

## RULE XII

### RECEIPT AND REFERRAL OF MEASURES AND MATTERS

#### *Messages*

1. Messages received from the Senate, or from  
§ 815. Entry of the President, shall be entered on  
messages in the the Journal and published in the  
Journal and Record. the Congressional Record of the pro-  
ceedings of that day.

This provision was adopted in 1867 and amended in 1880 (V, 6593). It was renumbered January 3, 1953 (p. 24). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former rule XXXIX (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

The House may receive a message from the Senate when the Senate is not in session (VIII, 3338).

#### *Referral*

2. (a) The Speaker shall refer each bill, resolu-  
§ 816. Referral tion, or other matter that relates to  
procedures. a subject listed under a standing  
committee named in clause 1 of rule X in accord-  
ance with the provisions of this clause.

(b) The Speaker shall refer matters under paragraph (a) in such manner as to ensure to the maximum extent feasible that each committee that has jurisdiction under clause 1 of rule X over the subject matter of a provision thereof may consider such provision and report to the House thereon. Precedents, rulings, or procedures in effect before the Ninety-Fourth Congress shall be applied to referrals under this clause only to the extent that they will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this clause.

(c) In carrying out paragraphs (a) and (b) with respect to the referral of a matter, the Speaker—

(1) shall designate a committee of primary jurisdiction;

(2) may refer the matter to one or more additional committees for consideration in sequence, either initially or after the matter has been reported by the committee of primary jurisdiction;

(3) may refer portions of the matter reflecting different subjects and jurisdictions to one or more additional committees;

(4) may refer the matter to a special, ad hoc committee appointed by the Speaker with the approval of the House, and including members of the committees of jurisdiction, for the specific purpose of considering that matter and reporting to the House thereon;

(5) may subject a referral to appropriate time limitations; and

(6) may make such other provision as may be considered appropriate.

This provision became effective as part of the rules on January 3, 1975 (H. Res. 988, 93d Cong., Oct. 8, 1974, p. 34470). Prior to that time a bill or resolution could not be divided for reference among two or more committees, although it contained matter properly within the jurisdiction of several committees (IV, 4361). Paragraph (c) was amended on January 4, 1977 (H. Res. 5, pp. 53–70) to authorize the Speaker to place an appropriate time limit for consideration by the first committee or committees to which referred. In the 104th Congress paragraph (c) was again amended to require the Speaker to initially designate a committee of primary jurisdiction in each referral of a measure to more than one committee (sec. 205, H. Res. 6, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 467). A paragraph (e) was added to the clause on January 4, 1977 (H. Res. 5, pp. 53–70) to abolish the legislative jurisdiction in the House of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. The legislative jurisdiction of the Joint Committee was divided among the Committees

on Armed Services (military applications of nuclear energy), Interior and Insular Affairs (now Resources) (regulation of the domestic nuclear energy industry, since transferred to the Committee on Commerce in the 104th Congress), Foreign Affairs (now International Relations) (nonproliferation of nuclear energy and international nuclear export agreements), Interstate and Foreign Commerce (now Commerce) (the same jurisdiction over nuclear energy as exercised over other energy), and Science and Technology (now Science) (nondefense nuclear research and development). In addition, the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (now Commerce) was given oversight jurisdiction over all laws, programs, and government activities affecting nuclear energy. Paragraph (e) was deleted entirely in the 97th Congress (H. Res. 5, Jan. 5, 1981, p. 98). At the same time the House deleted former paragraph (d) which formerly required the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress to prepare factual descriptions of each bill or resolution introduced in the House to be published in the Congressional Record. Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 5 of rule X (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

An order of the House that no organizational or legislative business be conducted on certain days (first by provision of a concurrent resolution, but extended by unanimous consent) was considered not to deprive Members of the privilege of introducing bills and resolutions during pro forma sessions on those days, such measures being numbered on the day introduced but not noted in the Record or referred to committee until the day on which business was resumed (H. Con. Res. 260, 102d Cong., Nov. 26, 1991, p. 35840; see Jan. 22, 1992, p. 149, and Jan. 28, 1992, p. 745).

