

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2519

To provide a per diem allowance for Members of Congress for the costs of lodging, meals, and incidental expenses incurred because of travel to and from the Washington Metropolitan Area in order to cast votes in Congress, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To provide a per diem allowance for Members of Congress for the costs of lodging, meals, and incidental expenses incurred because of travel to and from the Washington Metropolitan Area in order to cast votes in Congress, 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. PER DIEM ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS INCUR-**  
2 **RING COSTS IN TRAVEL TO AND FROM WASH-**  
3 **INGTON METROPOLITAN AREA IN ORDER TO**  
4 **CAST VOTES IN CONGRESS.**

5 (a) ENTITLEMENT TO PER DIEM ALLOWANCES.—A  
6 Member of Congress who travels on official and represen-  
7 tational business to and from the Member's designated  
8 residence to the Washington Metropolitan Area in order  
9 to cast votes in Congress is entitled to—

10 (1) a per diem allowance for lodging in the  
11 Washington Metropolitan Area in accordance with  
12 subsection (b)(1); and

13 (2) a per diem allowance for meals and inci-  
14 dental expenses in the Washington Metropolitan  
15 Area in accordance with subsection (b)(2).

16 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—

17 (1) MEMBERS RESIDING IN WASHINGTON MET-  
18 ROPOLITAN AREA.—A Member of Congress is not  
19 entitled to a per diem allowance under this section  
20 if the Member's designated residence is within the  
21 Washington Metropolitan Area.

22 (2) EXPENSES PAID UNDER OTHER ALLOW-  
23 ANCES.—A Member of Congress is not entitled to a  
24 per diem allowance under this section with respect  
25 to lodging, meals, and incidental expenses for which  
26 payment is made—

1 (A) in the case of a Member of the House  
2 of Representatives, under the Members' Rep-  
3 resentational Allowance; and

4 (B) in the case of a Senator, under the  
5 Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense  
6 Account.

7 (c) PER DIEM ALLOWANCES DESCRIBED.—

8 (1) LODGING.—A Member of Congress may re-  
9 ceive a per diem allowance for lodging with respect  
10 to a day if—

11 (A) the House of Congress in which the  
12 Member serves holds votes on that day; and

13 (B) the Member records a vote in person  
14 in the chamber of that House of Congress on  
15 each vote held on that day.

16 (2) MEALS AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.—A  
17 Member of Congress may receive a per diem allow-  
18 ance for meals and incidental expenses with respect  
19 to the following days:

20 (A) A day for which the Member receives  
21 a per diem allowance for lodging under para-  
22 graph (1).

23 (B) The day before a day described in sub-  
24 paragraph (A), but only if the Member travels

1 to the Washington Metropolitan Area on the  
2 day described in subparagraph (A).

3 (C) The day after a day described in sub-  
4 subparagraph (A), but only if the Member travels  
5 from the Washington Metropolitan Area on the  
6 day described in subparagraph (A).

7 (3) USE OF GSA RATES.—The amount of the  
8 per diem allowance to which a Member of Congress  
9 is entitled under this section shall be the amount to  
10 which the Member would be entitled under regula-  
11 tions prescribed by the Administrator of General  
12 Services if the Member were an employee entitled to  
13 a per diem allowance under subchapter I of chapter  
14 57 of title 5, United States Code.

15 (d) REGULATIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—This section shall be carried  
17 out in accordance with regulations promulgated by—

18 (A) the Committee on House Administra-  
19 tion of the House of Representatives, with re-  
20 spect to the per diem allowances for Members  
21 of the House of Representatives and the Dele-  
22 gates and Resident Commissioner to the Con-  
23 gress; and

1 (B) the Committee on Rules and Adminis-  
2 tration of the Senate, with respect to the per  
3 diem allowances for Senators.

4 (2) ENSURING ALLOWANCES ARE NOT TREATED  
5 AS EARNED INCOME FOR TAX PURPOSES.—In pro-  
6 mulgating regulations to carry out this section, the  
7 Committee on House Administration and the Com-  
8 mittee on Rules and Administration shall follow to  
9 the greatest extent practicable the regulations each  
10 such Committee promulgates with respect to pay-  
11 ments for lodging, meals, and incidental expenses in-  
12 curred by Members of Congress under the Members’  
13 Representational Allowance or the Senators’ Official  
14 Personnel and Office Expense Account, respectively,  
15 including the provisions of such regulations which  
16 ensure that the payment of such an allowance is not  
17 treated as income earned by the Member for pur-  
18 poses of paying Federal, State, or local taxes.

19 (3) EFFECT ON EXISTING REGULATIONS.—The  
20 regulations promulgated under paragraph (1) shall  
21 supersede any regulations of the Committee on  
22 House Administration or the Committee on Rules  
23 and Administration governing the reimbursement of  
24 travel expenses incurred by a Member of Congress

1 which are in effect at the time the regulations are  
2 promulgated.

3 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The “designated residence” of a Member of  
5 Congress is—

6 (A) in the case of a Member of the House  
7 of Representatives, a residence in the congress-  
8 sional district the Member represents (or, in the  
9 case of a Member who does not reside in the  
10 congressional district the Member represents, a  
11 residence in the State in which the congress-  
12 sional district is located), as designated by the  
13 Member in a statement the Member provides to  
14 the Committee on House Administration; and

15 (B) in the case of a Senator, a residence  
16 in the State the Senator represents, as des-  
17 igned by the Senator in a statement the Sen-  
18 ate provides to the Committee on Rules and  
19 Administration.

20 (2) The term “Member of the House of Rep-  
21 resentatives” includes a Delegate or Resident Com-  
22 missioner to the Congress.

23 (2) The term “Washington Metropolitan Area”  
24 means the District of Columbia; the cities of Alexan-  
25 dria, Falls Church and Fairfax, and the counties of

1       Arlington and Fairfax, in Virginia; and the counties  
2       of Montgomery and Prince George's in Maryland.

3       (f) TREATMENT OF DELEGATES.—In this section,  
4 the term “Member of the House of Representatives” in-  
5 cludes a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Con-  
6 gress.

7       (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with  
8 respect to the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress and  
9 each succeeding Congress.

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