

**TITLE 2 - THE CONGRESS**  
**CHAPTER 2 - ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS**

**§ 29a. Early organization of House of Representatives**

**(a) Caucus or conference for incumbent Members reelected to and Members-elect of ensuing Congress; time and procedure for calling**

(1) The majority leader or minority leader of the House of Representatives after consultation with the Speaker may at any time during any even-numbered year call a caucus or conference of all incumbent Members of his or her political party who have been reelected to the ensuing Congress and all other Members-elect of such party, for the purpose of taking all steps necessary to achieve the prompt organization of the Members and Members-elect of such party for the ensuing Congress.

(2) If the majority leader or minority leader calls an organizational caucus or conference under paragraph (1), he or she shall file with the Clerk of the House a written notice designating the date upon which the caucus or conference is to convene. As soon as possible after the election of Members to the ensuing Congress, the Clerk shall furnish each Member-elect of the party involved with appropriate written notification of the caucus or conference.

(3) If a vacancy occurs in the office of majority leader or minority leader during any even-numbered year (and has not been filled), the chairman of the caucus or conference of the party involved for the current Congress may call an organizational caucus or conference under paragraph (1) by filing written notice thereof as provided by paragraph (2).

**(b) Payment and reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses for Members attending caucus or conference; exceptions; regulations governing payments and reimbursements; reimbursement vouchers**

(1) (A) Each Member-elect (other than an incumbent Member reelected to the ensuing Congress) who attends a caucus or conference called under subsection (a) of this section, and each incumbent Member reelected to the ensuing Congress who attends any such caucus or conference convening after the adjournment sine die of the Congress in the year involved, shall be paid for one round trip between his or her place of residence in the district which he or she represents and Washington, District of Columbia, for the purpose of attending such caucus or conference. Payment shall be made through the issuance of a transportation request form to each such Member-elect or incumbent Member by the Finance Office of the House before such caucus or conference.

(B) Each Member-elect (other than an incumbent Member reelected to the ensuing Congress) who attends a caucus or conference called under subsection (a) of this section shall in addition be reimbursed on a per diem or other basis for expenses incurred in connection with his or her attendance at such caucus or conference.

(2) Payments and reimbursements to Members-elect under paragraph (1) shall be made as provided (with respect to Members) in the regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Oversight with respect to travel and other expenses of committees and Members. Reimbursements shall be paid on special voucher forms prescribed by the Committee on House Oversight.

**(c) Availability of applicable accounts of House**

The applicable accounts of the House of Representatives are made available to carry out the purposes of this section.

**(d) Orientation programs for new Members**

With the approval of the majority leader (in the case of a Member or Member-elect of the majority party) or the minority leader (in the case of a Member or Member-elect of the minority party), subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall apply with respect to the attendance of a Member or Member-elect at a

program conducted by the Committee on House Administration for the orientation of new members<sup>1</sup> in the same manner as such provisions apply to the attendance of the Member or Member-elect at the organizational caucus or conference.

### **Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be capitalized.

(Pub. L. 93–554, title I, ch. III, Dec. 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1777; Pub. L. 104–186, title II, § 202(4), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1725; Pub. L. 108–447, div. G, title I, § 107(a), (b)(1), (c)(1), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3176.)

### **Codification**

Section is based on section 202 of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, Oct. 8, 1974, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 93–554.

### **Amendments**

2004—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 108–447, § 107(a), substituted “conference of all” for “conference, to begin on or after the first day of December and conclude on or before the twentieth day of December in such year and to be attended by all”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 108–447, § 107(b)(1), substituted a period for “for a period not to exceed the shorter of the following—

“(i) the period beginning with the day before the designated date upon which such caucus or conference is to convene and ending with the day after the date of the final adjournment of such caucus or conference; or

“(ii) fourteen days.”

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 108–447, § 107(c)(1), added subsec. (d).

1996—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 104–186, § 202(4)(A), substituted “House Oversight” for “House Administration” in two places.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104–186, § 202(4)(B), substituted “applicable accounts of the House of Representatives are” for “contingent fund of the House is”.

### **Change of Name**

Committee on House Oversight of House of Representatives changed to Committee on House Administration of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Sixth Congress, Jan. 6, 1999.

### **Effective Date of 2004 Amendment**

Pub. L. 108–447, div. G, title I, § 107(d), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3177, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 43b–2 of this title] shall apply with respect to the One Hundred Tenth Congress and each succeeding Congress.”

### **Effective Date**

Pub. L. 93–554 provided that the enactment of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, into permanent law is effective Jan. 2, 1975.