Pursuant to his authority under this clause, subject to paragraph (c), the Speaker may refer a bill to a special ad hoc committee appointed by him with the approval of the House (from the members of the committees with legislative jurisdiction) for consideration and report on that particular bill (Speaker Albert, Apr. 22, 1975, p. 11261); may jointly refer a report of a select committee filed with the Clerk to standing committees of the House for their study (Speaker Albert, Feb. 16, 1976, p. 3158); may divide a communication or bill for reference where the proposition is divisible by jurisdiction (Feb. 4, 1975, p. 2253; Apr. 26, 1999, p. —); may refer a bill to more than one committee for their respective consideration of such provisions of the bill as fall within their jurisdiction (Speaker Albert, Feb. 25, 1976, p. 4315); may sequentially refer a bill reported from a committee to other committees for a time certain for consideration of such portions of the bill as fall within their respective jurisdictions (Speaker Albert, Apr. 9, 1976, p. 10265; May 17, 1976, p. 14093); or may limit a sequential referral to matters having a direct effect on subjects within the committee's jurisdiction (Speaker O'Neill, June 7, 1983, p. 14699); and may extend the time period of a sequentially referred bill and may refer the bill to yet another committee under the same sequential referral conditions (Speaker Albert, June 1, 1976, p. 16588); may divide a matter for

initial reference to committees and set appropriate time limitations (pursuant to the clause as amended in the 95th Congress) on the initial reference to each committee (Speaker O'Neill, Feb. 16, 1977, p. 4532); may sequentially refer a bill reported by one committee, with a committee amendment, to another committee for consideration of the bill and amendment of the previous committee (Speaker O'Neill, Oct. 13, 1977, p. 33716); may sequentially refer to a third committee a portion of an amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by one of two committees to which the bill had been referred, after the second committee reports the bill (Speaker O'Neill, May 22, 1985, p. 13126); may refer sequentially to two committees only a portion of the amendment reported by the primary committee for consideration of such provisions within that portion as fall within their respective jurisdictions (Speaker Wright, Sept. 9, 1987, p. 23648); may discharge a reported bill from the Union Calendar for sequential reference to another committee (Speaker O'Neill, Apr. 27, 1978, p. 11742; June 19, 1986, p. 14741; June 12, 1990, p. 13670); may discharge a committee from further consideration of a bill not reported by it within the time period for which the bill was referred by the Speaker and place the bill on the appropriate calendar (May 8, 1978, p. 12924); may jointly refer designated portions of a bill to a second committee while referring the entire bill to another committee (Speaker O'Neill, Mar. 3, 1982, p. 3155); may delimit the period for sequential consideration of a bill in terms of legislative days (June 30, 1988, p. 16597); may sequentially refer a bill without day (Sept. 27, 1988, p. 25827); may sequentially refer a bill back to the first-reporting committee when it is reported from the second-reporting committee with a nongermane amendment within the jurisdiction of the first committee and not within the bounds of the initial referral (Oct. 4, 1988, p. 28242); and may refer a bill primarily to one committee (as now required by paragraph (c)) while also referring it initially to additional committees for time periods to be subsequently determined when the primary committee reports, in each case for consideration of matters within their respective jurisdictions (Speaker Gingrich, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 123). A bill initially referred to more than one committee and reported by the primary committee with an amendment in the nature of a substitute may be sequentially referred to yet another committee for consideration of specified portions of the introduced bill (Sept. 12, 1995, p. 24791).

