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able by resolutions of the Senate, to appoint additional clerical help and assistants.

[S. Res. 193, 78–1, Oct. 14, 1943; S. Res. 281, 96–2, Mar. 11, 1980.]

76 CONSULTANTS FOR THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Resolved, That within the limit of funds appropriated for expenses of inquiries and investigations for the Committee on Appropriations, the committee may expend such sums as it deems appropriate and necessary for the procurement of the services of individual consultants or organizations. Such services in the case of individuals or organizations may be procured by contract as independent contractors, or in the case of individuals by employment at daily rates of compensation not in excess of the per diem equivalent of the highest gross rate of compensation which may be paid to a regular employee of the committee. Such contracts may be made in the same manner and subject to the same conditions with respect to advertising as required of other standing committees of the Senate under section 202(i)(2) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended.

[S. Res. 140, 94–1, May 14, 1975.]

77 SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Resolved, That (a) there is hereby established a permanent select committee of the Senate to be known as the Select Committee on Ethics (referred to hereinafter as the "Select Committee") consisting of six Members of the Senate, of whom three shall be selected from members of the majority party and three shall be selected from members of the minority party. Members thereof shall be appointed by the Senate in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of rule XXIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate at the beginning of each Congress. The Select Committee shall select a chairman or a vice chairman from among its members. For purposes of paragraph 4[1] of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member or chairman of the Select Committee shall not be taken into account.

(b) Vacancies in the membership of the Select Committee shall not affect the authority of the remaining members to execute the functions of the committee, and shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments thereto are made.

[1] Changed from "paragraph 6" as a result of the adoption of S. Res. 274, 96–1, Nov. 14, 1979.

(c)(1) A majority of the members of the Select Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business involving complaints and allegations of misconduct, including the consideration of matters involving sworn complaints, unsworn allegations or information, resultant preliminary inquiries, initial reviews, investigations, hearings, recommendations or reports, and matters relating to S. Res. 400, agreed to May 19, 1976.

(2) Three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the routine business of the Select Committee not covered by the first paragraph of this subparagraph, including requests for opinions and interpretations concerning the Code of Official Conduct or any other statute or regulation under the jurisdiction of the Select Committee, if one member of the quorum is a member of the majority party and one member of the quorum is a member of the minority party. During the transaction of routine business any member of the Select Committee constituting the quorum shall have the right to postpone further discussion of a pending matter until such time as a majority of the members of the Select Committee are present.

(3) The Select Committee may fix a lesser number as a quorum for the purpose of taking sworn testimony.

(d) (Repealed by S. Res. 271, 96–1, Oct. 31, 1979.)

(e)(1) A member of the Select Committee shall be ineligible to participate in any initial review or investigation relating to his own conduct, the conduct of any officer or employee he supervises, or the conduct of any employee of any officer he supervises, or relating to any complaint filed by him, and the determinations and recommendations of the Select Committee with respect thereto. For purposes of this subparagraph, a Member of the Select Committee and an officer of the Senate shall be deemed to supervise any officer or employee consistent with the provision of paragraph 11 of rule XXXVII [1] of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(2) A member of the Select Committee may, at his discretion, disqualify himself from participating in any initial review or investigation pending before the Select Committee and the determinations and recommendations of the Select Committee with respect thereto. Notice of such disquali-

[1] Changed from "paragraph 12 of rule XLV" as a result of the adoption of S. Res. 274, 96–1, Nov. 14, 1979; further changed from "paragraph 11 of rule XLV" as a result of the adoption of S. Res. 389, 96–2, Mar. 25, 1980.

fication shall be given in writing to the President of the Senate.

(3) Whenever any member of the Select Committee is ineligible under paragraph (1) to participate in any initial review or investigation or disqualifies himself under paragraph (2) from participating in any initial review or investigation, another Member of the Senate shall, subject to the provisions of subsection (d), be appointed to serve as a member of the Select Committee solely for purposes of such initial review or investigation and the determinations and recommendations of the Select Committee with respect thereto. Any Member of the Senate appointed for such purposes shall be of the same party as the Member who is ineligible or disqualifies himself.

