

Calendars

A. INTRODUCTORY

§ 1. Calendars of the House

There are five legislative calendars in the House of Representatives. They are: (1) the Calendar of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union (Union Calendar); (2) the House Calendar; (3) the Calendar of the Committee of the Whole House (Private Calendar); (4) the Consent Calendar; and (5) the Calendar of Motions to Discharge Committees.⁽¹⁾ Rule XIII provides that there shall be three calendars for the reference of bills reported from committees: (1) a Calendar of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for “. . . bills raising revenue, general appropriation bills, and bills of a public character directly or indirectly appropriating money or property”; (2) a House Calendar for “. . . bills of a public character not raising revenue nor directly or indirectly appropriating money or property”; and

1. The calling up of motions to discharge committees is treated in Ch. 18, *supra*.

(3) a Calendar of the Committee of the Whole House for private bills.⁽²⁾

Favorably reported bills are referred to a calendar by the Speaker. Bills adversely reported from a committee are laid on the table unless request is made by the committee at the time or by a Member within three days that they be referred to a calendar.⁽³⁾ And bills favorably reported and referred to either the House or Union Calendars may be placed on the Consent Calendar under a notice procedure at the request of any Member.⁽⁴⁾

A point of order⁽⁵⁾ may be raised that a bill is on the wrong calendar when it is called up for consideration.⁽⁶⁾ However, such a point of order comes too late when consideration of a bill in question has begun.⁽⁷⁾

2. Rule XIII clause 1, *House Rules and Manual* § 742 (1981).

3. Rule XIII clause 2, *House Rules and Manual* § 744 (1981).

4. Rule XIII clause 4, *House Rules and Manual* § 746 (1981).

5. Generally, see Ch. 31, *infra*.

6. 6 Cannon's Precedents §§ 746, 747.

7. 7 Cannon's Precedents § 856.

When the Speaker directs the transfer of an erroneously referred bill it is transferred to the proper calendar as of the date of its original reference.⁽⁸⁾

Adversely Reported Measures

§ 1.1 Measures adversely reported from a committee are not referred to a calendar unless a request is made that they be referred to a calendar.

On July 15, 1959,⁽⁹⁾ Mr. William H. Meyer, of Vermont, asked that House Concurrent Resolutions 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 251, and 254, which had been reported adversely, be referred to the calendar.

The Speaker⁽¹⁰⁾ ordered the measures referred to the Union Calendar.⁽¹¹⁾

8. 6 Cannon's Precedents §§ 744-748; see also § 1.2, *infra*.
9. 105 CONG. REC. 13493, 86th Cong. 1st Sess.
10. Sam Rayburn (Tex.).
11. This procedure was carried out pursuant to Rule XIII clause 2: ". . . bills reported adversely shall be laid on the table, unless the committee reporting a bill, at the time, or any Member within three days thereafter, shall request its reference to the calendar, when it shall be referred, as provided in clause 1 of this

Improperly Referred Bills

§ 1.2 When a bill has been erroneously referred to the Union Calendar the Speaker directs its transfer to the proper calendar as of the date it was originally reported from committee.

On Dec. 7, 1950,⁽¹²⁾ Mr. Andrew J. Biemiller, of Wisconsin, raised a parliamentary inquiry:

MR. BIEMILLER: Mr. Speaker, on the 7th of August the bill H.R. 7789, which was reported by the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, was referred to the Union Calendar. I believe that this was done in error and that the bill should have been referred to the House Calendar.

THE SPEAKER:⁽¹³⁾ The Chair has examined the bill and finds that it is not chargeable to the Treasury. Therefore, the reference to the Union Calendar was in error and the bill is now referred to the House Calendar as of the date it was originally reported by the committee.

§ 2. Union and House Calendars

Public bills favorably reported are first referred to either the

rule." *House Rules and Manual* § 744 (1981).

12. 96 CONG. REC. 16307, 81st Cong. 2d Sess.
13. Sam Rayburn (Tex.).