

Reforms and Regulations for Congressionally Directed Spending in Fiscal Year 2024

Chair Murray and Vice Chair Collins are committed to following the requirements for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) items found in Rule XLIV of the [Standing Rules of the Senate](#) and to continue the reforms that were instituted by the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations in the 117th Congress to promote greater transparency and accountability.

Existing U.S. Senate Requirements

In reviewing Senator requests for CDS items, the Committee will implement Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. Rule XLIV requires rigorous procedures for accountability and transparency, such as:

- **No Financial Interest:** The rules forbid any Senator from pursuing a CDS item to further his or her financial interest, or that of his or her immediate family. Each Senator requesting a CDS item must certify in writing that there is no such interest and make that certification available to the public.
- **Request in Writing:** Any Senator requesting a CDS item must do so in writing, including the Senator's name, the name and location of the intended recipient, and the purpose of the spending item.
- **Committee Consideration:** When reporting legislation containing CDS items, the Committee is required to make each item publicly available online in a searchable format as soon as practicable after the mark up (including the name of each Senator requesting the item).
- **Disclosure Before Floor Consideration:** The rules prohibit a vote on a motion to proceed to a bill or a vote on adoption of a conference report unless the Chair of the Committee certifies that a complete list of CDS items has been publicly available for at least 48 hours.
- **Point of Order Against New Projects in Conference Reports:** A point of order may be raised against a provision of a conference report if it includes a CDS item that was not included in either the Senate or House bills.

Continued Committee Reforms

In addition to the important requirements in Rule XLIV, the Committee instituted additional reforms in the 117th Congress to promote greater transparency and accountability. These reforms remain in place for fiscal year 2024:

- Funding for CDS items shall not exceed one percent of discretionary spending.
- For-profit entities are ineligible for CDS items, and Senators must certify that none of the entities for which they have requested CDS is a for-profit entity.

- Senators who submit CDS requests must publish those requests on their websites along with a letter to the Committee certifying that neither they nor their immediate family members have any financial interest in the CDS item(s) being requested. The Committee will provide a link to each Senator's disclosure on the Committee's website.
- The Committee will require the Government Accountability Office to audit a sample of enacted CDS items and report its findings to Congress.