The Speaker announced a new application of his authority on sequential referrals in the 97th Congress, namely that the sequential referral of any bills or resolutions from a committee initially reporting a bill would be based upon the subject matter contained in any amendment recommended by the reporting committee, as well as upon the original text of the bill or resolution (Speaker O'Neill, Jan. 5, 1981, pp. 115, 116), or, as announced in the 100th Congress, in certain cases, based only upon the text of a reported substitute amendment in lieu of original text (Speaker Wright, Jan. 6, 1987, p. 22). The Speaker also may base a sequential referral only on the text of the bill as introduced (where the amendment recommended

by the primary committee would delete portions of the bill within the jurisdiction of the sequential committee) (Speaker Hastert, May 10, 1999, p. —). In the 96th Congress, the Speaker had followed a more restrictive policy, permitting a sequential committee to review (1) those portions of introduced text within its jurisdiction and (2) those portions of an amendment within its jurisdiction when the introduced version also dictated a sequential referral to the committee (Speaker O'Neill, Apr. 15, 1980, p. 7760). The Speaker first exercised the authority to base referrals on committee amendments by sequentially referring a bill reported from the Committee on Public Works and Transportation (now Transportation and Infrastructure), relating only to Corps of Engineers water projects as introduced but amended in committee to address general water resource policy affecting irrigation and reclamation projects and soil conservation programs, to the Committees on Agriculture and Interior and Insular Affairs (now Resources) for consideration of provisions of the committee amendment within their jurisdiction (Speaker O'Neill, May 20, 1981, p. 10361). Thus the Speaker may sequentially refer a reported bill to another committee solely for consideration of provisions of the first committee's amendment within its jurisdiction and not for consideration of the entire bill (Apr. 5, 1982, p. 6580), may sequentially refer a reported bill to two other committees for different periods of time, solely for consideration of designated sections of the first committee's recommended amendment (May 18, 1982, p. 10418; Aug. 1, 1985, p. 22681), may discharge from the Union Calendar and sequentially refer to another committee a bill solely for consideration of designated portions of the first committee's amendment (May 21, 1982, p. 11169), and may sequentially refer a bill which has been initially referred to several committees but reported only by one, for consideration of the reporting committee's amendment (June 17, 1982, p. 14069; Sept. 5, 1990, p. 23477), and may sequentially refer a bill referred to more than one committee when the first committee reports, for a period ending a number of days after the next committee reports (Speaker O'Neill, Aug. 1, 1985, p. 22681), or after all committees report (June 10, 1988, p. 14079).

On the last day of an expiring sequential referral, a committee has until midnight to file its report with the Clerk (Oct. 9, 1991, p. 26045).

Before paragraph (c) was amended in the 104th Congress to require the Speaker to designate a committee of primary jurisdiction, the Speaker announced at the convening of the 98th Congress that he would exercise his authority, in situations which warranted it, to designate a primary committee among those to which a bill was jointly referred, and to impose time limits on committees having a secondary interest following the report of the primary committee under a joint referral (Speaker O'Neill, Jan. 3, 1983, p. 54; Jan. 5, 1993, p. 105). The Speaker may exercise this authority by referring a bill concurrently to two committees, with a time limit on one of the committees ending within a certain period after the other committee reports to the House (Jan. 27, 1983, p. 937; Feb. 2, 1983, p. 1492; Apr. 9, 1987, p. 8665) or with a time limit on one committee ending with

a date certain (Speaker O'Neill, July 31, 1985, p. 21936). In the 98th Congress, the Speaker exercised his authority under this clause to sequentially refer a joint resolution making continuing appropriations, reported as privileged by the Committee on Appropriations, to the committee having legislative jurisdiction over a legislative provision in the resolution, without a time limitation on the sequential referral (H.J. Res. 367, Sept. 22, 1983, p. 25523).

Pursuant to the Speaker's authority under clause 2 of rule XIV (former clause 2 of rule XXIV), relating to messages from the Senate, he has discretionary authority to refer from the Speaker's table to standing committees, Senate amendments to House-passed bills, under any conditions permitted under this provision for introduced bills; he may for example impose a time limitation for consideration only of a portion of the Senate amendment, not germane to the original House bill, by the standing committee with subject-matter jurisdiction, without referring the remainder of the Senate amendment to the House committee with jurisdiction over the original House bill (Speaker O'Neill, H.R. 31, Mar. 26, 1981, p. 5397). Beginning with the 98th Congress, the Speaker announced a policy of referring non-germane Senate amendments under certain conditions (Jan. 3, 1983, p. 54; Jan. 5, 1993, p. 105).

