

thorized by concurrent resolution, formally called for a reassembly of Congress at an earlier date than that to which it had adjourned.

The 79th Congress, having by concurrent resolution adjourned to a day certain, was reassembled before that day in accordance with a provision in such resolution for reassembly before the day fixed in the event that certain congressional leaders, including the floor leaders, decided that legislative expediency warranted reassembly.⁽²⁾

§ 19. Role as Party Leader

In his capacity as a leader of his party, the floor leader plays a key role in the formation and promotion of his party's policies. Wherever possible, he protects the interests of his party and individual members thereof.

The Republican floor leader generally introduces the resolution assigning members of his party to House committees,⁽³⁾ and undertakes other responsibilities respecting such committee assignments.⁽⁴⁾

2. 91 CONG. REC. 8320, 79th Cong. 1st Sess., Sept. 5, 1946. See also Ch. 1, § 3, *supra*.

3. § 19.7, *infra*.

4. § 19.8, *infra*.

The floor leader may be consulted with respect to changes in committee size or composition that might affect his party's representation on the committee.⁽⁵⁾

The floor leader protects the interests of individual members of his party, as by ensuring that the Record or Journal accurately reflects the votes of Members,⁽⁶⁾ the presence of Members,⁽⁷⁾ or the legitimate reasons for a Members absence.⁽⁸⁾ Where requested to make objection to certain unanimous-consent requests, the floor leader has done so.⁽⁹⁾

On occasion, the floor leader has addressed remarks directly to members of his party on the floor of the House, for purposes of ascertaining⁽¹⁰⁾ or influencing⁽¹¹⁾ the sentiments of his party with respect to particular issues.

Announcements of Party Meetings

§ 19.1 On occasion, the floor leader has made announce-

5. § 19.9, *infra*.

6. § 19.5, *infra*.

7. § 19.5, *infra*.

8. See the remarks of Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford (Mich.) at 111 CONG. REC. 20362, 89th Cong. 1st Sess., Aug. 12, 1965.

9. § 19.6, *infra*.

10. § 19.2, *infra*.

11. § 19.3, *infra*.

ments concerning meetings of the caucus, conference, or other party group.

On July 30, 1968,⁽¹²⁾ the Majority Leader, Carl Albert, of Oklahoma, announced as follows:

MR. ALBERT: Mr. Speaker, I take this time to advise the Democratic Members that a caucus of the Democratic Members of the House is called to meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Thursday, August 1, 1968, at 10 a.m., for the purpose of electing Members to the Ways and Means Committee.

On January 13, 1937,⁽¹³⁾ the Republican floor leader, Bertrand H. Snell, of New York, announced as follows:

MR. SNELL: Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the Republican members of the committee on committees at 4 o'clock this afternoon in the rooms of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, located in the New House Office Building, and there will be a Republican Conference in this hall at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

12. 114 CONG. REC. 24269, 90th Cong. 2d Sess. For discussion of recent practice with respect to calling organizational meetings of the caucus prior to the convening of a new Congress, see supplements to this edition as they appear.

13. 81 CONG. REC. 201, 75th Cong. 1st Sess.

Request for Indication of Sentiment

§ 19.2 The Minority Leader, during a debate in the Committee of the Whole, requested Members of his party to informally indicate their support for a certain proposition by a show of hands.

On Aug. 6, 1963,⁽¹⁴⁾ Minority Leader Charles A. Halleck, of Indiana, made the following request:

MR. HALLECK: Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether it would be parliamentary or not, but I would like to have the Republicans who are here—and we are in goodly number—raise their hands to indicate whether they will vote for this bill with or without the amendment.

Expression of Viewpoint on Committee Assignments

§ 19.3 The Republican floor leader, during debate in the House, indicated the position that he thought the Republicans should adopt with respect to the issue to be voted on.

