SEC. 17. The Secretary of the Senate shall, subject to the approval of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, contract with the Secretary of Education to provide closed captioning of the Senate floor proceedings. The Senate authorizes the Secretary of Education to have access to the audio and video broadcast of the Senate floor proceedings for the purpose of captioning. Such funds as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section are authorized to be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate. [S. Res. 13, 101–1, June 21, 1989.]

Resolved, That, notwithstanding any other provision of S. Res. 28, agreed to February 27, 1986, television coverage of the Senate shall resume July 21, 1986 under the same basis as provided during the live test period under section 5 of S. Res. 28 unless the Senate votes pursuant to section 15 of S. Res. 28 to end coverage. [S. Res. 444, 99–2, July 15, 1986.]

READING OF CONFERENCE REPORTS

SEC. 903. Beginning on the first day of the 107th Congress, the Presiding Officer of the Senate shall apply all of the precedents of the Senate under Rule XXVIII in effect at the conclusion of the 103d Congress. Further that there is now in effect a Standing order of the Senate that the reading of conference reports is no longer required, if the said conference report is available in the Senate. [Pub. L. 106–554, Div. A, ch. 9, § 903, Dec. 21, 2000.]

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORITY

Resolved, That for the purpose of obtaining and laying factual data and information before the Senate Committee on Appropriations, or any subcommittee thereof, for its consideration in the discharge of its functions, the chairman or acting chairman of said committee is hereby authorized and directed, within the limit of funds made available by resolutions of the Senate, to appoint and employ such experts as he may deem necessary to obtain such data and information, and such experts, upon the written authority of the chairman or acting chairman, shall have the right to examine the books, documents, papers, reports, or other records of any department, agency, or establishment of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; be it further

Resolved, That the said committee through its chairman is hereby authorized, within the limit of funds made avail-