

study together with its recommendations.

Pursuant to section 906 of the Congressional Budget Act, the House Committee on the Budget reported to the House its recommendations for implementation of the budget procedures for fiscal year 1976;⁽¹⁷⁾ the House and Senate completed final action on the first concurrent resolution on the budget considered under the Act by adopting a conference report thereon on May 14, 1975.⁽¹⁸⁾ On May 13, 1976, the House and Senate completed final action on the first concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1976, the first year of full implementation of the Budget Act procedures.⁽¹⁹⁾

§ 35. Committee on the District of Columbia

The Committee on the District of Columbia was created in 1808,⁽²⁰⁾ at which time it was “the duty of this committee to take into consideration all petitions and memorials relating to the affairs of the District of Columbia,

17. H. Rept. No. 94-25, 94th Cong. 1st Sess., Mar. 3, 1975.

18. H. Con. Res. 218, H. Jour. 739-743, 94th Cong. 1st Sess.

19. S. Con. Res. 109, H. Jour. 768, 769, 94th Cong. 2d Sess.

20. 4 Hinds' Precedents § 4276.

and to report from time to time, by bill or otherwise.”⁽¹⁾ In 1880, this language was revised so that all subjects “relating to the District of Columbia, other than appropriations therefor” were referred to the committee.⁽²⁾ Under the 1973 rules⁽³⁾ the committee’s jurisdiction read as follows:

- (a) All measures relating to the municipal affairs of the District of Columbia in general, other than appropriations therefor, including—
- (b) Adulteration of foods and drugs;
- (c) Incorporation and organization of societies;
- (d) Insurance, executors, administrators, wills, and divorce;
- (e) Municipal code and amendments to the criminal and corporation laws;
- (f) Municipal and juvenile courts;
- (g) Public health and safety, sanitation, and quarantine regulations;
- (h) Regulation of sale of intoxicating liquors;
- (i) Taxes and tax sales.

Among the general municipal affairs of the District have been subjects relating to⁽⁴⁾ [enumeration added]:

1. Gerald J. Grady, “Monographs on the Committees of the House of Representatives” (93d Cong. 2d Sess., Dec. 13, 1974), committee print, p. 38.
2. 4 Hinds' Precedents § 4276.
3. Rule XI clause 5, *House Rules and Manual* §685 (1973). See Rule X clause 1(f), *House Rules and Manual* §675 (1979).
4. *House Rules and Manual* §675 (1979).

1. Health, sanitary, and quarantine regulations;
2. Holidays;
3. Protection of fish and game;
4. Regulation of sale of intoxicating liquors;
5. Adulteration of food, drugs, etc.;
6. Taxes and tax sales;
7. Insurance;
8. Bills for preserving public order at times of inaugurations;
9. Harbor regulations and the bridge over the Eastern Branch;
10. Executor, administrators, wills, and divorce;
11. Police and juvenile courts and justices of the peace;
12. Incorporation and organization of societies;
13. Municipal code and amendments to the criminal and corporation laws; and
14. Exceptional as opposed to general jurisdiction affecting the higher courts of the District.

Another indication of the committee's jurisdiction may be obtained from an examination of one of its calendars. The committee's final calendar for the 92d Congress included bills pertaining to the following subjects [enumeration added]:

1. Bus companies, authorization for the acquisition of four;
2. Chanceries, location of;
3. Consumer credit legislation;
4. Criminal penalties for assaults on firemen;
5. Dentistry;
6. Employee conditions of work, pay, and fringe benefits;

7. Incorporation of various organizations;
8. Motor vehicle interstate agreements;
9. Nelson Commission, extension of;
10. Podiatry;
11. Public conveyance of persons;
12. Revenue legislation, including authorizing of federal payment;
13. School fare subsidy;
14. Tax exemptions (i.e., the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Reserve Officers Association, etc.);
15. Unemployment compensation coverage; and
16. Uniform Commercial Code, amendments to.

As the precedents reveal, the jurisdiction of the committee has also extended to such subjects as coordinating the development of the District with other areas in the metropolitan region;⁽⁵⁾ using federal land for government parking facilities⁽⁶⁾ exchanging park lands for land suitable to parkway construction;⁽⁷⁾ authorizing the construction of bridges which would cross over into Virginia;⁽⁸⁾ authorizing the Surgeon General to make grants ultimately aiding George Washington University Hospital;⁽⁹⁾ and affecting changes in the jurisdiction of courts-martial of the D.C. militia.⁽¹⁰⁾

5. § 35.4, *infra*.
6. § 35.7, *infra*.
7. § 35.1, *infra*.
8. § 35.3, *infra*.
9. § 35.6, *infra*.
10. § 35.9, *infra*.