In the 92d Congress, a debate took place on whether the resolution assigning Democratic Members to the House committees

14. 109 CONG. REC. 14289, 88th Cong. 1st Sess.

should be open to amendment and any such amendment be voted on by the House.⁽¹⁵⁾ In the course of the debate, the Republican floor leader, Gerald R. Ford, of Michigan, remarked as follows:⁽¹⁶⁾

. . . I cannot help but make this observation. The gentleman from California was unable to persuade a majority of the Democrats to his point of view. I do not think that we on the Republican side ought to succumb to his arguments of this occasion. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would certainly hope and trust that the Republicans on this issue, on a Democratic resolution expressing the views of the Democratic Party, should not under any circumstances vote "nay" on the motion to order the previous question. As Republicans we should exercise our option to vote "yea" or "present" on the previous question, because the matter is one for the Democrats to decide and not for us.

Official Objectors

§ 19.4 The floor leader appoints his party's official objectors for the Private and Consent Calendars.⁽¹⁷⁾

Correction of Roll Call

§ 19.5 The floor leader, acting on behalf of a Member, may

15. See § 9.3, supra, for further discussion of the proceedings.

16. 117 CONG. REC. 1711, 92d Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 4, 1971.

17. See § 20.1, infra.

ask for correction of a roll call.

Parliamentarian's Note: The floor leader, acting on behalf of Members of his party, may ask that corrections be made with respect to roll calls so that the Record and Journal accurately reflect the votes, or presence or absence, of Members. Thus, the Journal of the 88th Congress⁽¹⁸⁾ reflects the following correction:

ROLL CALL CORRECTIONS

On motion of Mr. Albert, on behalf of Mr. Holland, by unanimous consent,

Ordered, That roll call No. 55 be corrected to show Mr. Holland present and answering to his name.

Objection to Unanimous-Consent Request

§ 19.6 Where the Minority Leader did not hear the unanimous consent request, the order of the House entered pursuant thereto was vacated; the request was again made, and the Minority Leader, having been requested to do so, made objection to the request.

On May 18, 1965,⁽¹⁹⁾ the following proceedings took place:

18. H. Jour. 455, 88th Cong. 1st Sess. (1963).

19. 111 CONG. REC. 10871, 89th Cong. 1st Sess.

MR. [HAROLD T.] JOHNSON of California: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Public Works have permission to sit during general debate this afternoon.

THE SPEAKER:⁽²⁰⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

MR. GERALD R. FORD [of Michigan]: Mr. Speaker, I have not been able to hear some of these requests. I have been told indirectly that a request was just made and permission was granted for the Committee on Public Works to meet this afternoon. I had talked with the majority leader and indicated we had some people who were in opposition to it. I did not hear the request, and I am a little disappointed that it was not made so that I could hear it.

THE SPEAKER: Without objection, the order concerning permission for the Committee on Public Works to sit this afternoon will be vacated.

There was no objection.

MR. JOHNSON of California: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Public Works have permission to sit during general debate this afternoon.

THE SPEAKER: Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

MR. GERALD R. FORD: Mr. Speaker, I have been requested to make an objection, and I do make it.

Resolution Assigning Members to Committees

§ 19.7 The Republican floor leader introduces resolutions

20. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

assigning members of his party to standing committees of the House.

As a matter of long-standing practice, the Republican⁽¹⁾ floor leader introduces the resolution assigning members of his party to standing committees of the House. In the 91st Congress,⁽²⁾ for example, the resolution was introduced by Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford, of Michigan.

Resolutions such as the following,⁽³⁾ relating to the committee assignment of an individual Republican Member, have been offered by the Republican floor leader, in this case Majority Leader Charles A. Halleck, of Indiana:

MR. HALLECK: Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution (H. Res. 62), as follows:

Resolved, That Walter H. Judd, of Minnesota, be, and he is hereby, elected a member of the standing committee of the House of Representatives on Expenditures in the Executive Departments and to rank No. 3 thereon.

1. The resolution assigning Democratic Members to House committees is usually introduced by the Chairman of the Democratic Committee on Committees. See Ch. 17, *infra*.
2. 115 CONG. REC. 2084, 2085, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 29, 1969.
3. 93 CONG. REC. 536, 80th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 23, 1947.

