

AMENDMENT
TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. HICE OF GEORGIA

At the end of title X, add the following new subtitle:

1 **Subtitle I—Presidential Allowance**
2 **Modernization**

3 **SEC. 10___. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This subtitle may be cited as the “Presidential Allow-
5 ance Modernization Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 10___. AMENDMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Act entitled “An Act to pro-
8 vide retirement, clerical assistants, and free mailing privi-
9 leges to former Presidents of the United States, and for
10 other purposes”, approved August 25, 1958 (commonly
11 known as the “Former Presidents Act of 1958”) (3 U.S.C.
12 102 note), is amended—

13 (1) by striking “That (a) each” and inserting
14 the following:

15 **“SECTION 1. FORMER PRESIDENTS LEAVING OFFICE BE-**
16 **FORE PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MOD-**
17 **ERNIZATION ACT OF 2019.**

18 “(a) Each”;

1 (2) by redesignating subsection (g) as section 3
2 and adjusting the margin accordingly; and

3 (3) by inserting after section 1, as so des-
4 ignated, the following:

5 **“SEC. 2. FORMER PRESIDENTS LEAVING OFFICE AFTER**
6 **PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MODERNIZA-**
7 **TION ACT OF 2019.**

8 “(a) ANNUITIES AND ALLOWANCES.—

9 “(1) ANNUITY.—Each modern former President
10 shall be entitled for the remainder of his or her life
11 to receive from the United States an annuity at the
12 rate of \$200,000 per year, subject to subsections
13 (b)(2) and (c), to be paid by the Secretary of the
14 Treasury.

15 “(2) ALLOWANCE.—The Administrator of Gen-
16 eral Services is authorized to provide each modern
17 former President a monetary allowance at the rate
18 of \$200,000 per year, subject to the availability of
19 appropriations and subsections (b)(2), (c), and (d).

20 “(b) DURATION; FREQUENCY.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The annuity and allowance
22 under subsection (a) shall each—

23 “(A) commence on the day after the date
24 on which an individual becomes a modern
25 former President;

1 “(B) terminate on the date on which the
2 modern former President dies; and

3 “(C) be payable on a monthly basis.

4 “(2) APPOINTIVE OR ELECTIVE POSITIONS.—

5 The annuity and allowance under subsection (a)
6 shall not be payable for any period during which a
7 modern former President holds an appointive or
8 elective position in or under the Federal Government
9 to which is attached a rate of pay other than a
10 nominal rate.

11 “(c) COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES.—Effective Decem-
12 ber 1 of each year, each annuity and allowance under sub-
13 section (a) that commenced before that date shall be in-
14 creased by the same percentage by which benefit amounts
15 under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401
16 et seq.) are increased, effective as of that date, as a result
17 of a determination under section 215(i) of that Act (42
18 U.S.C. 415(i)).

19 “(d) LIMITATION ON MONETARY ALLOWANCE.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
21 provision of this section, the monetary allowance
22 payable under subsection (a)(2) to a modern former
23 President for any 12-month period—

24 “(A) except as provided in subparagraph
25 (B), may not exceed the amount by which—

1 “(i) the monetary allowance that (but
2 for this subsection) would otherwise be so
3 payable for such 12-month period, exceeds
4 (if at all)

5 “(ii) the applicable reduction amount
6 for such 12-month period; and

7 “(B) shall not be less than the amount de-
8 termined under paragraph (4).

9 “(2) DEFINITION.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of para-
11 graph (1), the term ‘applicable reduction
12 amount’ means, with respect to any modern
13 former President and in connection with any
14 12-month period, the amount by which—

15 “(i) the sum of—

16 “(I) the adjusted gross income
17 (as defined in section 62 of the Inter-
18 nal Revenue Code of 1986) of the
19 modern former President for the most
20 recent taxable year for which a tax re-
21 turn is available; and

22 “(II) any interest excluded from
23 the gross income of the modern
24 former President under section 103 of

1 such Code for such taxable year, ex-
2 ceeds (if at all)

3 “(ii) \$400,000, subject to subpara-
4 graph (C).

5 “(B) JOINT RETURNS.—In the case of a
6 joint return, subclauses (I) and (II) of subpara-
7 graph (A)(i) shall be applied by taking into ac-
8 count both the amounts properly allocable to
9 the modern former President and the amounts
10 properly allocable to the spouse of the modern
11 former President.

12 “(C) COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES.—The
13 dollar amount specified in subparagraph (A)(ii)
14 shall be adjusted at the same time that, and by
15 the same percentage by which, the monetary al-
16 lowance of the modern former President is in-
17 creased under subsection (c) (disregarding this
18 subsection).