SEC. 2. (a) It shall be the duty of the Select Committee to—

(1) receive complaints and investigate allegations of improper conduct which may reflect upon the Senate, violations of law, violations of the Senate Code of Official Conduct, and violations of rules and regulations of the Senate, relating to the conduct of individuals in the performance of their duties as Members of the Senate, or as officers or employees of the Senate, and to make appropriate findings of fact and conclusions with respect thereto;

(2) recommend to the Senate by report or resolution by a majority vote of the full committee disciplinary action (including, but not limited to, in the case of a Member: censure, expulsion, or recommendation to the appropriate party conference regarding such Member's seniority or positions of responsibility; and, in the case of an officer or employee: suspension or dismissal) to be taken with respect to such violations which the Select Committee shall determine, after according to the individuals concerned due notice and opportunity for hearing, to have occurred;

(3) recommend to the Senate, by report or resolution, such additional rules or regulations as the Select Committee shall determine to be necessary or desirable to insure proper standards of conduct by Members of the Senate, and by officers or employees of the Senate, in the performance of their duties and the discharge of their responsibilities; and

(4) report violations by a majority vote of the full committee of any law to the proper Federal and State authorities.

(b)(1) Each sworn complaint filed with the Select Committee shall be in writing, shall be in such form as the Select Committee may prescribe by regulation, and shall be under oath.

(2) For purposes of this section, "sworn complaint" means a statement of facts within the personal knowledge of the complainant alleging a violation of law, the Senate Code of Official Conduct, or any other rule or regulation of the Senate relating to the conduct of individuals in the performance of their duties as Members, officers, or employees of the Senate.

(3) Any person who knowingly and willfully swears falsely to a sworn complaint does so under penalty of perjury, and the Select Committee may refer any such case to the Attorney General for prosecution.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "investigation" is a proceeding undertaken by the Select Committee after a finding, on the basis of an initial review, that there is substantial credible evidence which provides substantial cause for the Select Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Select Committee has occurred.

(c)(1) No investigation of conduct of a Member or officer of the Senate, and no report, resolution, or recommendation relating thereto, may be made unless approved by the affirmative recorded vote of not less than four members of the Select Committee.

(2) No other resolution, report, recommendation, interpretative ruling, or advisory opinion may be made without an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Select Committee voting.

(d)(1) When the Select Committee receives a sworn complaint against a Member or officer of the Senate, it shall promptly conduct an initial review of that complaint. The initial review shall be of duration and scope necessary to determine whether there is substantial credible evidence which provides substantial cause for the Select Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Select Committee has occurred.

(2) If as a result of an initial review under paragraph (1), the Select Committee determines by a recorded vote that there is not such substantial credible evidence, the

Select Committee shall report such determination to the complainant and to the party charged, together with an explanation of the basis of such determination.

(3) If as a result of an initial review under paragraph (1), the Select Committee determines that a violation is inadvertent, technical, or otherwise of a de minimis nature, the Select Committee may attempt to correct or prevent such a violation by informal methods.

(4) If as the result of an initial review under paragraph (1), the Select Committee determines that there is such substantial credible evidence but that the violation, if proven, is neither of a de minimis nature nor sufficiently serious to justify any of the penalties expressly referred to in subsection (a)(2), the Select Committee may propose a remedy it deems appropriate. If the matter is thereby resolved, a summary of the Select Committee's conclusions and the remedy proposed shall be filed as a public record with the Secretary of the Senate and a notice of such filing shall be printed in the Congressional Record.

