



**Legislative Bulletin..... August 2, 2012**

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**H.Res.755** – In the matter of allegations relating to Representative Laura Richardson (Privileged Resolution)

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**H.Res.755 – In the matter of allegations relating to Representative Laura Richardson (Privileged Resolution) (Bonner, R-AL)**

**Order of Business:** H.Res.755 is scheduled to be considered on Thursday, August 2, 2012.

**Summary:** H.Res.755 would have the House adopt a report by the Ethics Committee which details the committee’s investigation of Rep. Laura Richardson. The report would serve as a public reprimand to Rep. Laura Richardson and it imposes a \$10,000 fine to the department of Treasury which is due to be paid no later than December 1, 2012.

**Background:** The House Ethics Committee received grievances from Rep. Richardson’s staffers in July 2010, that Rep. Richardson in both her Washington, DC and Long Beach, CA offices was requiring her federal staff to perform campaign work which violates the House rules and federal law. After further investigation, Rep. Richardson negotiated a settlement in which she agreed to admit to the seven counts against her (which included improperly using House resources for campaign, personal and nonofficial purposes; requiring or compelling her official staff to perform campaign work; obstructing the investigation of the committee through the alteration or destruction of evidence, the deliberate failure to produce documents responsive to requests for information and a subpoena and attempting to influence the testimony of witnesses), to pay a \$10,000 fine, and to lastly waive all further procedural rights to protest or appeal the matter.

**Committee Action:** The privileged resolution was adopted by the Committee on Ethics on July 31, 2012, and reported on August 1, 2012.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy is provided.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** No CBO statement is provided.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?** No

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** The earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

**Constitutional Authority:** No statement of constitutional authority was available.

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