



# The Daily Whip

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**THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2006**

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Five "One Minutes" Per Side	5:00 p.m.

*(194<sup>th</sup> Calendar Day of the Year – 59<sup>th</sup> Voting Day of the Year – 31 Voting Days until Target Adjournment)***FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY**

**[H.Res. 910](#) - Rule providing for consideration of [H.R. 9](#) - Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006 (Rules).** This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rule reported by the Rules Committee for consideration of [H.R. 9](#) (the 1<sup>st</sup> Rule was never considered on the floor of the House because the Republican Leadership pulled [H.R. 9](#) three weeks ago). This Rule provides 90 minutes of general debate, provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions, and makes in order four amendments which are debatable for 40 minutes each.

**[H.R. 9](#) - Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006 (Rep. Sensenbrenner - Judiciary) (Subject to a Rule).** This bipartisan bill reauthorizes for 25 years key provisions of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) that are set to expire in 2007. The expiring provisions include: Section 5, which requires jurisdictions with a history of discrimination in voting to get federal approval of any new voting practices or procedures; Section 203, which ensures that American citizens with limited English proficiency get the help they need at the polls; and Sections 6-9, which authorize the Attorney General to appoint federal election observers where there is discrimination. The bill contains provisions to address two recent Supreme Court decisions that have eroded the Act's effectiveness. [H.R. 9](#) was negotiated, drafted, and passed Committee in a bipartisan manner (33-1). This bill has the support of the Civil Rights Community, the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

- **Norwood Amendment (40 minutes).** To repeal the current formula for Section 5 "coverage" and instead apply Section 5 to jurisdictions based on their discriminatory voting practices and voter turnout over the past three presidential election cycles. Voting experts anticipate that the immediate effect of this amendment would be to subject only the state of Hawaii to Section 5 coverage, thus exempting states with historically discriminatory voting practices from continued coverage. **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO.**
- **Gohmert Amendment (40 minutes).** To make the reauthorization period 10 years, rather than the 25 years proposed in [H.R. 9](#). Extensive Judiciary Committee hearings, as well as the work of the Civil Rights Community over the past year, demonstrate the need to renew the relevant sections of the VRA for at least 25 years. **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO.**
- **King (IA)/Miller(MI)/Brown-Waite/Bachus (40 minutes).** To strike sections 7 and 8 of the bill, which reauthorize Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. Section 203 ensures that all American citizens, regardless of language ability, are able to participate on a fair and equal basis in elections. **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO.**
- **Westmorland Amendment (40 minutes).** To give the Attorney General authority to expedite the Section 5 "bailout" process. The VRA currently provides a sensible framework for jurisdictions to demonstrate they need not be subject to continuing Section 5 coverage. **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO.**

**Democrats are urged to VOTE YES on Final Passage of [H.R. 9](#).****TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK**

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Friday, no votes are expected in the House.

**Daily Quote...**

"A new Gallup Poll indicates that registered voters prefer congressional Democrats over Republicans by 10 percentage points. Gallup says 51 percent of voters said they favored the Democratic candidate in their district versus 41 percent who said they supported the Republican candidate. Those results continue a trend Gallup's pollsters have seen for at least the past year. Since August, according to a chart Gallup provides in its latest news release, the best congressional Republicans have done in public approval, is about 43 percent."

- A story in the Chicago Tribune today