(5) If as the result of an initial review under paragraph (1), the Select Committee determines that there is such substantial credible evidence, the Select Committee shall promptly conduct an investigation if (A) the violation, if proven, would be sufficiently serious, in the judgment of the Select Committee, to warrant imposition of one or more of the penalties expressly referred to in subsection (a)(2), or (B) the violation, if proven, is less serious, but was not resolved pursuant to paragraph (4) above. Upon the conclusion of such investigation, the Select Committee shall report to the Senate, as soon as practicable, the results of such investigation together with its recommendations (if any) pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

(6) Upon the conclusion of any other investigation respecting the conduct of a Member or officer undertaken by the Select Committee, the Select Committee shall report to the Senate, as soon as practicable, the results of such investigation together with its recommendations (if any) pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

(e) When the Select Committee receives a sworn complaint against an employee of the Senate, it shall consider the complaint according to procedures it deems appropriate. If the Select Committee determines that the complaint is without substantial merit, it shall notify the com-

plainant and the accused of its determination, together with an explanation of the basis of such determination.

(f) The Select Committee may, in its discretion, employ hearing examiners to hear testimony and make findings of fact and/or recommendations to the Select Committee concerning the disposition of complaints.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no initial review or investigation shall be made of any alleged violation of any law, the Senate Code of Official Conduct, rule, or regulation which was not in effect at the time the alleged violation occurred. No provision of the Senate Code of Official Conduct shall apply to or require disclosure of any act, relationship, or transaction which occurred prior to the effective date of the applicable provision of the Code. The Select Committee may conduct an initial review or investigation of any alleged violation of a rule or law which was in effect prior to the enactment of the Senate Code of Official Conduct if the alleged violation occurred while such rule or law was in effect and the violation was not a matter resolved on the merits by the predecessor Select Committee.

(h) The Select Committee shall adopt written rules setting forth procedures to be used in conducting investigations of complaints.

(i) The Select Committee from time to time shall transmit to the Senate its recommendation as to any legislative measures which it may consider to be necessary for the effective discharge of its duties.

SEC. 3. (a) The Select Committee is authorized to (1) make such expenditures; (2) hold such hearings; (3) sit and act at such times and places during the sessions, recesses, and adjournment periods of the Senate; (4) require by subpena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such correspondence, books, papers, and documents; (5) administer such oaths; (6) take such testimony orally or by deposition; (7) employ and fix the compensation of a staff director, a counsel, an assistant counsel, one or more investigators, one or more hearing examiners, and such technical, clerical, and other assistants and consultants as it deems advisable; and (8) to procure the temporary services (not in excess of one year) or intermittent services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, by contract as independent contractors or, in the case of individuals, by employment at daily rates of com-

pensation not in excess of the per diem equivalent of the highest rate of compensation which may be paid to a regular employee of the Select Committee.

(b)(1) The Select Committee is authorized to retain and compensate counsel not employed by the Senate (or by any department or agency of the executive branch of the Government) whenever the Select Committee determines that the retention of outside counsel is necessary or appropriate for any action regarding any complaint or allegation, which, in the determination of the Select Committee is more appropriately conducted by counsel not employed by the Government of the United States as a regular employee.

(2) Any investigation conducted under section 2 shall be conducted by outside counsel as authorized in paragraph (1), unless the Select Committee determines not to use outside counsel.

(c) With the prior consent of the department or agency concerned, the Select Committee may (1) utilize the services, information, and facilities of any such department or agency of the Government, and (2) employ on a reimbursable basis or otherwise the services of such personnel of any such department or agency as it deems advisable. With the consent of any other committee of the Senate, or any subcommittee thereof, the Select Committee may utilize the facilities and the services of the staff of such other committee or subcommittee whenever the chairman of the Select Committee determines that such action is necessary and appropriate.

(d) Subpenas may be issued (1) by the Select Committee or (2) by the chairman and vice chairman, acting jointly. Any such subpena shall be signed by the chairman or the vice chairman and may be served by any person designated by such chairman or vice chairman. The chairman of the Select Committee or any member thereof may administer oaths to witnesses.

(e)(1) The Select Committee shall prescribe and publish such regulations as it feels are necessary to implement the Senate Code of Official Conduct.

