



The Daily Whip

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2003

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Ten "One Minutes" Per Side	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE

H.Res. 449 - Rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (*Rep. Sessions/Rules*)

H.Res. 451 - Rule providing for consideration of the Conference Report on H.R. 2417 - Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Rep. Goss/Rules*)

H.Res. 450 - Rule providing for consideration of H.J.Res. 78 - Making Further Continuing Appropriations for FY04 (*Rep. Linder/Rules*)

H.J.Res. 78 - Making Further Continuing Appropriations for FY04 (*Rep. Young (FL) / Appropriations Committee*) (Subject to a Rule)

Conference Report on H.R. 2417 - Intelligence Authorization Act for FY04 (*Rep. Goss / Intelligence*) (Subject to a Rule)

H.R. 253 - The Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2003 (also known as the Two Floods and You Are Out of the Taxpayers` Pocket Act of 2003) (*Rep. Bereuter / Financial Services*) (Unanimous Consent Agreement with one hour of debate)

Suspensions (7 Bills):

- 1) **S. 189** - 21st Century Nanotechnology Research and Development Act (*Sen. Wyden / Science*)
- 2) **H.R. 2297** - Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (*Rep. Smith (NJ) / Veterans` Affairs*)
- 3) **H.J.Res. 63** - Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (*Rep. Leach / International Relations*)
- 4) **H.R. 1828** - Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003 (*Rep. Engel / International Relations*)
- 5) **H.Con.Res. 209** - Commending the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter, a charter of partnership among the United States, Albania, Croatia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (*Rep. Engel / International Relations*)
- 6) **S. 1657** - To amend section 44921 of title 49, United States Code, to provide for the arming of cargo pilots against terrorism (*Sen. Bunning / Transportation and Infrastructure*)
- 7) **H.R. 3521** - Tax Relief Extension Act of 2003 (*Rep. Thomas / Ways and Means*)

Postponed Suspension Votes (2 bills):

- 1) **S. 286** - Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Prevention Act of 2003 (*Sen. Bond / Energy and Commerce*)
- 2) **S. 686** - Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness Act Amendments of 2003 (*Sen. DeWine / Energy and Commerce*)

Postponed Vote on the Hooley Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1 – Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act of 2003. The motion instructs conferees to reject the House provisions that require the Medicare program to compete with private plans to provide Medicare benefits by 2010 and reject the Senate provisions that would establish an alternative payment system for preferred provider organizations in highly competitive regions. The motion also instructs conferees to accept the House provisions that would provide increases in Medicare payments to doctors for the next two years. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

Postponed Vote on the Kildee Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2660 - Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY04. The motion instructs conferees to insist on at least \$14.2 billion for student financial aid, and the highest funding level possible for the Pell Grant program. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

Inslee Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1 - Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act of 2003. The motion instructs conferees to reject the House provisions that require the Medicare program to compete with private plans to provide Medicare benefits by 2010 and reject the Senate provisions that would establish an alternative payment system for preferred provider organizations in highly competitive regions, with the savings from the rejection of these provisions to be used to increase payments to rural physicians and hospitals. The motion also instructs conferees to accept the House provisions that would provide increases in Medicare payments to doctors for the next two years.

Hastings Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2989 – Transportation-Treasury Appropriations for FY04. The motion instructs conferees to accept Senate provisions that would provide \$1.5 billion in FY04 for grants to assist state and local efforts to upgrade election technology and improve the administration of federal elections, as authorized by the Help America Vote Act.



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BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

H.Res. 449 - Rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rep. Sessions/Rules). The Rule provides that suspensions will be in order at any time on the legislative day of Thursday, November 20, 2003; and provides that the Speaker or his designee will consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on any suspension considered under the rule.

H.Res. 451 - Rule providing for consideration of the Conference Report on H.R. 2417 - Intelligence Authorization Act for FY04 (Rep. Goss/Rules). The Rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration; and provides that the conference report shall be considered as read.

H.Res. 450 - Rule providing for consideration of H.J.Res. 78 - Making Further Continuing Appropriations for FY04 (Rep. Linder/Rules). The Rules Committee has recommended a closed rule that provides one hour of general debate; waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution; and provides one motion to recommit.

H.J.Res. 78 - Making Further Continuing Appropriations for FY04 (Rep. Young (FL) / Appropriations Committee) (Subject to a Rule). This bill provides temporary funding for the Federal government through Sunday, November 23 at the FY03 rate.

Conference Report on H.R. 2417 - Intelligence Authorization Act for FY04. The conference report authorizes classified amounts for fourteen intelligence agencies including the CIA and the National Security Agency (NSA), and foreign intelligence activities of the Defense Department, State Department, Homeland Security Department, FBI and other agencies.

H.R. 253 - The Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2003 (also known as the Two Floods and You Are Out of the Taxpayers` Pocket Act of 2003) (Rep. Bereuter / Financial Services) (Unanimous Consent Agreement with one hour of debate). The bill reauthorizes the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) until 2007 and amends the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to reform the NFIP to reduce losses to properties for which repetitive flood insurance claim payments have been made. While protecting home owner rights, the bill will make flood insurance premiums risk-based for properties that have multiple claims if the owner refuses an offer of mitigation assistance to prevent future flood damage. The unanimous consent agreement provides for one hour of debate and makes in order one amendment (Baker Substitute Amendment) to be debated for 30 minutes.

Daily Quotes...

"The Medicare bill is such a complicated mess, full of concessions to one interest group after another, that it actually stands a chance of being defeated. It should be, especially in this year of record deficits."

- *The Los Angeles Times* today

"Perhaps AARP was unduly influenced by its own longstanding and continuing financial dependence on the insurance industry. Insurers stand to benefit from the bill's new role for private insurers in the drug benefit and from mandated opportunities to privatize Medicare. A great public-interest organization has acted in its private interest and sadly misled the public."

- Anthony Robbins, M.D., a professor of public health at Tufts University School of Medicine and past president of the American Public Health Association, in a letter to *The New York Times* today

"We're catching hell for it."

- Bill Novelli, AARP chief executive officer, regarding the organization's endorsement of the Republican Medicare Conference Report, in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 11/19