

(d) Based upon the record compiled at the hearing, the Joint Ethics Committee shall make one of the following findings:

(1) there is no cause for further proceedings because there is no probable cause to believe that a violation may have occurred;

(2) there is probable cause to believe that a violation may have occurred but further proceedings are not justified because:

(i) any violation that may have occurred is not within the jurisdiction of the Joint Ethics Committee;

(ii) any violation that may have occurred was inadvertent, technical, or minor, or has been cured, and, after consideration of all of the circumstances, further proceedings would not serve the purposes of this section; or

(iii) for other reasons, after consideration of all of the circumstances, further proceedings would not serve the purposes of this Part II; or

(3) further proceedings are justified.]

[15-519.

Promptly upon making a finding pursuant to § 15-518(d) of this subtitle, the Joint Ethics Committee shall submit a written report of its proceedings, including its finding, to the presiding officer of the branch of the legislature of which the legislator is a member.]

[15-520.

(a) The presiding officer shall review each report submitted pursuant to § 15-519 of this subtitle.

(b) If the report contains a finding under § 15-518(d)(1) of this subtitle, the proceedings shall be terminated.

(c) If the report contains a finding under § 15-518(d)(2) of this subtitle and:

(1) if the presiding officer agrees with the finding contained in the report of the Joint Ethics Committee, the proceedings shall be terminated.

(2) if the presiding officer disagrees with the report of the Joint Ethics Committee, the reasons for disagreement shall be stated in writing and forwarded, together with the report, to an investigating committee created pursuant to the provisions of § 15-522 of this subtitle for further proceedings.

(d) If the report includes a finding under § 15-518(d)(2) of this subtitle, the presiding officer shall promptly forward the report to an investigating committee created pursuant to § 15-522 of this subtitle for further proceedings.]

[15-521.

(a) This section governs all matters referred to an investigating committee pursuant to this Part II.