Resolutions authorizing the Speaker to establish an ad hoc committee for the consideration of a particular bill under paragraph (c) of this clause, and extending the reporting date for such a committee, are privileged when offered from the floor at the Speaker's request (Speaker Albert, Apr. 22, 1975, p. 11261; Jan. 26, 1976, p. 876; Speaker O'Neill, Jan. 11, 1977, pp. 894–98; Apr. 21, 1977, pp. 11550–56).

The Speaker may refer to an ad hoc committee, established with the approval of the House, bills, resolutions, and other matters (including messages and communications) for the purpose of considering such matters and reporting to the House thereon, and the resolution creating such a committee may specify whether referrals to such a committee shall be by initial or sequential reference or by any of the other methods provided by this clause (H. Res. 508, Apr. 21, 1977, pp. 11550–56; Speaker O'Neill, July 11, 1977, p. 22183; July 20, 1977, p. 24167). Further, under paragraph (c), the Speaker may divide a bill into two or more parts for initial reference to different committees and may also jointly refer a portion of the bill to some of those committees, and may set appropriate time limitations for reporting by every standing committee to which the bill is initially referred (Speaker O'Neill, May 2, 1977, p. 13184).

Clause 7 provides the mechanism for changes of referrals erroneously made.

(d) A bill for the payment or adjudication of a private claim against the Government may not be referred to a committee other than the Committee on International Relations or the Committee on the Judiciary, except by unanimous consent.

§ 817. Restriction on the reference of claims.

The present form of this paragraph was made effective January 2, 1947, as a part of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 812). It was amended several times to conform references to renamed committees (H. Res. 163, Mar. 19, 1975, p. 7343; H. Res. 89, Feb. 5, 1979, p. 1848; sec. 202(b), H. Res. 6, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 467). The old rule, adopted in 1885 and amended May 29, 1936, provided that private claims bills be referred to a Committee on Invalid Pensions, Claims, War Claims, Public Lands, and Accounts, in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs (now International Relations) and the Judiciary. Certain private bills, resolutions and amendments are barred (see § 822, *infra*). Under this paragraph unanimous consent is required for the reference of a bill for the payment of a private claim to a committee other than the Committee on the Judiciary or the Committee on International Relations (May 4, 1978, p. 12615). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 4 of rule XXI (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

### ***Petitions, memorials, and private bills***

3. If a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner has a petition, memorial, or private bill to present, he shall endorse his name, deliver it to the Clerk, and may specify the reference or disposition to be made thereof. Such petition, memorial, or private bill (except when judged by the Speaker to be obscene or insulting) shall be entered on the Journal with the name of the Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner presenting it and shall be printed in the Congressional Record.

§ 818. Introduction and reference of petitions, memorials, and private bills.

At the first organization of the House in 1789 the rules then adopted provided for the presentation of petitions to the House by the Speaker and Members, and for the introduction of bills by motion for leave. In

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

§ 819–§ 822

Rule XII, clause 4

1842 it was found necessary, in order to save time, to provide that petitions and memorials should be filed with the Clerk. In 1870, 1879, and 1887 the practice as to petitions was extended to private bills, at first as to certain classes and later so that all should be filed with the Clerk (IV, 3312, 3365; VII, 1024). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 1 of rule XXII (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

Petitions, memorials, and other papers addressed to the House may be presented by the Speaker as well as by a Member (IV, 3312). Petitions from the country at large are presented by the Speaker in the manner prescribed by the rule (III, 2030; IV, 3318; VII, 1025). A Member may present a petition from the people of a State other than his own (IV, 3315, 3316). The House itself may refer one portion of a petition to one committee and another portion to another committee (IV, 3359, 3360), but ordinarily the reference of a petition does not come before the House itself. A committee may receive a petition only through the House (IV, 4557).