19 “(3) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT.—

20 “(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

21 “(i) the terms ‘return’ and ‘return in-
22 formation’ have the meanings given those
23 terms in section 6103(b) of the Internal
24 Revenue Code of 1986; and

1 “(ii) the term ‘Secretary’ means the
2 Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary
3 of the Treasury’s delegate.

4 “(B) REQUIREMENT.—A modern former
5 President may not receive a monetary allowance
6 under subsection (a)(2) unless the modern
7 former President discloses to the Secretary,
8 upon the request of the Secretary, any return
9 or return information of the modern former
10 President or spouse of the modern former
11 President that the Secretary determines is nec-
12 essary for purposes of calculating the applicable
13 reduction amount under paragraph (2) of this
14 subsection.

15 “(C) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Except as pro-
16 vided in section 6103 of the Internal Revenue
17 Code of 1986 and notwithstanding any other
18 provision of law, the Secretary may not, with
19 respect to a return or return information dis-
20 closed to the Secretary under subparagraph
21 (B)—

22 “(i) disclose the return or return in-
23 formation to any entity or person; or

24 “(ii) use the return or return informa-
25 tion for any purpose other than to cal-

1 culate the applicable reduction amount
2 under paragraph (2).

3 “(4) INCREASED COSTS DUE TO SECURITY
4 NEEDS.—With respect to the monetary allowance
5 that would be payable to a modern former President
6 under subsection (a)(2) for any 12-month period but
7 for the limitation under paragraph (1)(A) of this
8 subsection, the Administrator of General Services, in
9 coordination with the Director of the United States
10 Secret Service, shall determine the amount of the al-
11 lowance that is needed to pay the increased cost of
12 doing business that is attributable to the security
13 needs of the modern former President.

14 “(e) WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS.—The widow or wid-
15 ower of each modern former President shall be entitled
16 to receive from the United States a monetary allowance
17 at a rate of \$100,000 per year (subject to paragraph (4)),
18 payable monthly by the Secretary of the Treasury, if such
19 widow or widower shall waive the right to each other annu-
20 ity or pension to which she or he is entitled under any
21 other Act of Congress. The monetary allowance of such
22 widow or widower—

23 “(1) commences on the day after the modern
24 former President dies;

1 “(2) terminates on the last day of the month
2 before such widow or widower dies;

3 “(3) is not payable for any period during which
4 such widow or widower holds an appointive or elec-
5 tive office or position in or under the Federal Gov-
6 ernment to which is attached a rate of pay other
7 than a nominal rate; and

8 “(4) shall, after its commencement date, be in-
9 creased at the same time that, and by the same per-
10 centage by which, annuities of modern former Presi-
11 dents are increased under subsection (c).

12 “(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘modern
13 former President’ means a person—

14 “(1) who shall have held the office of President
15 of the United States of America;

16 “(2) whose service in such office shall have ter-
17 minated—

18 “(A) other than by removal pursuant to
19 section 4 of article II of the Constitution of the
20 United States of America; and

21 “(B) after the date of enactment of the
22 Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of
23 2019; and

24 “(3) who does not then currently hold such of-
25 fice.”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

2 The Former Presidents Act of 1958 is amended—

3 (1) in section 1(f)(2), as designated by this sec-
4 tion—

5 (A) by striking “terminated other than”
6 and inserting the following: “terminated—

7 “(A) other than”; and

8 (B) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(B) on or before the date of enactment of
10 the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of
11 2019; and”; and

12 (2) in section 3, as redesignated by this sec-
13 tion—

14 (A) by inserting after the section enu-
15 merator the following: “**AUTHORIZATION OF**
16 **APPROPRIATIONS.**”; and

17 (B) by inserting “or modern former Presi-
18 dent” after “former President” each place that
19 term appears.

20 **SEC. 10___ . RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

21 Nothing in this subtitle or an amendment made by
22 this subtitle shall be construed to affect—

23 (1) any provision of law relating to the security
24 or protection of a former President or modern

1 former President, or a member of the family of a
2 former President or modern former President; or

3 (2) funding, under the Former Presidents Act
4 of 1958 or any other law, to carry out any provision
5 of law described in paragraph (1).

6 **SEC. 10 ____. APPLICABILITY.**

7 Section 2 of the Former Presidents Act of 1958, as
8 added by section 1092(a)(3) of this subtitle, shall not
9 apply to—

10 (1) any individual who is a former President on
11 the date of enactment of this Act; or

12 (2) the widow or widower of an individual de-
13 scribed in paragraph (1).

