
JOINT AND SELECT COMMITTEES
HOUSE OFFICES
EARLY ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE

JOINT AND SELECT COMMITTEES

JOINT COMMITTEES

The Joint Economic Committee is composed of 10 Members of the Senate and 10 Members of the House. The 10 House Members and 10 Senate Members are appointed by the Speaker: Six from the majority and four from the minority (15 U.S.C. 1024(a)). The 10 Senate Members are appointed by the President of the Senate: Five from the majority and five from the minority (for the duration of the 107th Congress so long as the majority and minority have equal representation) (P.L. 107-3). The committee conducts a continuing study of matters relating to the Economic Report made by the President and studies means of promoting the national policy on employment as outlined in the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1021). The committee is required to file, not later than March 1 of each year, a report with the Senate and the House containing its findings and recommendations on each of the main recommendations made by the President in the Economic Report. It is authorized to hold hearings and make other reports to the Congress and to issue a monthly publication on economic conditions (15 U.S.C. 1024-1025). The Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978 (sec. 302, P.L. 95-523) requires the joint committee to review and analyze the short-term and medium-term goals set forth in the Economic Report and to hold hearings on the Report to hear testimony from Members of Congress and other groups. Within 30 days after receipt of the Report by the Congress, standing committees with legislative jurisdiction and joint committees may submit reports to the joint committee with views and recommendations on matters within their jurisdiction. On or before each March 15, a majority of the members of the joint committee are required to submit a report to the Senate and House Budget Committees, including findings, recommendations, and appropriate analyses with respect to each of the short-term and medium-term goals set forth in the Economic Report.

The Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation is composed of five Members of the Senate and five Members of the House. The House Members, three from the majority and two from the minority, are chosen by the Committee on Ways and Means from the membership of that committee. The joint committee investigates the operation and effects of the Federal system of internal revenue taxation. It is authorized to hold hear-

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ings at times and places it deems advisable, has subpoena powers, and reports to the Committee on Ways and Means, and, in its discretion, directly to the House (26 U.S.C. 8001–8023).

The Joint Committee of Congress on the Library is composed of five Members of the Senate and five Members of the House.

§ 1110. Joint Committee of Congress on the Library. The chairman of the Committee on House Administration is a member and four other members of that committee are elected by the House. (2 U.S.C. 132b).

The House elects four members of the Committee on House Administration to serve with the chairman of that committee on the Joint Committee on Printing, together with the chairman and four other members of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration (44 U.S.C. 101).

§ 1111. Joint Committee on Printing.

The committee adopts and employs measures necessary to remedy inefficiencies or waste in the public printing, binding, and distribution of Government publications. It has control of the arrangement and style of the Congressional Record (44 U.S.C. 901–910). The joint committee is directed to provide for printing in the Record the legislative program for the day, together with a list of congressional committee meetings and hearings and the place of meeting and subject matter; and to cause a brief resume of congressional activities for the previous day to be incorporated in the Record, together with an index of its contents. Such data is prepared under the supervision of the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, respectively.

The Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies is established by concurrent resolution in the second session of the Congress occurring before a Presidential inauguration and reestablished at the beginning of the next Congress. It is composed of three Members of both the Senate and the House. The three House Members are appointed by the Speaker and are traditionally the Speaker, the Majority Leader, and the Minority Leader. The committee is authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect. (see, *e.g.*, S. Con. Res. 47, 104th Cong., Aug. 2, 1996, p. 21405; S. Con. Res. 2, 105th Cong., Jan. 7, 1997, p. —; S. Con. Res. 89, 106th Cong., Mar. 14, 2000, p. —; S. Con. Res. 2, 107th Cong., Jan. 3, 2001, p. —).

§ 1112. Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

SELECT COMMITTEES

The 103d Congress, and each succeeding Congress, did not reestablish Select Committees on Hunger, on Children, Youth, and Families, on Narcotics Abuse and Control, or on Aging (formerly established in standing rule X). However, the

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Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has been reestablished by the adoption of clause 11 of rule X each Congress.

In the 105th Congress a new subparagraph (3) was added at the end of former clause 4(e) of rule X to establish a Select Committee on Ethics only to resolve an inquiry originally undertaken by the standing Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in the 104th Congress (H. Res. 5, Jan. 7, 1997, p. —). The Select Committee filed one report to the House (H. Rept. 105-1, H. Res. 31, Jan. 21, 1997, p. —).

In the 105th Congress the House adopted a resolution establishing the Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns With the People's Republic of China (H. Res. 463, June 18, 1998, p. —). In the 106th Congress the Select Committee was reestablished until April 1, 1999, solely for the purpose of completing activities directly associated with the declassification and public release of its report (sec. 2, H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —). It was extended for the same purposes to April 30, 1999 (H. Res. 129, Mar. 24, 1999, p. —), to May 14, 1999 (H. Res. 153, Apr. 29, 1999, p. —), and to May 31, 1999 (H. Res. 170, May 13, 1999, p. —). The House gave the select committee the authority to dispose of its records consistent with the rules and laws concerning classified information (sec. 2(f)(3), H. Res. 5, Jan. 6, 1999, p. —). Pursuant to that authority the Select Committee transferred its records to the Clerk and instructed the Clerk to grant access to those records only with the approval of the chairman and ranking minority member of the former Select Committee (so long as each remains a Member) and, thereafter, with the approval of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

For a history of select committees in the House, see *House Practice*, p. 238.