

peated calls to order (Jefferson's Manual, see *House Rules and Manual* § 366 [1973]).

No criticism of the Senate (Jefferson's Manual, see *House Rules and Manual* § 372 [1973]), nor personal abuse, innuendo or ridicule of the President (Jefferson's Manual, see *House Rules and Manual* § 370 [1973]).

Punishment by House of a Member for things of which the House has cognizance (Jefferson's Manual, see *House Rules and Manual* §§ 303 et seq. [1973]).

§ 5. Abuse of Mailing or Franking Privileges

The House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards provides guidance and assistance on the use of franking privileges by Members. The commission is authorized to prescribe regulations governing the proper use of the franking privilege.⁽¹⁾

Complaints respecting alleged misuse of the franking provisions in title 39 of the United States Code⁽²⁾ are considered by the commission for the Members, and its

1. 2 USC §§ 501 et seq., Pub. L. No. 93-191, 87 Stat. 742 (1973), Pub. L. No. 93-255, 88 Stat. 52 (1974).

The Select Committee on Standards and Conduct of the Senate performs the same function for the Senate (2 USC § 502).

2. 39 USC §§ 3210-3213(2), 3215, 3218, 3219.

decisions on facts are final. If the commission finds that a serious and willful violation has occurred or is about to occur, it refers the matter to the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.⁽³⁾

§ 6. Absences From the House; Indebtedness

Congress has enacted statutes (a) directing the Sergeant at Arms of the House to deduct from the monthly payment to a Member the amount of his salary for each day that he has been absent from the House unless such Member assigns as the reason for such absence the illness of himself or of some member of his family;⁽⁴⁾ (b) directing the deduction from the salary of a Member for each day that he withdraws without leave from his seat;⁽⁵⁾ (c) directing the deduction by the Sergeant at Arms from any salary or expense money due a Member for his delinquent indebtedness to the House.⁽⁶⁾

If an employee of the House becomes indebted to the House or to the trust fund account in the of-

3. 2 USC § 501(e).

4. 2 USC § 39 (1856).

5. 2 USC § 40 (1862).

6. 2 USC § 40a (1934).