

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2370

To provide an allowance to offices of Members of the House of Representatives which shall be available for the compensation of interns, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BEYER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CASE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. POCAN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To provide an allowance to offices of Members of the House of Representatives which shall be available for the compensation of interns, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “House Intern Pay Act
3 of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN**
5 **HOUSE MEMBER OFFICES.**

6 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF ALLOWANCE.**—There is es-
7 tablished for the House of Representatives an allowance
8 which shall be available for the compensation of interns
9 who serve in the offices of Members of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives during a calendar year.

11 (b) **AMOUNT PER OFFICE; ALLOCATION OF UNUSED**
12 **ALLOWANCES AMONG OTHER OFFICES.**—

13 (1) **AMOUNT.**—The amount of the allowance
14 under this section with respect to the office of a
15 Member of the House of Representatives for a cal-
16 endar year shall be established by the Committee on
17 House Administration of the House of Representa-
18 tives, and (subject to the allocation described in
19 paragraph (2)) shall be an equivalent amount for all
20 such offices.

21 (2) **ALLOCATION OF UNUSED ALLOWANCES.**—

22 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—If, by not later than
23 the applicable deadline described in subpara-
24 graph (B), an office of a Member of the House
25 of Representatives does not certify to the Com-
26 mittee on House Administration that the office

1 will use the entire amount of the allowance es-
2 tablished for the office under this section with
3 respect to a calendar year, the Committee may
4 allocate the unused portion of such office's al-
5 lowance among the allowances established for
6 other offices of the House for such calendar
7 year.

8 (B) APPLICABLE DEADLINE.—The applica-
9 ble deadline described in this subparagraph
10 with respect to a calendar year is such date es-
11 tablished by the Committee on House Adminis-
12 tration which is not earlier than January 31 of
13 the year and not later than June 30 of the
14 year.

15 (c) MINIMUM COMPENSATION RATE.—

16 (1) REQUIREMENT.—Each intern who is com-
17 pensated under the allowance under this section
18 shall be paid for each pay period at a rate which is
19 equal to or greater than the minimum compensation
20 rate for the pay period.

21 (2) DEFINITION.—In paragraph (1), the “min-
22 imum compensation rate” for a pay period is equal
23 to—

1 (A) in the case of pay periods occurring
2 during the first fiscal year in which this Act is
3 in effect, \$15 per hour; and

4 (B) in the case of pay periods occurring
5 during any succeeding fiscal year, the rate ap-
6 plicable under this paragraph for pay periods
7 occurring during the previous fiscal year in-
8 creased by the estimated percentage change in
9 the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Con-
10 sumers (as published by the Department of
11 Labor) for the most recent fiscal year preceding
12 such fiscal year.

13 (d) BENEFIT EXCLUSION.—Section 104(b) of the
14 House of Representatives Administrative Reform Tech-
15 nical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C. 5321(b)) shall apply with
16 respect to an intern who is compensated under the allow-
17 ance under this section in the same manner as such sec-
18 tion applies with respect to an intern who is compensated
19 under the Members' Representational Allowance.

20 (e) NO EFFECT ON PAYMENT OF INTERNS UNDER
21 MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCE.—Nothing
22 in this section may be construed to affect the use of the
23 Members' Representational Allowance for the compensa-
24 tion of interns, as provided under section 104 of the House

1 of Representatives Administrative Reform Technical Cor-
2 rections Act (2 U.S.C. 5321).

3 (f) REGULATIONS.—This section shall be carried out
4 in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Com-
5 mittee on House Administration of the House of Rep-
6 resentatives, including regulations to establish the timing
7 and procedures for the allocation of amounts of unused
8 portions of allowances under subsection (b)(2).

9 (g) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 120 of the
10 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2019 (2 U.S.C.
11 5322a) is hereby repealed.

12 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

13 (1) the term “intern” has the meaning given
14 such term in section 104(c)(2) of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives Administrative Reform Technical Cor-
16 rections Act (2 U.S.C. 5321(c)(2)); and

17 (2) the term “Member of the House of Rep-
18 resentatives” means a Representative in, or a Dele-
19 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

20 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
22 this section—

23 (1) for the first fiscal year in which this Act is
24 in effect, \$13,759,200, to be allocated on a pro rata

1 basis for each day of such fiscal year which occurs
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

3 (2) for each succeeding fiscal year, the amount
4 authorized under this section for the previous fiscal
5 year increased by the estimated percentage change
6 in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Con-
7 sumers (as published by the Department of Labor)
8 for the most recent fiscal year preceding such fiscal
9 year.

10 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
12 take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, and
13 shall apply to the pay period which is in effect on such
14 date and each succeeding pay period.

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