

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 162

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to provide for the consideration in each Congress of a congressional reform resolution, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to provide for the consideration in each Congress of a congressional reform resolution, and for other purposes.

1 *Resolved*, That clause 4 of rule X of the Rules of the
2 House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end
3 the following new paragraph:

4 “(j)(1) During each Congress, the Committee on
5 Rules shall consider submitting to the House a bill or reso-
6 lution to improve the functioning of the legislative branch.
7 To obtain this objective, this bill or resolution may change
8 the rules of the House of Representatives and its organiza-
9 tion, operations, and procedures (such as committee juris-

1 ditions, floor procedures, scheduling of committee activi-
2 ties and hearings, referral of legislation, staffing, and bi-
3 cameral relations), the congressional budget process, and
4 relations between Congress and the executive branch. If
5 the Committee on Rules does not submit such a bill or
6 resolution during a Congress, then it shall include in the
7 report referred to in subparagraph (3) for that Congress
8 an explanation of why such a bill or resolution was not
9 needed.

10 “(2) During general debate in the House on a bill
11 making appropriations for the legislative branch and pur-
12 suant to specific time set aside for that purpose, members
13 of the Committee on Rules and members of other commit-
14 tees with jurisdiction over the organization, operations,
15 procedures, and structure of the legislative branch shall
16 be given time to conduct a general discussion of the func-
17 tioning of the legislative branch, including House proc-
18 esses and procedures, with a view toward identifying prob-
19 lem areas and suggesting improvements.

20 “(3) To facilitate implementation of subparagraphs
21 (1) and (2), and to provide continuing review and analysis
22 of the standing rules and other legislative branch proce-
23 dures, statutes, and operations related directly or indi-
24 rectly thereto, in its report submitted under clause 1(d)
25 of rule XI, the Committee on Rules shall (after consulta-

1 tion with the Committees on Appropriations, Government
2 Reform and Oversight, and House Oversight) include a
3 separate and clearly identified section on the organization,
4 operations, procedures, and workload of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives during the Congress ending at noon on Janu-
6 ary 3 of the year that report is required to be filed. The
7 report should address such issues as the effectiveness of
8 floor procedures, the committee system, oversight, and use
9 of staff resources, the need for budget process reform, and
10 the effectiveness of the application of the requirements of
11 certain laws to Congress.”.