In terms of oversight duties, the committee's main concern is with the government of the District of Columbia. Inasmuch as the executive branch routinely interacts with that government, through appointments and budgeting, the committee's oversight jurisdiction extends to the Departments of Health, Education, and Welfare, Interior, and Transportation as well as the General Services Administration and the Office of Management and Budget.

The 1973 subcommittees of the Committee on the District of Columbia consisted of:

1. The Subcommittee on Business, Commerce and Taxation;
2. The Subcommittee on Education;
3. The Subcommittee on Government Operations;
4. The Subcommittee on the Judiciary;
5. The Subcommittee on Labor, Social Services and the International Community; and
6. The Subcommittee on Revenue and Financial Affairs.

Considering the matter from a long-range perspective, the jurisdiction of the Committee on the District of Columbia is affected by three other major factors. First, since the city of Washington, D.C., has obtained home rule, the committee's jurisdiction has changed.⁽¹⁾ Second, the committee

1. See Pub. L. No. 93-198, the District of Columbia Self-Government and

is obliged to constantly examine general legislation which applies to the states to ascertain whether or not the particular legislation embraces the District of Columbia or if it should. Third, the ultimate source of congressional oversight over the District is the U.S. Constitution, itself, which provides⁽²⁾ that the Congress shall have power "To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District . . . as may . . . become the Seat of Government of the United States. . . ."

Land Use in the District

§ 35.1 In the 76th Congress, the Committee on the District of Columbia and not the Committee on the Public Lands (now the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs) had jurisdiction of a bill providing for the exchange of certain park lands at the

Governmental Reorganization Act, which provides procedures for congressional disapproval of laws which the act authorized the government of the District to enact; matters submitted to Congress under that act, and resolutions approving or disapproving actions of the District government, fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the District of Columbia.

2. U.S. Const. art I, §8, clause 17.

northern boundary of Piney Branch Parkway, near Argye Terrace, for other lands more suitable for the use and development of Piney Branch Parkway.

On July 1, 1939,⁽³⁾ Mr. Rene L. DeRouen, of Louisiana, obtained unanimous consent to have H.R. 6938 rereferred from the Committee on Public Lands [now the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs], to the Committee on the District of Columbia.⁽⁴⁾

§ 35.2 The Committee on the District of Columbia, and not the Committee on House Administration, has exercised jurisdiction over a resolution relating to the National Capitol Planning Commission's providing a suitable site for erection of a statue by the State of Maine.

On Sept. 14, 1962,⁽⁵⁾ Omar T. Burleson, of Texas, Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, obtained unanimous consent to rerefer House Resolution

3. 84 CONG. REC. 8521, 76th Cong. 1st Sess.
4. S. 2666, which was identical to H.R. 6938, was reported by the Committee on the District of Columbia on June 30, 1939 (S. Rept. No. 711).
5. 108 CONG. REC. 19454, 87th Cong. 2d Sess.

799 from his committee to the Committee on the District of Columbia.⁽⁶⁾

§ 35.3 The Committee on the District of Columbia and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has jurisdiction of a proposal to amend the act entitled "an act authorizing and directing the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to construct two four-lane bridges to replace the existing 14th Street or Highway Bridge across the Potomac River, and for other purposes."

On May 21, 1956,⁽⁷⁾ J. Percy Priest, of Tennessee, Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of a letter from the president of the District of Columbia's Board of Commissioners (Exec. Comm. No. 1602), containing a draft of the proposed legislation described above and to have the letter rereferred to the

6. H. Res. 799 was reported by the Committee on the District of Columbia on Sept. 20, 1962 (H. Rept. No. 2445).
7. 102 CONG. REC. 8582, 84th Cong. 2d Sess.

Committee on the District of Columbia.

D.C. Metropolitan Development

§ 35.4 Under the rules in effect in the 86th Congress, the Committee on the District of Columbia, and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, had jurisdiction of regulations to establish an objective for coordinating the development of the District of Columbia with that of other areas in the Washington metropolitan region.

On Jan. 14, 1960,⁽⁸⁾ Oren Harris, of Arkansas, Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, obtained unanimous consent to have Senate Joint Resolution 42 discharged from the consideration of his committee and rereferred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Parliamentarian's Note: The primary emphasis of Senate Joint Resolution 42 was on coordinating actions in the fields of health, traffic, and other areas.⁽⁹⁾

8. 106 CONG. REC. 560, 86th Cong. 2d Sess.

