

**Records of the Committee on Rules  
RG.233.96.RU  
96th Congress**

**Finding aid prepared by Office of Art and Archives,  
Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
<b>Creator</b>	Committee on Rules.
<b>Title</b>	Records of the Committee on Rules
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1979-1980
<b>Extent</b>	13.5 Linear feet (27 archival boxes)
<b>Language</b>	English

## Biographical/Historical note

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The Committee on Rules is amongst the oldest standing committees in the House, having been first formally constituted on April 2, 1789. The Committee is commonly known as “The Speaker’s Committee” because it is the mechanism that the Speaker uses to maintain control of the House Floor, and was chaired by the Speaker until 1910. The Rules Committee has two broad categories of jurisdiction: special orders for the consideration of legislation (known as “special rules” or “rules”) and original jurisdiction matters. A special rule provides the terms and conditions of debate on a measure or matter, consideration of which constitutes the bulk of the work of the Rules Committee. The Committee also considers original jurisdiction measures, which commonly represent changes to the standing rules of the House, or measures that contain special rules, such as the expedited procedures in trade legislation.

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## Rules, 96th Congress

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Files are hearing transcripts and other miscellaneous committee files, including meeting notices, petitions and memorials, executive communications, recorded votes, measures referred, rules granted, minutes, and publications. There are several boxes of files regarding H.R. 1776, Regulatory Reform and Congressional Review of Agency Rules.

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## Arrangement note

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Files are arranged into the following series: hearing files, bill files, committee files, and files of the Subcommittee on Rules of the House.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

**Rule VII**

The records are governed by Rule VII(3)b of the House Rules: (b) (1) A record shall immediately be made available if it was previously made available for public use by the House or a committee or a subcommittee. (2) An investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living person (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), an administrative record relating to personnel, or a record relating to a hearing that was closed under clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI shall be made available if it has been in existence for 50 years. (3) A record for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the House shall be made available in accordance with that order. Except as otherwise provided by order of the House, a record of a committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the committee. (4) A record (other than a record referred to in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3)) shall be made available if it has been in existence for 30 years.

## Collection Inventory

### **Bill files (3 archival boxes)**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Original jurisdiction measures referred, measures referred directly to the committee, bill files.

### **Committee files (3 archival boxes)**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Meeting notices, official communications, minutes of full committee hearings, recorded votes of the committee, requests for rules, committee publications.

### **Hearing files (11 archival boxes)**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Transcripts of hearings before the committee.

#### **Arrangement note**

Arranged chronologically.

### **Subcommittee on Rules of the House (10 archival boxes)**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

**Subcommittee on Rules of the House**

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Legislative files, primarily of HR 1776 (Regulatory Reform and Congressional Review of Agency Rules), including transcripts, printed hearings, and correspondence.