

H. RES. 1339

Resolved, That a revised edition of the Rules and Manual of the House of Representatives for the Ninety-second Congress be printed as a House document, and that 1,600 additional copies shall be printed and bound for the use of the House of Representatives, of which 700 copies shall be bound in leather with thumb index and delivered as may be directed by the Parliamentarian of the House for distribution to officers and Members of Congress.

§ 2. Jefferson's Manual

Jefferson's Manual was prepared by Thomas Jefferson for his own guidance as President of the Senate in the years of his Vice Presidency, from 1797 to 1801. In 1837, the House, by rule which still exists, provided that the provisions of the Manual should govern the proceedings of the House to the extent specified in the rule. The present rule⁽⁶⁾ states:

The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in Jefferson's Manual and the provisions of the Legislative Reor-

adopted in other Congresses. See, as examples, 114 CONG. REC. 31313, 90th Cong. 2d Sess., Oct. 14, 1968; 104 CONG. REC. 19699, 85th Cong. 2d Sess., Aug. 23, 1958; and 94 CONG. REC. 5746, 80th Cong. 2d Sess., May 12, 1948.

6. Rule XLII, *House Rules and Manual* §938 (1973).

ganization Act of 1946, as amended, shall govern the House in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the standing rules and orders of the House and joint rules of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The extent to which particular provisions of Jefferson's Manual are applicable to present-day procedures in the House is indicated in the notes thereto, including the citations of precedents, accompanying the text as printed in the *House Rules and Manual*.

In addition to being traditionally incorporated in some degree in the House rules, Jefferson's Manual serves as part of the basis of the general parliamentary law that governs the House prior to adoption of the rules.⁽⁷⁾

§ 3. Background Information—Power of New House to Adopt Rules

With respect to the importance of adopting rules of procedure in legislative bodies, Jefferson stated in his Manual:⁽⁸⁾

And whether these forms be in all cases the most rational or not is really not of so great importance. It is much more material that there should be a

7. See § 3, *infra*.

8. *House Rules and Manual* §285 (1973).