

**Hon. Andy Biggs (AZ)**

116<sup>th</sup> Congress Rules Proposals

1. For bills being considered on the floor without a committee markup, a 2/3 majority is required for passage (same as suspension threshold).

2. Prohibit waiving of the three-day rule.

**Rule XXI, Restrictions on Certain Bills, 11, states:** It shall not be in order to consider a bill or joint resolution which has not been reported by a committee until the third calendar day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day) on which such measure has been available to Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner.

**Rule XIII, Calendars and Committee Reports, Availability of reports, 4.(a)(1) states:** Except as specified in subparagraph (2), it shall not be in order to consider in the House a measure or matter reported by a committee until the third calendar day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day) on which each report of a committee on that measure or matter has been available to Members, Delegates, the Resident Commission.

3. Change referral to committees –

- a. Limit number of committees to which a bill can be referred to 4; and
- b. Once the primary committee has held a markup on a bill, remaining committees with jurisdiction have 30 days to waive jurisdiction of the bill or further markup sections within their jurisdiction.

**Rule XII, Receipt and Referral of Measures and Matters, Referral, 2.**

**(b) states:** The Speaker shall refer matters under paragraph (a) in such manner as to ensure 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.

**(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 (except where the Speaker determines that extraordinary circumstances justify review by more than one committee as though primary);

(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.

[443] “Before the 94<sup>th</sup> Congress, a bill could not be divided among two or more committees, even though it might have contained matters properly within the jurisdiction of several committees (IV, 4372). The Committee Reform Amendments of 1974 added former clause 5 of rule X (current clause 2 of rule XII), permitting the Speaker to refer any matter to more than one committee. That provision was amended in the 104<sup>th</sup> Congress to require the Speaker to designate a primary committee among those to which a matter is initially referred. However, the provision was amended again in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress to permit the Speaker to refrain from designating a primary committee in extraordinary circumstances.

4. Change the rule on availability of bill text for committee markup from 24 to 48 hours.

**Open Meetings and Hearings, (g)(4) states:** At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an announcement under subparagraph (3)(B) made within 24 hours before such meeting, the chair of the committee shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly available in electronic form.