

(d) Trip Reports

(1) Generally. A full report of all issues discussed during any Committee travel shall be submitted to the Chief Clerk of the Committee within a reasonable period of time following the completion of such trip.

(2) Availability of Reports. Such report shall be:

(A) available for the review of any Member or Committee Staff; and

(B) considered executive session material for purposes of these rules.

(e) Limitations on Travel

(1) Generally. The Chairman is not authorized to permit travel on Committee business of Committee Staff who have not satisfied the requirements of subsection (d) of this rule.

(2) Exception. The Chairman may authorize Committee Staff to travel on Committee business, notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (d) and (e) of this rule—

(A) at the specific request of a Member of the Committee; or

(B) in the event there are circumstances beyond the control of the Committee Staff hindering compliance with such requirements.

(f) Definitions

For purposes of this rule the term "reasonable period of time" means:

(1) no later than 60 days after returning from a foreign trip; and

(2) no later than 30 days after returning from a domestic trip.

17. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

(a) Generally

The Committee shall immediately consider whether disciplinary action shall be taken in the case of any member of the Committee Staff alleged to have failed to conform to any Rule of the House of Representatives or to these rules.

(b) Exception

In the event the House of Representatives is:

(1) in a recess period in excess of 3 days; or

(2) has adjourned sine die; the Chairman on the full Committee, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may take such immediate disciplinary actions deemed necessary.

(c) Available Actions

Such disciplinary action may include immediate dismissal from the Committee Staff.

(d) Notice to Members

All Members shall be notified as soon as practicable, either by facsimile transmission or regular mail, of any disciplinary action taken by the Chairman pursuant to subsection (b).

(e) Reconsideration of Chairman's Actions

A majority of the Members of the full Committee may vote to overturn the decision of the Chairman to take disciplinary action pursuant to subsection (b).

18. BROADCASTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Whenever any hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee is open to the public, a majority of the Committee may permit that hearing or meeting to be covered, in whole or in part, by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, subject to the provisions and in accordance with the spirit of the purposes enumerated in the Rules of the House.

19. COMMITTEE RECORDS TRANSFERRED TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

(a) Generally

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration

shall be made available for public use in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) Notice of withholding

The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the full Committee for a determination of the question of public availability on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

20. CHANGES IN RULES

(a) Generally

These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by vote of the full Committee.

(b) Notice of Proposed Changes

A notice, in writing, of the proposed change shall be given to each Member at least 48 hours prior to any meeting at which action on the proposed rule change is to be taken.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in the women's caucus to add my strong support to the struggle against domestic violence.

It is important for all Americans to understand we are all impacted by this violence, even if we are not directly victims. Domestic violence undermines the very foundation of our American society, the family. And it undermines our quality of life of all of us because in one way or another our society pays the price, through the increased homelessness, substance abuse, dependence on welfare, juvenile delinquency, and lower productivity in our workplaces that often results from domestic violence.

These negative effects are documented by research which shows that domestic violence dramatically affects a woman's ability to work and support herself and her children. This often forces her to rely on welfare, or even worse, to return to her batterer for financial support.

To help stop this cycle of violence, I will once again introduce the Battered Women's Employment Protection Act, which will help abused women retain their jobs and the financial independence necessary to escape a violent environment.

This act achieves these goals by allowing employed victims of domestic violence, without penalty, access to reasonable time off from work in order to seek legal and medical assistance, make necessary court appearances, and attend to personal security.

Further, to ensure that battered women can remain financially independent, it requires states to provide unemployment benefits to women who are forced to leave their work as a result of domestic violence.

For women attempting to escape abuse, these safeguards are often a matter of life and death. Our society cannot afford to ignore this crisis of violence in so many of our families. Nor can we afford to continue paying the price of its ultimate consequences. I will continue to fight in the 107th Congress to get these provi-

sions enacted into law, and I hope my colleagues and all Americans will join me.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Sunday marks the 180th anniversary of the revolution that earned the independence of the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. Nearly 400 years ago, after the fall of Constantinople, Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the Greek flag at Agia Lavras, sparking a powerful revolution against the Ottoman oppressors.

Citing the values and priorities that led to the establishment of our own country here in the United States, the Greek commander chief, Petros Mavromichalis, once proclaimed that "in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you . . . it is for you, citizens of America, to crown this glory."

Following the triumphs of 1821, Greece continued to prove itself as a loyal ally of the United States and an internationally recognized advocate of democracy. Greece is one of only three nations in the world beyond those of the former British Empire to be allied with the United States in every major international conflict of the 20th century.

From the trenches of World War I to the barren fields of Desert Storm, Greece remains faithful to the implementation and sustenance of democracy. Most recently in the Balkans, Greece has played a steady hand of democracy in the face of regional unrest and instability.

Mr. Speaker, we depend on Greece more than ever today. As conflict spreads in the neighboring former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece's role as a stable democracy and key NATO ally becomes more important. All eyes now turn to young leaders in the Mediterranean like Greece's Foreign Minister Papandreou to advise us on the path of peace.

A path to peace. Would that we could have one in Cyprus, divided by a cold war barrier that is as ugly as it is outdated.

We look with hope at the new Bush administration and their role in bringing together the leaders from Ankara, Nicosia, Athens to find peace.

Greece is a special jewel of beauty in the Mediterranean from the ecology of Patmos to the vibrant Rembetiko of the Plaka.

I want to wish a hearty congratulations to the Greek people and pay special regards to one of the leading Greek-Americans of northern Illinois, State Senator Adeline Geo-Karis of Zion, who is one of our true leaders. I