

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING COMMISSION
House of Representatives

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS, HOUSE
GARAGES, AND THE CAPITOL POWER PLANT

December 1995

Pursuant to the authority conferred on the House Office Building Commission ("Commission") by the Act of March 4, 1907 (34 Stat. 1865, as amended (40 U.S.C. 175) the following rules and regulations are promulgated governing the use and occupancy of rooms and space, including terraces, entrances, lobbies, foyers, corridors, cafeterias, restaurants and areas appurtenant thereto, in the Cannon, Longworth, and Rayburn House Office Buildings, in the House annexes, the House of Representatives garages, and the Capitol Power Plant:

(1) Property damage: willful destruction, damage, desecration, or removal of any Government property or part thereof is prohibited.

(2) Media: Except as provided in Subsection (3) or the Rules of the House, photographing, filming (including news filming), televising, recording or broadcasting in buildings under the jurisdiction of the Commission is prohibited, absent prior written permission from the Commission or its designee. Applications for such permission should be made to the Speaker.

(3) Photography for Personal Use Utilizing Hand-Held Cameras: Notwithstanding subsection (2), visitors are permitted to take photographs of the public areas in the buildings under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Such photographs may only be made for personal use and must be taken with hand-held cameras. Commercial use of such photographs is strictly prohibited. The use of flash equipment or other special photolighting devices, tripods, or other bulky accessory equipment is not permitted unless prior written permission is obtained from the Commission. Applications for such special permission shall be made to the Speaker.

(4) Soliciting, commercial ventures, and other nongovernmental activities: The soliciting of alms and contributions, commercial soliciting for products or services, and vending of all kinds, the display or distribution of commercial advertising, the collecting of private debts, or the distribution of material such as pamphlets, handbills, and flyers, in any of the areas covered by these regulations is prohibited. This section does not apply to national or local drives for funds for welfare, health, or other purposes sponsored or approved by the Commission, or to personal notices posted by employees on authorized bulletin boards. Staff organizations, duly recognized by the Commission may charge a fee for attendance at any functions sponsored by such organization. This fee must be closely calculated to cover only the costs incurred by the organization in conducting the function.

(5) Use of meeting rooms: The use of meeting rooms under the jurisdiction of the Commission is restricted to Congressionally related uses or purposes which serve Members, Committees, Officers or organizations of the Congress. Conditions and procedures for use of the rooms may be promulgated by the Commission.