

**STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN LAMAR SMITH
AND RANKING MINORITY MEMBER HOWARD L. BERMAN**

June 10, 1999

In accordance with Clause 3 of House Rule XI and Rules 15 and 19 of the Rules of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct ("Committee"), which authorize the Committee to establish an investigative subcommittee on its own initiative, the Committee voted on June 9, 1999, to establish an investigative subcommittee to conduct a formal inquiry regarding Representative Corrine Brown.

The investigative subcommittee shall have jurisdiction to determine whether Representative Brown violated the Code of Official Conduct or any law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to her conduct in the performance of her duties or the discharge of her responsibilities, with respect to: (1) lodging provided in 1997 to Representative Brown or other persons at premises owned or controlled by Foutanga Dit Babani Sissoko; (2) the gift of a Lexus automobile to Representative Brown's adult daughter, Shantrel Brown, in 1997; and (3) the relationship, if any, between the lodging or car and Representative Brown's status or actions as a Member of Congress.

As a result of information obtained through informal fact-finding, we have concluded that no further investigative action is warranted with respect to other issues raised regarding Representative Brown.

Representative Dave Camp will serve as Chairman of the investigative subcommittee, and Representative Chaka Fattah will serve as its Ranking Minority Member. The other two members of the subcommittee are Representative Mac Thornberry and Representative Mike Doyle.