The parliamentary law provides that the House may commit a portion of a bill, or a part to one committee and part to another (V, 5558), yet under the practice of the House until January 3, 1975, a bill or joint resolution could not be divided for reference, although it might contain matters properly within the jurisdiction of several committees (IV, 4372, 4376). On that date, the Speaker was given authority over referral of bills as prescribed in clause 2 of this rule (former clause 5 of rule X).

The fraudulent introduction of a bill involves a question of privilege, and a bill so introduced was ordered stricken from the files (IV, 3388). As the result of the unauthorized introduction of several bills without the knowledge of the Members listed as sponsors, the Speaker directed that all bills and resolutions must be signed by the prime sponsor thereof in order to be accepted for introduction (Speaker Albert, Feb. 3, 1972, p. 2521).

4. A private bill or private resolution (including an omnibus claim or pension bill), or amendment thereto, may not be received or considered in the House if it authorizes or directs—

§ 822. Certain private bills prohibited.

(a) the payment of money for property damages, for personal injuries or death for which suit may be instituted under the Tort Claims Procedure provided in title 28, United States



Code, or for a pension (other than to carry out a provision of law or treaty stipulation);

(b) the construction of a bridge across a navigable stream; or

(c) the correction of a military or naval record.

This paragraph derives from section 131 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 812) and was made a part of the standing rules January 3, 1953 (p. 24). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 2(a) of rule XXII (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —). The prohibition relating to correction of a military record does not apply to a private bill that changes the computation of retired pay for a former member of the armed services (after exhaustion of administrative remedies) but does not directly correct his military record (Sept. 18, 1984, p. 25824).

### ***Prohibition on commemorations***

5. (a) A bill or resolution, or an amendment thereto, may not be introduced or considered in the House if it establishes or expresses a commemoration.

§ 823.  
Commemoratives  
prohibited.

(b) In this clause the term “commemoration” means a remembrance, celebration, or recognition for any purpose through the designation of a specified period of time.

The 104th Congress added the prohibition against commemorative legislation and directed the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight (now Government Reform) to consider alternative means for establishing commemorations, including the creation of an independent or executive branch commission for such purpose, and to report to the House any recommendations thereon (sec. 216, H. Res. 6, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 468). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 2(b) of rule XXII (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

***Excluded matters***

6. A petition, memorial, bill, or resolution excluded under this rule shall be returned to the Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner from whom it was received. A petition or private bill that has been inappropriately referred may, by direction of the committee having possession of it, be properly referred in the manner originally presented. An erroneous reference of a petition or private bill under this clause does not confer jurisdiction on a committee to consider or report it.

§ 824. Correction of errors in reference; and relation to jurisdiction.

This clause of the rule was first adopted in 1880, although the portion relating to the return of certain petitions and bills was adapted from an older rule of 1842 (IV, 3312, 3365). In the 104th Congress it was amended to conform to the new prohibition against commemorative legislation (sec. 216, H. Res. 6, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 468). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 3 of rule XXII (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

Errors in reference of petitions, memorials, or private bills are corrected at the Clerk's table, without action by the House, at the suggestion of the committee holding possession (IV, 4379). As provided in the rule, the erroneous reference of a private House bill does not confer jurisdiction, and a point of order is good when the bill comes up for consideration either in the House or in the Committee of the Whole (IV, 4382–4389). But in cases wherein the House itself refers a private House or Senate bill a point of order may not be raised as to jurisdiction (IV, 4390, 4391; VII, 2131). The Speaker may correct the erroneous referral of a bill as private by referring it to the appropriate (Union) calendar as a public bill when reported (June 1, 1988, p. 13184).

