

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY RULES OF PROCEDURE*

Rule I

The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

Rule II—Committee Meetings

- (a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Tuesday of each week while the House is in session.
- (b) Alternative meeting dates and additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.
- (c) At least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays when the House is not in session) before each scheduled Committee or subcommittee meeting, each Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall be furnished a list of the bill(s) and subject(s) to be considered and/or acted upon at the meeting. Bills or subjects not listed shall be subject to a point of order unless their consideration is agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or subcommittee.
- (d) The Chairman, with such notice to the ranking Minority Member as is practicable, may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Chairman.
- (e) Committee and subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.
- (f) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.
- (g) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any subcommittee thereof, other than taking testimony or receiving evidence, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.
- (h) A complete transcript shall be made of any full Committee meetings, or any portion thereof, upon the request of any Member of the Committee made before the close of business of the preceding day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays when the House is not in session.

Rule III—Hearings

- (a) The Committee or any subcommittee shall make public announcement of the date, place and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing, unless the Committee or the subcommittee before which such hearing is scheduled, determines that there is good cause to begin such hearing at an earlier date, in which event it shall make public announcement at the earliest possible date.

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- (b) Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because the disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.
- (c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.
- (d) In the course of any hearing, each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

Rule IV—Broadcasting

Any meeting or hearing of the Committee or any of its subcommittees that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 3 of House Rule XI,

Rule V—Standing Subcommittees

- (a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: antitrust, tort liability issues, including medical malpractice and product liability, and such other legislative or oversight matters as determined by the Chairman.
- (b) There shall be five standing subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:
 - (1) *Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property*: copyright, patent and trademark law, administration of U.S. courts, Federal rules of Evidence, Civil, and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.
 - (2) *Subcommittee on the Constitution*: constitutional amendments, constitutional rights, federal civil rights laws, ethics in government, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.
 - (3) *Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law*: bankruptcy and commercial law, bankruptcy judgeships, administrative law, state taxation affecting interstate commerce, interstate compacts, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.
 - (4) *Subcommittee on Crime*: Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.
 - (5) *Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims*: immigration and naturalization, admission of refugees, treaties, conventions and international agreements, claims against the United States, federal charters of incorporation, private immigration and claims bills, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.
- (c) The Chairman of the Committee and the ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting Members, of each subcommittee to which such Chairman or ranking Minority Member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such subcommittee.

Rule VI—Powers and Duties of Subcommittees

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

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Rule VII—Non-Legislative Reports

No report of the Committee or a subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and been given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

Rule VIII—Committee Records

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use according to the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the ranking Minority Member of any decision 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.

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