(2) The Select Committee is authorized to issue interpretative rulings explaining and clarifying the application of any law, the Code of Official Conduct, or any rule or regulation of the Senate within its jurisdiction.

(3) The Select Committee shall render an advisory opinion, in writing within a reasonable time, in response to a written request by a Member or officer of the Senate or a candidate for nomination for election, or election to the Senate, concerning the application of any law, the Senate Code of Official Conduct, or any rule or regulation of the Senate within its jurisdiction to a specific factual situation pertinent to the conduct or proposed conduct of the person seeking the advisory opinion.

(4) The Select Committee may in its discretion render an advisory opinion in writing within a reasonable time in response to a written request by any employee of the Senate concerning the application of any law, the Senate Code of Official Conduct, or any rule or regulation of the Senate within its jurisdiction to a specific factual situation pertinent to the conduct or proposed conduct of the person seeking the advisory opinion.

(5) Notwithstanding any provision of the Senate Code of Official Conduct or any rule or regulation of the Senate, any person who relies upon any provision or finding of an advisory opinion in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) and who acts in good faith in accordance with the provisions and findings of such advisory opinion shall not, as a result of any such act, be subject to any sanction by the Senate.

(6) Any advisory opinion rendered by the Select Committee under paragraphs (3) and (4) may be relied upon by (A) any person involved in the specific transaction or activity with respect to which such advisory opinion is rendered: *Provided, however,* That the request for such advisory opinion included a complete and accurate statement of the specific factual situation; and (B) any person involved in any specific transaction or activity which is indistinguishable in all its material aspects from the transaction or activity with respect to which such advisory opinion is rendered.

(7) Any advisory opinion issued in response to a request under paragraph (3) or (4) shall be printed in the Congressional Record with appropriate deletions to assure the privacy of the individual concerned. The Select Committee shall to the extent practicable, before rendering an advisory opinion, provide any interested party with an opportunity to transmit written comments to the Select Committee with respect to the request for such advisory opinion. The advi-

sory opinions issued by the Select Committee shall be compiled, indexed, reproduced, and made available on a periodic basis.

(8) A brief description of a waiver granted under section 102(a)(2)(B) of Title I of Ethics in Government Act of 1978 [1] or paragraph 1 of rule XXXV [2] of the Standing Rules of the Senate shall be made available upon request in the Select Committee office with appropriate deletions to assure the privacy of the individual concerned.

SEC. 4. The expenses of the Select Committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the Select Committee.

SEC. 5. As used in this resolution, the term "officer or employee of the Senate" means—

(1) an elected officer of the Senate who is not a Member of the Senate;

(2) an employee of the Senate, any committee or subcommittee of the Senate, or any Member of the Senate;

(3) the Legislative Counsel of the Senate or any employee of his office;

(4) an Official Reporter of Debates of the Senate and any person employed by the Official Reporters of Debates of the Senate in connection with the performance of their official duties;

(5) a member of the Capitol Police force whose compensation is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate;

(6) an employee of the Vice President if such employee's compensation is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate;

(7) an employee of a joint committee of the Congress whose compensation is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

[S. Res. 338, 88–2, July 24, 1964; S. Res. 368, 93–2, July 25, 1974; S. Res. 4, 95–1, Feb. 4, 1977; S. Res. 110, 95–1, Apr. 1, 1977; S. Res. 230, 95–1, July 25, 1977; S. Res. 312, 95–1, Nov. 1, 1977; S. Res. 271, 96–1, Oct. 31, 1979; S. Res. 78, 97–1, Feb. 24, 1981.]

78 SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS—ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Resolved, That the Senate assigns responsibility for administering the reporting requirements of Title I of the

[1] Changed from "paragraph 2(c), of rule XLII" as a result of the adoption of S. Res. 220, 96–1, Aug. 3, 1979.

[2] Changed from "paragraph 1 of rule XLIII" as a result of the adoption of S. Res. 389, 96–2, Mar. 25, 1980.