THE SPEAKER: It is not necessary to obtain unanimous consent for that. The Chair can recognize the gentleman to call up the conference report before the call of the Consent Calendar and will do so.

§ 22.27 While the call of the Consent Calendar under Rule XIII clause 4[2] is mandatory on the first and third Mondays of the month immediately after approval of the Journal, the Speaker may recognize a Member to call up a conference report under Rule XXVIII clause 1,[3] before directing the Clerk to call the Consent Calendar.

On May 4, 1970,[4] after the announcement of the death of Mr. William L. St. Onge, of Connecticut, the following occurred:

MR. [CARL D.] PERKINS [of Kentucky]: Mr. Speaker, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 515) to amend the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, to clarify responsibilities related to providing free and reduced-price meals and preventing discrimination against children, to revise program matching requirements, to strengthen the nutrition training and education. . . .

THE SPEAKER:[5] The question is on the conference report.

The conference report was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table. . . .

THE SPEAKER: This is Consent Calendar day. The Clerk will call the first bill on the Consent Calendar.

§ 23. Who May Call Up; Reading

It is the general practice for the Speaker to recognize the senior majority manager on the part of the House to call up a conference report for consideration. On one instance, this general practice was followed even though this senior majority manager (the chairman of the legislative committee which had handled the bill) had not signed the report and was opposed to it.[6] The Speaker may recognize a junior member of the conference committee in the absence of the senior House conferee[7] or even the ranking majority member in lieu of the chairman of the legislative committee who was also a conferee.[8]

2. See annotation to Rule XIII clause 4(a) *House Rules and Manual* § 746 (1997).
3. *Id.* at § 909.
4. 116 CONG. REC. 13987–4014, 14021–33, 14043, 91st Cong. 2d Sess.
5. John W. McCormack (Mass.).
6. § 23.3, infra.
7. § 23.1, infra.
8. § 23.2, infra.

Junior Member of Conference Committee

§ 23.1 The Speaker has recognized a junior member of the conference committee when the senior House conferee was unable to be present on the floor to file or call up the report.

On Dec. 23, 1969,[9] the Record indicates that Speaker John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, recognized Mr. Thomas L. Ashley, of Ohio, for the following purpose:

> Mr. Ashley submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 4293) to provide for continuation of authority for regulation of exports:
>
> CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 91–786)

The signatures were affixed to the report in the following manner:

> WRIGHT PATMAN,
> LEONOR SULLIVAN,
> HENRY REUSS,
> THOMAS ASHLEY,
> WILLIAM B. WIDNALL,
> CHESTER L. MIZE,
> *Managers on the Part of the House.*[10]

> MR. ASHLEY: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the conference report on the bill (H.R. 4293) to provide for continuation of authority for regulation of exports.
>
> THE SPEAKER: Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?
>
> There was no objection.

Parliamentarian's Note: Mr. Patman, the senior House conferee, was unable to be present on the floor either to file or call up the conference report.

Ranking Majority Member

§ 23.2 The Speaker has recognized the ranking majority member of a committee (not the chairman, who was also a conferee) to call up a conference report.

On July 17, 1967,[11] the following occurred in the House:

> THE SPEAKER:[12] The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. Friedel].

---

9. 115 CONG. REC. 40982–84, 91st Cong. 1st Sess.
10. *Parliamentarian's Note:* Mr. Ashley was the fifth ranking Democrat on the Committee on Banking and Currency. Wright Patman (Tex.), was the chairman of the committee, and Mrs. Leonor K. Sullivan (Mo.), and Mr. Henry Reuss (Wis.), were the third and fourth ranking majority members, respectively.
11. 113 CONG. REC. 19032, 19033, 90th Cong. 1st Sess.
12. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

MR. [SAMUEL N.] FRIEDEL: Mr. Speaker, I call up the conference report on the Senate joint resolution (S.J. Res. 81) to provide for the settlement of the labor dispute between certain carriers by railroad and certain of their employees, and ask for its immediate consideration.

THE SPEAKER: The Clerk will read the conference report.

The Clerk read the conference report. . . .

MR. FRIEDEL: Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

> Mr. Friedel moves to concur in the Senate amendments to the House amendment.

THE SPEAKER: The gentleman from Maryland is recognized for 1 hour.

Parliamentarian's Note: The chairman of the Committee on House Administration[13] was opposed to the legislation, had not handled the resolution when it was under debate in the House, and had agreed that the Speaker should recognize the ranking majority member to call up this report and offer the essential motions.

Member Opposed to Conference Report

§ 23.3 The senior manager on the part of the House at a conference called up a conference report, even though he had not signed the report and was in fact opposed to it.

On Dec. 6, 1967,[14] Speaker John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, recognized William R. Poage, of Texas, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, to call up the conference report on H.R. 12144, the Federal Meat Inspection Act:

> Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the conference report on the bill (H.R. 12144) to clarify and otherwise amend the Meat Inspection Act, to provide for cooperation with appropriate State agencies with respect to State meat inspection programs, and for other purposes. . . .
>
> THE SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas [Mr. Poage].
>
> MR. POAGE: Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes. . . .
>
> This report is signed by all of the conferees on the part of the Senate and all but two of the conferees on the part of the House. I am one of those two. . . .

After Mr. Poage explained his opposition to the conference report, and after debate had taken place thereon, the House adopted the report.

---

13. Omar T. Burleson (Tex.).

14. 113 CONG. REC. 35144–51, 35163, 90th Cong. 1st Sess.