

“(C) the Committee on Resources [now Committee on Natural Resources] of the House of Representatives, in the case of a provision of law relating to fisheries, wildlife, international fishing agreements, marine affairs (including coastal zone management) except for measures relating to oil and other pollution of navigable waters, or oceanography;

“(D) the Committee on Science [now Committee on Science, Space, and Technology] of the House of Representatives, in the case of a provision of law relating to marine research; and

“(E) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, in the case of a provision of law relating to a matter other than a matter described in any of subparagraphs (A) through (D).

“(C) REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES WITH JURISDICTION CHANGES.—Any reference in any provision of law enacted before January 4, 1995, to—

“(1) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring to—

“(A) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, in the case of a provision of law relating to inspection of seafood or seafood products;

“(B) the Committee on Banking and Financial Services [now Committee on Financial Services] of the House of Representatives, in the case of a provision of law relating to bank capital markets activities generally or to depository institution securities activities generally; and

“(C) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, in the case of a provision of law relating to railroads, railway labor, or railroad retirement and unemployment (except revenue measures related thereto); and

“(2) the Committee on Government Operations of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring to the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives in the case of a provision of law relating to the establishment, extension, and enforcement of special controls over the Federal budget.

“SEC. 2. REFERENCES IN LAW TO OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

“Any reference in any provision of law enacted before January 4, 1995, to a function, duty, or authority—

“(1) of the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring, with respect to that function, duty, or authority, to the officer of the House of Representatives exercising that function, duty, or authority, as determined by the Committee on House Oversight [now Committee on House Administration] of the House of Representatives;

“(2) of the Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring, with respect to that function, duty, or authority, to the officer of the House of Representatives exercising that function, duty, or authority, as determined by the Committee on House Oversight [now Committee on House Administration] of the House of Representatives;

“(3) of the Postmaster of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring, with respect to that function, duty, or authority, to the officer of the House of Representatives exercising that function, duty, or authority, as determined by the Committee on House Oversight [now Committee on House Administration] of the House of Representatives; and

“(4) of the Director of Non-legislative and Financial Services of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring, with respect to that function, duty, or authority, to the officer of the House of Representatives exercising that function, duty, or authority, as determined by the Committee on House Oversight [now Committee on House Administration] of the House of Representatives.”

§ 21. Oath of Senators

The oath of office shall be administered by the President of the Senate to each Senator who shall be elected, previous to his taking his seat.

(R.S. § 28.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 28 derived from act June 1, 1789, ch. 1, § 2, 1 Stat. 23.

§ 22. Oath of President of Senate

When a President of the Senate has not taken the oath of office, it shall be administered to him by any Member of the Senate.

(R.S. § 29.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 29 derived from act June 1, 1789, ch. 1, § 2, 1 Stat. 23.

§ 23. Presiding officer of Senate may administer oaths

The presiding officer, for the time being, of the Senate of the United States, shall have power to administer all oaths and affirmations that are or may be required by the Constitution, or by law, to be taken by any Senator, officer of the Senate, witness, or other person, in respect to any matter within the jurisdiction of the Senate.

(Apr. 18, 1876, ch. 66, § 1, 19 Stat. 34.)

§ 24. Secretary of Senate or assistant secretary may administer oaths

The Secretary of the Senate, and the assistant secretary thereof, shall, respectively, have power to administer any oath or affirmation required by law, or by the rules or orders of the Senate, to be taken by any officer of the Senate, and to any witness produced before it.

(Apr. 18, 1876, ch. 66, § 2, 19 Stat. 34; Pub. L. 92-51, July 9, 1971, 85 Stat. 125.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Assistant secretary of the Senate deemed successor in references to chief clerk of the Senate in all laws, rules, resolutions, and orders, effective July 1, 1971, under provisions of Pub. L. 92-51, July 9, 1971, 85 Stat. 125.

§ 25. Oath of Speaker, Members, and Delegates

At the first session of Congress after every general election of Representatives, the oath of office shall be administered by any Member of the House of Representatives to the Speaker; and by the Speaker to all the Members and Delegates present, and to the Clerk, previous to entering on any other business; and to the Members and Delegates who afterward appear, previous to their taking their seats.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Eightieth and each succeeding Congress shall cause the oath of office to be printed, furnishing two copies to each Member and Delegate who has taken the oath of office in accordance with law, which shall be subscribed in person by the Member or Delegate, who shall thereupon deliver them to the Clerk, one to be filed in the

records of the House of Representatives, and the other to be recorded in the Journal of the House and in the Congressional Record; and such signed copies, or certified copies thereof, or of either of such records thereof, shall be admissible in evidence in any court of the United States, and shall be held conclusive proof of the fact that the signer duly took the oath of office in accordance with law.

