Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS:

Senate passed H.R. 2744, Agriculture Appropriations.

Senate passed H.R. 2528, Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages \$10327-\$10393

Measures Introduced: Seventeen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1750–1766, and S. Res. 247–250.

Page S10378

Measures Passed:

Agriculture Appropriations: By 97 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 241), Senate passed H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages \$10327-32

Rejected:

By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 240), Dayton Modified Amendment No. 1844, to condition the use of funds for carrying out a provision relating to prevented planting payments, with an offset.

Pages S10327-28

Withdrawn:

Bingaman (for Jeffords) Amendment No. 1796, to provide funds to carry out the historic barn preservation program, with an offset.

Page S10327

A unanimous-consent request was granted permitting Senator Stevens to change his nay vote to a yea vote on Vote No. 237 changing the outcome of the vote to 69 yeas to 28 nays relative to Ensign Amendment No. 1753, as modified (adopted on September 20, 2005).

Page \$10332

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Bennett, Cochran, Specter, Bond, McConnell, Burns, Craig, Brownback, Stevens, Kohl, Harkin, Dorgan, Feinstein, Durbin, Johnson, Landrieu, and Byrd.

Page \$10332

Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations: By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 243), Senate passed H.R. 2528, making appropriations for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, which will be considered as original text for the purpose of further amendment, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S10335-60

Adopted:

Hutchison (for Coburn) Amendment No. 1858, to require that any limitation, directive, or earmarking contained in either the House of Representatives or Senate report accompanying this bill be included in the conference report or joint statement accompanying the bill in order to be considered as having been approved by both Houses of Congress.

Page S10353

Hutchison (for Carper) Amendment No. 1859, to provide that, of the amount made available by title I for military construction for the Air National Guard and available for planning and design, \$1,440,000 shall be made available for planning and design for a replacement C–130 maintenance hangar at Air National Guard New Castle County Airport, Delaware.

Page \$10353

Hutchison (for Boxer) Amendment No. 1860, to require a report on housing assistance to low-income veterans.

Page S10353

Hutchison (for Chambliss/Isakson) Amendment No. 1861, to provide that, of the amount appropriated by this title under the heading "Military Construction, Army", \$4,550,000 shall be made available for the construction of a military police complex at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and to provide an offset.

Pages \$10353-54

Hutchison (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 1862, to increase by \$25,000,000 the amount made available by title I for the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 1990, and to provide an offset.

Page S10354

Hutchison (for Feingold/Salazar) Amendment No. 1863, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report to Congress on a plan to provide veterans benefits handbooks to all county veterans service officers.

Page S10354

Hutchison (for Durbin/Murray) Amendment No. 1864, to place conditions on the use of appropriated funds for reviewing or revoking approved disability claims for post-traumatic stress disorder and to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from using Federal funds for certain investigations until after the submission of a detailed implementation plan to the Committee on Appropriations. Page S10354

Hutchison (for Durbin) Amendment No. 1865, to instruct the Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a veterans disability compensation information campaign.

Pages \$10354-55, \$10355-56

Hutchison (for Jeffords) Amendment No. 1866, to provide clinical training and protocols to meet the mental health care needs of servicemembers and veterans.

Page S10355

Hutchison (for Salazar) Amendment No. 1867, to require a report on any Department of Veterans Affairs budget shortfall totaling 2 percent or more of the Department's total discretionary funding budget for a fiscal year.

Page S10356

Craig (for Salazar) Amendment No. 1868, to assist rural veterans. Pages \$10356-59

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 242), Akaka Amendment No. 1852, to provide an additional \$10,000,000 for the Readjustment Counseling Service, with a corresponding offset from the HealtheVet account.

Pages \$10351-53, \$10359-60

Senate insisted on its amendments, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Hutchison, Burns, Craig, DeWine, Brownback, Allard, McConnell, Cochran, Feinstein, Inouye, Johnson, Landrieu, Byrd, Murray and Leahy.

Page S10360

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the earlier passage of the bill, the following amendments be agreed to:

Frist (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 1870, to provide funds for Phase 1a of a Permanent Party Barracks at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and for an Airfield Fire Station at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Page S10391

Frist (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 1871, to make funds available for a B-2 Conventional Muni-

tions Storage Facility at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri and for Phase 1 of Force Protection Enhancement at Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

Page S10391

Children Displaced by Hurricane Katrina: Senate passed S. 1764, to provide for the continued education of students affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Pages S10387-88

Indian Financing Act Amendment: Senate passed S. 1758, to amend the Indian Financing Act of 1974, to provide for sale and assignment of loans and underlying security.