***Sponsorship***

7. (a) All other bills, memorials, petitions, and resolutions, endorsed with the names of Members, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner introducing them, may be delivered to

§ 825. Introduction, reference, and change of reference of public bills, memorials, and resolutions.

the Speaker to be referred. The titles and references of all bills, memorials, petitions, resolutions, and other documents referred under this rule shall be entered on the Journal and printed in the Congressional Record. An erroneous reference may be corrected by the House in accordance with rule X on any day immediately after the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by unanimous consent or motion. Such a motion shall be privileged if offered by direction of a committee to which the bill has been erroneously referred or by direction of a committee claiming jurisdiction and shall be decided without debate.

(b)(1) The primary sponsor of a public bill or public resolution may name cosponsors. The name of a cosponsor added after the initial printing of a bill or resolution shall appear in the next printing of the bill or resolution on the written request of the primary sponsor. Such a request may be submitted to the Speaker at any time until the last committee authorized to consider and report the bill or resolution reports it to the House or is discharged from its consideration.

(2) The name of a cosponsor of a bill or resolution may be deleted by unanimous consent. The Speaker may entertain such a request only by the Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner whose name is to be deleted or by the primary sponsor of the bill or resolution, and only until the last committee authorized to consider and report the bill or resolution reports it to the House or is discharged from its consideration.

The Speaker may not entertain a request to delete the name of the primary sponsor of a bill or resolution. A deletion shall be indicated by date in the next printing of the bill or resolution.

(3) The addition or deletion of the name of a cosponsor of a bill or resolution shall be entered on the Journal and printed in the Congressional Record of that day.

(4) A bill or resolution shall be reprinted on the written request of the primary sponsor. Such a request may be submitted to the Speaker only when 20 or more cosponsors have been added since the last printing of the bill or resolution.

The rule of 1789 provided that all bills should be introduced on report of a committee or by motion for leave. By various modifications it was first provided that all classes of private bills should be introduced by filing them with the Clerk, and in 1890 this system was by this rule extended to all public bills (IV, 3365). In the 105th Congress paragraph (a) was amended to effect a technical correction (H. Res. 5, Jan. 7, 1997, p. —). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former clause 4 of rule XXII (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

At its organization for the 106th Congress the House resolved that the first 10 bill numbers be reserved for assignment by the Speaker during a specified period (sec. 2(g), H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —).

The motion for a change of reference and subsidiary motions take precedence over motions to go into the Committee of the Whole for the consideration of appropriation bills and the consideration of conference reports (VII, 2124), and may not be debated (VII, 2126–2128). But the motion is not in order on Calendar Wednesday (VII, 2117), and is not privileged under the rule if the original reference was not erroneous (VII, 2125). The motion may be amended, but the amendment, like the original motion, is subject to the requirement that it be authorized by the committee (VII, 2127). The motion must apply to a single bill and not to a class of bills (VII, 2125).

According to the later practice the erroneous reference of a public bill, if it remain uncorrected, in effect gives jurisdiction to the committee receiving it (IV, 4365–4371; VII, 1489, 2108–2113; VIII, 2312). And it is too late to move a change of reference after such committee has reported the bill (VII, 2110; VIII, 2312), but the Speaker may, pursuant to authority granted him by clause 2 (former clause 5 of rule X) effective January 3,

1975 (H. Res. 988, 93d Cong., Oct. 8, 1974, p. 34470), refer a bill sequentially to other committees. All bills and resolutions must be signed by the primary sponsor thereof (Speaker Albert, Feb. 3, 1972, p. 2521).

Joint sponsorship of public bills by not more than 25 Members was authorized in the 90th Congress (H. Res. 42, Apr. 25, 1967, p. 10712). Prior thereto a special committee had reported against this practice and the report had been adopted by the House (VII, 1029). Effective January 3, 1979 (H. Res. 86, 95th Cong., Oct. 10, 1978, p. 34929), paragraph (b) was added to allow unlimited co-sponsorship and to provide a mechanism for Members to add their names as co-sponsors to bills or resolutions which have already been introduced, up until the bill is finally reported from committee, and on January 15, 1979, the Speaker announced his directive for the processing of lists of co-sponsors pursuant to the new clause (Speaker O'Neill, Jan. 15, 1979, p. 19).

