



H.CON.RES. 307 – EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT MEMBERS' CONGRESSIONAL PAPERS SHOULD BE PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND ENCOURAGING MEMBERS TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO MANAGE AND PRESERVE THESE PAPERS

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Con.Res. 307 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Robert Brady (D-PA) on March 4, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on House Administration, but was never considered.

H.Con.Res. 307 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on March 5, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Con.Res. 307 resolves that it is the sense of Congress that:

- Members' Congressional papers (including papers of Delegates and Resident Commissioners to the Congress) should be properly maintained;
- Each Member of Congress should take all necessary measures to manage and preserve the Member's own Congressional papers; and
- Each Member of Congress should be encouraged to arrange for the deposit or donation of the Member's own noncurrent Congressional papers with a research institution that is properly equipped to care for them, and to make these papers available for educational purposes at a time the Member considers appropriate.

BACKGROUND

According to the National Archives website, "Since the First Congress in 1789, the records of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate have documented the history of the legislative branch. These records remain the legal property of the House and Senate, but are preserved and made available by the Center for Legislative Archives, part of the National Archives."

The National Archives provides complimentary storage for the inactive papers of current Members of Congress.

The Office of the Clerk of the House provides consultations on disposing and archiving official papers and office files for Members who retire or leave Congress.

STAFF CONTACT

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