 1.

(5) The number of alleged violations for which the Committee staff conducted a preliminary inquiry and the Committee dismissed the matter for lack of substantial

merit or because it was inadvertent, technical or otherwise of a *de minimis* nature: 8.

(6) The number of alleged violations for which the Committee staff conducted a preliminary inquiry and the Committee issued private or public letters of admonition: 1.

(7) The number of matters resulting in a disciplinary sanction: 0.

(8) Any other information deemed by the Committee to be appropriate to describe its activities in the previous year:

In 2024, the Committee staff conducted 16 Member and office campaign activity briefings; 19 employee code of conduct training sessions; 5 public financial disclosure clinics, seminars, and webinars; 29 ethics seminars and customized briefings for Member DC offices, state offices, and Senate committees; 2 private sector ethics briefings, and 3 international briefings.

In 2024, the Committee staff handled approximately 11,082 inquiries (via telephone and email) for ethics advice and guidance.

In 2024, the Committee wrote approximately 968 ethics advisory letters and responses including, but not limited to, 776 travel and gifts matters (Senate Rule 35) and 161 conflict of interest matters (Senate Rule 37).

In 2024, the Committee received 4,323 public financial disclosure and periodic disclosure of financial transactions reports.

CONFIRMATION OF SEAN DUFFY

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, yesterday afternoon I voted to advance Sean Duffy's nomination to be Secretary of Transportation. I support qualified Cabinet nominees even when I have deep policy and political differences, unless they are so extreme as to pose a threat to the mission of their Agency. I have voted for qualified nominees from both parties for this position, and, while I have deep political and policy difference with Mr. Duffy, I believe that his experience in the House of Representatives has prepared him to do this job and support the overall mission of the Department of Transportation. I also appreciated his commitment in his hearings to funding Federal transportation projects without partisan influence.

However, last night, the administration put out an unprecedented and illegal directive to Agencies to hold vast amounts of Federal funding, including grants and loans to states and organizations working in our communities. My office is hearing from counties and community groups across Maryland who are losing access to funds to support firefighters, prevent homelessness, and keep transportation projects on track. Mr. Duffy, and every nominee, will be responsible for executing this unlawful withholding of funding as passed by Congress. We cannot continue with business as usual when the administration abuses its power and ignores spending laws as passed by Congress, so I voted against Mr. Duffy's nomination today.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and three withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 471. A bill to expedite under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and improve forest management activities on National Forest System lands, on public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and on Tribal lands to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested lands, and for other purposes.

At 2:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 9803(d)(1)(C) and (E) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Minority Leader appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: Mr. QUIGLEY of Illinois.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Minority Leader appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Mr. RYAN of New York.

The message also announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8468(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Minority Leader appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Ms. ELFRETH of Maryland.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Minority Leader appoints the following Member to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4 of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-196), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Minority Leader appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the

order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 1903(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy: Mr. COURTNEY of Connecticut.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2903, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission: Mr. TAKANO of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 4 of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-196), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission: Mr. ADERHOLT of Alabama and Ms. SALAZAR of Florida.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Mr. BERGMAN of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Chair, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mrs. WAGNER of Missouri, Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, Mr. GUTHRIE of Kentucky, Ms. VAN DUYNE of Texas, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 9803(d)(1)(C) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023