

## HRES 1221

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to increase openness and transparency in the annual appropriations process as it relates to earmarks.

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Congress

**Introduced:** Mar 25, 2010

**Current Status:** Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct

**Latest Action:** Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct (Mar 25, 2010)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-resolution/1221>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Chaffetz, Jason [R-UT-3]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ethics Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 25, 2010
Rules Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 25, 2010

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Congress

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

Amends Rule XXI (Restrictions on Certain Bills) of the Rules of the House of Representatives to make it out of order to consider in the House any legislation (or any accompanying report or joint explanatory statement) that contains a congressional earmark for an organization other than a non-profit tax-exempt organization or a governmental entity. (Thus prohibits earmarks to for-profit entities.)

Makes it out of order to consider in the House any conference report (not just, as currently, a conference report accompanying a regular general appropriation bill) if it (or the accompanying joint explanatory statement) contains any congressional earmark or limited tax or tariff benefit that was not committed to the conference committee by either chamber, or in a committee report of either chamber, on such measure or on a companion measure.

Amends Rule XXIII (Code of Official Conduct) to require a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner (Member) requesting a congressional earmark in any legislation (or an accompanying report) or any conference report (or accompanying joint explanatory statement) to provide, in the required written statement to the chair and ranking minority member of the committee of jurisdiction, the federal nexus or specific power granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact such earmark and the previous authorization by law that supports it (federal nexus).

Amends Rule XXI to make it out of order to consider in the House any legislation, amendment, or conference report unless any accompanying report or joint explanatory statement containing any congressional earmark sets forth for each congressional earmark the same federal nexus.

Makes it out of order in the House to consider any general appropriation bill or any other measure making or continuing appropriations (or an amendment or conference report) if it includes any congressional earmark requested by any member of the Committee on Appropriations or inserted at the behest of the chair of that committee or of any of its subcommittees.

Amends Rule XXIII to require each Member to maintain an official website and include on it a comprehensive, sortable, and searchable database comprising all congressional earmark requests for the current fiscal year and for the budget year, including for each such request: (1) the name and address of any recipient; (2) the purpose of the earmark; and (3) the federal nexus and the amount requested.

---

## **Actions Timeline**

- **Mar 25, 2010:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 25, 2010:** Referred to House Rules
- **Mar 25, 2010:** Referred to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Mar 25, 2010:** Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct