

HRES 687

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to provide greater transparency on earmark requests.

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Jul 28, 2009

Current Status: Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct

Latest Action: Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct (Jul 28, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-resolution/687>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Alexander, Rodney [R-LA-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** LA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ethics Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 28, 2009
Rules Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 28, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HRES 440	Related bill	May 14, 2009: Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct

Amends Rule XXIII (Code of Official Conduct) of the Rules of the House of Representatives to require a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner (Member), within 24 hours after requesting a congressional earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit, to post on his or her website for the remainder of a Congress financial certification letters that contain: (1) the name and address of the intended recipient; (2) whether the recipient is a public, private, nonprofit, or for profit entity; (3) the requested congressional earmark amount; (4) an explanation of the request, including the purpose, and why it is a valuable use of taxpayer funds; and (5) a statement that neither the requesting member nor his or her spouse has any financial interest related to such request.

Requires the Member also to display on the homepage of such website a hypertext link that contains the words "Appropriations Requests," "Limited Tax Benefits," or "Limited Tariff Benefits."

Requires the Member to maintain the link for at least 90 calendar days after the last request is made during a Congress.

Amends Rule XI (Procedures of Committees and Unfinished Business) to require any committee that accepts a Member's request for a congressional earmark or a limited tax or tariff benefit to maintain a public website with an earmark disclosure webpage that contains, in a downloadable and searchable format, the list of earmarks included in the Committee Report of the bill.

Requires a committee to: (1) post the list on its earmark disclosure webpage; and (2) maintain such information on it for the remainder of a Congress.

Amends Rule XXI (Restrictions on Certain Bills) to make it out of order to consider any legislation that carries a congressional earmark or limited tax or tariff benefit requested by a Member who does not comply with clause 18 of Rule XXIII.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Referred to House Rules
- **Jul 28, 2009:** 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.
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Referred to House Standards of Official Conduct

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