(R.S. § 30; Feb. 18, 1948, ch. 53, 62 Stat. 20.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 30 derived from act June 1, 1789, ch. 1, § 2, 1 Stat. 23.

The last paragraph of this section, which permitted Members and Delegates of the House of Representatives of the Eightieth Congress to subscribe and deliver two signed copies of the printed oath of office at any time before the expiration of the Eightieth Congress, was omitted.

AMENDMENTS

1948—Act Feb. 18, 1948, added last two paragraphs to provide a way by which any Member of House of Representatives can establish by record evidence the fact that the Member took the oath of office and so became a Member.

§ 25a. Delegate to House of Representatives from District of Columbia

(a) The people of the District of Columbia shall be represented in the House of Representatives by a Delegate, to be known as the “Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia”, who shall be elected by the voters of the District of Columbia in accordance with the District of Columbia Election Act. The Delegate shall have a seat in the House of Representatives, with the right of debate, but not of voting, shall have all the privileges granted a Representative by section 6 of Article I of the Constitution, and shall be subject to the same restrictions and regulations as are imposed by law or rules on Representatives. The Delegate shall be elected to serve during each Congress.

(b) No individual may hold the office of Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia unless on the date of his election—

- (1) he is a qualified elector (as that term is defined in section 2(2) of the District of Columbia Election Act) of the District of Columbia;
- (2) he is at least twenty-five years of age;
- (3) he holds no other paid public office; and
- (4) he has resided in the District of Columbia continuously since the beginning of the three-year period ending on such date.

He shall forfeit his office upon failure to maintain the qualifications required by this subsection.

(Pub. L. 91-405, title II, § 202, Sept. 22, 1970, 84 Stat. 848.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The District of Columbia Election Act, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(1), is act Aug. 12, 1955, ch. 862, 69 Stat. 699, as amended, which is not classified to the Code.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 91-405, title II, § 206(b), Sept. 22, 1970, 84 Stat. 855, provided that: “This title and the amendments

made by this title [enacting this section and section 25b of this title and amending section 2106 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, sections 4342, 6954, and 9342 of Title 10, Armed Forces, sections 201, 203, 204, 591, 594, and 595 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and section 1973i of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] shall take effect on the date of its enactment [Sept. 22, 1970].”

§ 25b. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 202(1), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1724

Section, Pub. L. 91-405, title II, § 204(a), Sept. 22, 1970, 84 Stat. 852, related to application of certain Federal laws to Delegate to House of Representatives from District of Columbia.

§ 26. Roll of Representatives-elect

Before the first meeting of each Congress the Clerk of the next preceding House of Representatives shall make a roll of the Representatives-elect, and place thereon the names of those persons, and of such persons only, whose credentials show that they were regularly elected in accordance with the laws of their States respectively, or the laws of the United States. In case of a vacancy in the office of Clerk of the House of Representatives, or of the absence or inability of the Clerk to discharge the duties imposed on him by law or custom relative to the preparation of the roll of Representatives or the organization of the House, those duties shall devolve on the Sergeant at Arms of the next preceding House of Representatives.

(R.S. §§ 31-33; Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 202(2), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1724.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 31 derived from acts Feb. 21, 1867, ch. 56, § 1, 14 Stat. 397 and Mar. 3, 1863, ch. 108, 12 Stat. 804.

R.S. §§ 32 and 33 derived from act Feb. 21, 1867, ch. 56, § 2, 14 Stat. 397.

R.S. § 31 constitutes first sentence; R.S. § 32 constitutes second sentence; and R.S. § 33 constituted the third sentence, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-186. See 1996 Amendment note below.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-186 struck out third sentence which read as follows: “In case of vacancies in the offices of both the Clerk and the Sergeant at Arms, or of the absence or inability of both to act, the duties of the Clerk relative to the preparation of the roll of the House of Representatives or the organization of the House shall be performed by the Doorkeeper of the next preceding House of Representatives.” See Codification note above.

§ 27. Change of place of meeting

Whenever Congress is about to convene, and from the prevalence of contagious sickness, or the existence of other circumstances, it would, in the opinion of the President, be hazardous to the lives or health of the members to meet at the seat of Government, the President is authorized, by proclamation, to convene Congress at such other place as he may judge proper.

(R.S. § 34.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 34 derived from act Apr. 3, 1794, ch. 17, 1 Stat. 353.