Parliamentarian's Note: In the 91st Congress, a resolution electing both Democratic and Republican Members to the newly created Committee on Internal Security was presented to the House by the Chairman of the Democratic Committee on Committees after consultation with, and with the approval of, the Minority Leader.⁽⁴⁾

Amendment to Resolution

§ 19.8 The Republican floor leader asked unanimous consent to vacate the proceedings wherein the House had agreed to the resolution electing minority members to standing committees, and offered an amendment changing the order of certain names in the resolution.

The following proceedings took place in the 91st Congress:⁽⁵⁾

MR. GERALD R. FORD [of Michigan]: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to vacate the proceedings whereby the House agreed to House Resolution 176 on January 29, and ask for its immediate consideration with an amendment which I send to the desk.

THE SPEAKER:⁽⁶⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

4. See § 11.1, *supra*. The resolution appears at 115 CONG. REC. 3747, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 18, 1969.
5. 115 CONG. REC. 2433, 2434, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 3, 1969.
6. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows: . . .

Amendment offered by Mr. Gerald R. Ford: On page 7, lines 5 and 6, strike out "E. Ross Adair, Indiana; William H. Ayres, Ohio;" and insert: "William H. Ayres, Ohio; E. Ross Adair, Indiana;"

MR. FORD: Mr. Speaker, my amendment, which has just been read by the Clerk, will correct the seniority standing of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Ayres) on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

The amendment was agreed to.

Resolution Relating to Composition of Committee

§ 19.9 A resolution adding three memberships to the Committee on Government Operations, two to be assigned to the majority and one to the minority, was offered by the Majority Leader, pursuant to agreement between the leadership of both parties.

The following proceedings took place on Jan. 14, 1965:⁽⁷⁾

MR. [CARL] ALBERT [of Oklahoma]: Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution, House Resolution 114, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

7. 111 CONG. REC. 660, 661, 89th Cong. 1st Sess.

H. RES. 114

Resolved, That during the Eighty-ninth Congress, the Committee on Government Operations shall be composed of thirty-four members.

MR. GERALD R. FORD [of Michigan]: Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

MR. ALBERT: I yield to the gentleman.

MR. FORD: Would the gentleman from Oklahoma indicate the distribution of the three additional Members?

MR. ALBERT: This is an addition of three memberships to the Committee on Government Operations, two of which will be assigned to the majority and one of which will be assigned to the minority.

This is a matter which has been worked out, as a few other matters have been, between the leadership on both sides for the convenience of the House.

§ 20. Appointments

The floor leaders designate members of their respective parties to serve as official objectors for the Private and Consent Calendars. The names of the persons so designated are announced in the House by the floor leaders soon after a new Congress convenes.⁽⁸⁾

8. See the illustrative announcements as to the appointment of official objectors' committees in §§ 15.1, 15.3, *supra*. For general discussion of the composition and functions of the offi-

The Democratic floor leader with the approval of the Speaker appoints the Democratic Whip, and makes an announcement in the House respecting such appointment.⁽⁹⁾

Appointment of Official Objectors

§ 20.1 The floor leader appoints his party's official objectors for the Private and Consent Calendars, and announces in the House the names of those persons so appointed.

Thus, in the 91st Congress, announcements respecting the appointment of official objectors for the Private and Consent Calendars were made by Carl Albert, of Oklahoma, the Majority Leader, and Gerald R. Ford, of Michigan, the Minority Leader.⁽¹⁰⁾

cial objectors' committees, see §§ 15.1–15.5, *supra*.

9. § 20.3, *infra*. The Republican whip is selected by the conference (see § 23.3, *infra*). For general discussion of the party whips, see §§ 23–25, *infra*.

10. 115 CONG. REC. 3721, 91st Cong. 1st Sess. Feb. 18, 1969. Substantially similar announcements are made in every Congress. See, for example, 105 CONG. REC. 2580, 86th Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 18, 1959. See also the examples cited in §§ 15.1 and 15.3, *supra*.