

1 **SEC. 4. COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND HOUSE OFFICES.**

2 (a) HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP.—House Res-
3 olution 24, One Hundred Tenth Congress, shall apply in
4 the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress in the same manner
5 as such resolution applied in the One Hundred Tenth Con-
6 gress except that the commission concerned shall be
7 known as the House Democracy Partnership.

8 (b) TOM LANTOS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.—
9 Sections 1 through 7 of House Resolution 1451, One Hun-
10 dred Tenth Congress, shall apply in the One Hundred Fif-
11 teenth Congress in the same manner as such provisions
12 applied in the One Hundred Tenth Congress, except
13 that—

14 (1) the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission
15 may, in addition to collaborating closely with other
16 professional staff members of the Committee on
17 Foreign Affairs, collaborate closely with professional
18 staff members of other relevant committees; and

19 (2) the resources of the Committee on Foreign
20 Affairs which the Commission may use shall include
21 all resources which the Committee is authorized to
22 obtain from other offices of the House of Represent-
23 atives.

24 (c) OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS.—

25 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of House Resolu-
26 tion 895, One Hundred Tenth Congress, shall apply

1 in the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress in the same
2 manner as such provision applied in the One Hun-
3 dred Tenth Congress, except as follows:

4 (A) The Office of Congressional Ethics
5 (hereafter referred to as the “Office”) shall be
6 designated the “Office of Congressional Com-
7 plaint Review”, and each reference to the Office
8 of Congressional Ethics in such Resolution shall
9 be deemed to be a reference to the Office of
10 Congressional Complaint Review.

11 (B) The Office shall be subject to oversight
12 by the Committee on Ethics.

13 (C) The Office shall be treated as a stand-
14 ing committee of the House for purposes of sec-
15 tion 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization
16 Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)).

17 (D) References to the Committee on
18 Standards of Official Conduct shall be con-
19 strued as references to the Committee on Eth-
20 ics.

21 (E) Any requirement for concurrence in
22 paragraph (1) of section 1(b) shall be construed
23 as a requirement for consultation.

24 (F) The second sentence of subparagraph
25 (A) of section 1(b)(6) shall not apply.

1 (G) Members subject to subparagraph (B)
2 of section 1(b)(6) may be reappointed for a
3 third additional term.

4 (H) The board of the Office may not take
5 any steps to undertake a preliminary review
6 under section subparagraph (A) of section
7 1(e)(1) with respect to an alleged violation, in-
8 cluding requesting information or other mate-
9 rials or interviewing witnesses (other than re-
10 viewing publicly available information), until the
11 board has received a joint written request de-
12 scribed in such section with respect to the al-
13 leged violation.

14 (I) Subparagraph (B) of section 1(e)(1)
15 shall apply as if the reference to “30 calendar
16 days” were a reference to “60 calendar days”.

17 (J) Subparagraph (C) of section 1(e)(1)
18 shall apply as if the last sentence read as fol-
19 lows: “If the board votes to terminate the pre-
20 liminary review, it shall send a termination re-
21 port to the Committee on Ethics and to the in-
22 dividual who was the subject of the review.”.

23 (K) Clause (i) of section 1(e)(2)(A) shall
24 apply as if the reference to “45 calendar days”

1 were a reference to “60 calendar days”, and
2 clause (ii) of section 1(c)(2)(A) shall not apply.

3 (L) If the board of the Office votes to
4 make a recommendation under subparagraph
5 (B) of section 1(c)(2) that a matter which is
6 the subject of a second-phase review requires
7 further review by the Committee on Ethics, the
8 board shall transmit its recommendation to the
9 Committee under such subparagraph not later
10 than 7 calendar days after the vote.

11 (M) Subclause (III) of section 1(c)(2)(C)(i)
12 shall apply as if the reference to “any sup-
13 porting documentation” were a reference to “all
14 materials related to any matter referred to the
15 Committee on Ethics by the Board in carrying
16 out the second-phase review, including, but not
17 limited to, requests for information, transcripts,
18 documentation and other materials, and any
19 other relevant material”.

20 (N) Pursuant to its authority under sec-
21 tion 1(c)(2)(F), the board of the Office shall
22 adopt a rule that prohibits the board from ac-
23 cepting or considering any anonymous allega-
24 tion.

1 (O) Paragraph (1) of section 1(d) shall
2 apply as if the first sentence read as follows:
3 “Notwithstanding any other provision of this
4 section, upon receipt of a written request from
5 the Committee on Standards of Official Con-
6 duct that the board cease its review of any mat-
7 ter and refer such matter to the Committee, the
8 board shall refer such matter immediately to
9 the Committee and cease its preliminary or sec-
10 ond-phase review, as applicable, of that matter,
11 and so notify any individual who is the subject
12 of the review.”.

13 (P) Paragraph (2) of section 1(d) shall
14 apply as if the reference to “the board shall im-
15 mediately begin or continue, as the case may
16 be, a second-phase review of the matter” were
17 a reference to “the board shall immediately
18 cease any investigation of the matter, and shall
19 notify the individual who is the subject of the
20 review accordingly”.

21 (Q) In addition to the limitations on review
22 described in section 1(e), the board of the Of-
23 fice may not undertake a review of any alleged
24 violation that occurred before the One Hundred
25 Twelfth Congress.

1 (R) Nothing in section 1(f) may be con-
2 strued to authorize the board of the Office to
3 make any public statement, or release any in-
4 formation or other material to the public or any
5 other entity, unless such statement or informa-
6 tion has already been released by the Com-
7 mittee on Ethics or the release of such state-
8 ment or information has been authorized by the
9 Committee on Ethics.

10 (S) The board of the Office is not author-
11 ized to employ any person for a position involv-
12 ing communications with the public, including a
13 communications director or press spokesperson.

14 (T) If at any time the board of the Office
15 discovers information indicating that a matter
16 which is the subject of a review by the board
17 may involve a violation of a criminal law, the
18 Board will immediately refer the matter to the
19 Committee on Ethics for further review or (if
20 determined appropriate by the Committee on
21 Ethics) referral to an appropriate law enforce-
22 ment agency. Nothing in the previous sentence
23 may be construed to authorize the Board to
24 refer any matter directly to any law enforce-
25 ment agency.

1 (U) The board of the Office shall include
2 in its rules provisions to protect the due process
3 rights of individuals who are the subject of a
4 preliminary review or second-phase review by
5 the board, and of witnesses, including informing
6 such individuals and witnesses of the right to be
7 represented by counsel and ensuring that the
8 invocation of that right will not be held nega-
9 tively against them.

10 (V) The Office may not take any action
11 that would deny any person any right or protec-
12 tion provided under the Constitution of the
13 United States.

14 (2) CONFORMING REFERENCES IN RULES.—
15 During the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, any
16 reference in the Rules of the House of Representa-
17 tives to the Office of Congressional Ethics shall be
18 deemed to be a reference to the Office of Congres-
19 sional Complaint Review.

20 **SEC. 5. ORDERS OF BUSINESS.**

21 (a) The Speaker may recognize a Member for the
22 reading of the Constitution on any legislative day through
23 January 13, 2017.

24 (b) Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in
25 order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 21) to amend

1 chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for
2 en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for
3 “midnight rules”, and for other purposes. All points of
4 order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill
5 shall be considered as read. All points of order against
6 provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question
7 shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any
8 amendment thereto to final passage without intervening
9 motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and
10 controlled by the Majority Leader and the Minority Lead-
11 er or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to re-
12 commit.