9. S.J. Res. 42 was reported by the Committee on the District of Columbia on June 7, 1960 (H. Rept. No. 1759).

Consolidation of Corporations

§ 35.5 In the 88th Congress, the Committee on the District of Columbia, and not the Committee on the Judiciary, had jurisdiction of a bill authorizing a corporation chartered under the laws of the District of Columbia to consolidate with a corporation chartered under the laws of a state [the resultant corporation to be subject to the laws of the District].

On May 6, 1963,⁽¹⁰⁾ by direction of the Committee on the Judiciary, Mr. Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., of Maryland, obtained unanimous consent to have H.R. 5342 rereferred from that committee to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Parliamentarian's Note: The primary emphasis of H.R. 5342 was to authorize the consolidation of the Association of Universalist Women with the Alliance of Unitarian Women.

George Washington University Hospital Facilities; Grants to Construct

§ 35.6 In the 87th Congress, the Committee on the District of

10. 109 CONG REC. 7812, 88th Cong. 1st Sess.

Columbia, and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, had jurisdiction of a bill authorizing the Surgeon General to make grants to George Washington University to aid in planning and constructing new facilities in the District at the George Washington University Hospital.

On Sept. 5, 1961,⁽¹¹⁾ Oren Harris, of Arkansas, Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce obtained unanimous consent to have H.R. 8916 rereferred from his committee to the Committee on the District of Columbia.⁽¹²⁾

Parking Facilities on Federal Land

§ 35.7 In the 91st Congress, the Committee on the District of Columbia, and not the Committee on Public Works, had jurisdiction of a bill which (1) authorized the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to construct, maintain, and operate parking facilities for government employees and visitors, in the

11. 107 CONG. REC. 18132, 87th Cong. 1st Sess.

12. H.R. 8916 was reported by the Committee on the District of Columbia on Mar. 9, 1962 (H. Rept. No. 1413).

District and in surrounding fringe areas on federal land, and (2) provided that the proceeds from parking fees were to be applied to the District of Columbia public schools.

On Jan. 29, 1969,⁽¹³⁾ George H. Fallon, of Maryland, Chairman of the Committee on Public Works, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2194 and to have it rereferred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Parliamentarian's Note: H.R. 2194 was originally referred to the Committee on Public Works because of the provision which permitted the commissioners to construct "fringe area parking lots," outside of the District of Columbia. However, the Committee on Public Works expressed its willingness to have the bill rereferred.

Public Employment Service

§ 35.8 The Committee on the District of Columbia and not the Committee on Education and Labor has jurisdiction of a bill and an executive communication relating thereto, "to transfer to the govern-

13. 115 CONG. REC. 2101, 91st Cong. 1st Sess.

ment of the District of Columbia the Public Employment Service for the District of Columbia.”

On Mar. 28, 1957,⁽¹⁴⁾ Graham A. Barden, of North Carolina, Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, obtained unanimous consent to have H.R. 5021 and accompanying Executive Communication No. 431 from the Assistant Secretary of Labor, rereferred from his committee to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia Militia

§ 35.9 The Committee on the District of Columbia, and not the Committee on Armed Services, has jurisdiction of a bill amending the District of Columbia Code to provide that the jurisdiction of courts-martial of the District of Columbia militia shall extend to militia members not in active federal service.

On May 4, 1972,⁽¹⁵⁾ by direction of Chairman F. Edward Hébert, of Louisiana, of the Committee on Armed Services, Mr. G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery, of Mississippi, ob-

14. 103 CONG. REC. 4664, 85th Cong. 1st Sess.

15. 118 CONG. REC. 15778, 92d Cong. 2d Sess.

tained unanimous consent to have H.R. 9807 rereferred from that committee to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

§ 36. Committee on Education and Labor

The first Committee on Education and Labor was created in 1867,⁽¹⁶⁾ divided into separate committees in 1883,⁽¹⁷⁾ and recombined into its present form in 1947, on the effective date [Jan. 2, 1947], of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

The jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and Labor pursuant to the 1973 rules⁽¹⁸⁾ read as follows:

- (a) Measures relating to education or labor generally.
- (b) Child labor.
- (c) Columbia Institution for the Deaf, Dumb, and Blind; Howard University; Freedmen's Hospital; and Saint Elizabeths Hospital.
- (d) Convict labor and the entry of goods made by convicts into interstate commerce.
- (e) Labor standards.
- (f) Labor statistics.

16. 4 Hinds' Precedents § 4242.

17. 4 Hinds' Precedents §§ 4242, 4244.

18. Rule XI clause 6, *House Rules and Manual* § 687 (1973). See Rule X clause 1(g), *House Rules and Manual* § 676 (1979).