Although, prior to the 106th Congress, paragraph (b)(2) only permitted a co-sponsoring Member himself to request unanimous consent for his deletion as a co-sponsor, the primary sponsor of a measure was permitted to request unanimous consent to delete the name of a co-sponsor he had inadvertently or erroneously listed (Feb. 9, 1982, p. —). This practice was codified in the 106th Congress (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —). Unanimous-consent requests to delete Members' names as co-sponsors are not entertained after the last committee authorized to consider the bill has reported to the House (Oct. 8, 1985, p. 26668), and the Speaker has vacated unanimous-consent orders of the House to delete co-sponsors when advised that the bill had already been reported (Aug. 5, 1987, p. 22458). A Member may request unanimous consent that his name be deleted as a co-sponsor of an unreported bill during its consideration under suspension of the rules and prior to a final vote thereon (June 9, 1986, p. 12979).

By unanimous consent a Member may add his own name as a co-sponsor of an unreported bill where the primary sponsor is no longer a Member of the House (Aug. 4, 1983, p. 23188), and a designated Member may be authorized to sign and submit lists of additional co-sponsors where the actual primary sponsor is no longer a Member (June 23, 1989, p. 13271), but the Chair will not otherwise entertain a request to add co-sponsors by a Member other than the primary sponsor, whether to include only himself (Mar. 5, 1991, p. 5026; Oct. 25, 1995, p. 29352) to include all Members (Dec. 18, 1985, p. 37765), or to include a specified additional sponsor (Jan. 28, 1985, p. 1141; May 23, 1985, p. 13421). Such requests by a primary sponsor are made through the hopper not later than the last day on which any committee is authorized to consider and report the measure to the House (Nov. 4, 1997, p. —).

An order of the House that no organizational or legislative business be conducted on certain days (first by provision of a concurrent resolution, but extended by unanimous consent) was considered not to deprive Members of the privilege of introducing bills and resolutions during pro forma sessions on those days, such measures being numbered on the day intro-

duced but not noted in the Record or referred to committee until the day on which business was resumed (H. Con. Res. 260, 102d Cong., Nov. 26, 1991, p. 35840; Jan. 22 and 28, 1992, pp. 149, 745).

At its organization for the 104th Congress the House resolved that each of the first 20 bills and each of the first two joint resolutions introduced in the House in that Congress could have more than one Member reflected as a primary sponsor (sec. 223(g), H. Res. 6, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 469); and the Speaker stated that all signatures of “primary” sponsors would be required on the bills (Speaker Gingrich, Jan. 4, 1995, p. 551). A Member was subsequently added as a “primary” sponsor by unanimous consent (Jan. 18, 1995, p. 1447).

(5) When a bill or resolution is introduced “by request,” those words shall be entered on the Journal and printed in the Congressional Record.

§ 826. Introduction of bills, resolutions, or memorials by request.

This provision was adopted in 1888 (IV, 3366). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, it was found in former clause 6 of rule XXII (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —). It has never been the practice of the House to permit the names of the persons requesting the introduction of the bill to be printed in the Record.

***Executive communications***

8. Estimates of appropriations and all other communications from the executive departments intended for the consideration of any committees of the House shall be addressed to the Speaker for referral as provided in clause 2 of rule XIV.

§ 827. Reception and reference of executive communications, including estimates.

This rule was adopted in 1867 and amended in 1880 (V, 6593). It was renumbered January 3, 1953 (p. 24). Before the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was found in former rule XL (H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —). Formerly estimates of appropriations were transmitted through the Secretary of the Treasury (IV, 3573–3576, 4045), but under the Budget Act they are transmitted by the President.