Pages S10388–89

Commending James Madison Council: Senate agreed to S. Res. 247, commending the Library of Congress's private-sector advisory body, the James Madison Council, and its Founding Chairman, John W. Kluge on 15 years of exemplary service to Congress and the Nation and looking forward to the Council's continued success in the years ahead.

Pages S10389-90

Commemorating West Oahu Little League Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 248, commemorating the West Oahu Little League Team for winning the 2005 Little League World Series.

Page S10390

Commemorating Oahu All-Stars: Senate agreed to S. Res. 249, commemorating the Oahu All-Stars for winning the 2005 Cal Ripken World Series and the Hawaii Warriors for winning the 2005 Continental Amateur Baseball Association World Series (ages 9–under).

Pages \$10390–91

Supporting Gold Star Mothers Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 250, supporting the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day.

Page S10391

Infant Mortality Awareness Month: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 239, supporting the goals and ideals of Infant Mortality Awareness Month, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S10391

Grain Standards Act Authorization: Senate passed S. 1752, to amend the United States Grain Standards Act to reauthorize that Act. Page S10392

Roberts Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 1 p.m., on Monday, September 26, 2005, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, to be Chief Justice of the United States.

Page \$10392

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Robert B. Holland III, of Texas, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank

for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Page S10393

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Dorrance Smith, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Katherine Baicker, of New Hampshire, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Matthew Slaughter, of New Hampshire, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Benson K. Whitney, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to Norway.

David M. Hale, of New Jersey, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

John O. Agwunobi, of Florida, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to the qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations.

- 1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.
- 1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

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Messages From the House:	Page S10373
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Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S10386

Authority for Committees to Meet:

Pages S10386-87

Privilege of the Floor: Page S10387

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—243) Pages S10328, S10332, S10359-60, S10360

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:28 p.m., until 1 p.m., on Monday, September 26, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page \$10392–93.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

IDENTITY THEFT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the financial services industry's responsibilities and role in preventing identity theft and protecting sensitive financial information, after receiving testimony from Senator Pryor; Stuart K. Pratt, Consumer Data Industry Association, Edmund Mierzwinski, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Ira D. Hammerman, Securities Industry Association, Gilbert T. Schwartz, Schwartz and Ballen LLP, on behalf of the American Council of Life Insurers, and Oliver I. Ireland, Morrison and Foerster, on behalf of the American Bankers Association, all of Washington, D.C.

COMMUNICATIONS IN DISASTER

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee held a hearing to examine the protection of critical communications infrastructure during a disaster, focusing on the impact on communications services in the area effected by Hurricane Katrina, a status report on the extent to which services have been restored, and steps the Federal Communications Commission has taken to facilitate the restoration of service and to provide support for evacuees, receiving testimony from Kevin J. Martin, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; William L. Smith, BellSouth, and Paul Roth, Cingular Wireless, both of Atlanta, Georgia; Jeffrey A. Citron, Vonage Holdings Corporation, Edison, New Jersey; and Hossein Eslambolchi, AT&T Global Networking Technology Services and AT&T Labs, Bedminster, New Jersey.

Hearings will continue on Thursday, September 29.

LAND BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Sub-committee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine S. 435, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 1096, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate portions of the Musconetcong River in the State of New Jersey as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 1310, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation to increase the diameter of a natural gas

pipeline located in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, S. 1378, to amend the National Historic Preservation Act to provide appropriation authorization and improve the operations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and S. 1627, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study to evaluate resources along the coastal region of the State of Delaware and to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Park System in Delaware, after receiving testimony from Senator Dodd and Carper; Janet Snyder Matthews, Associate Director for Cultural Resources, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Timothy Slavin, State of Delaware Historical and Cultural Affairs, Dover; Eric Hammerling, Farmington River Watershed Association, Inc., Simsbury, Connecticut; Beth Anne Styler Barry, Musconetcong Watershed Association, Asbury, New Jersey; Michael W. Roberts, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, Chester Springs, Pennsylvania; and John Fowler, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Santanu K. Baruah, of Oregon, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, who was introduced by Senator Smith; George M. Gray, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator, and Lyons Gray, of North Carolina, to be Chief Financial Officer, who was introduced by Senator Burr, both of the Environmental Protection Agency; H. Dale Hall, of New Mexico, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, who was introduced by Senator Domenici; and Edward McGaffigan, Jr., of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Alexander R. Vershbow, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Patricia Louise Herbold, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore, who was introduced by Senators Murray and Cantwell, and William Paul McCormick, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to New Zealand, and serve concurrently as Ambassador to Samoa, who was introduced by Senators Wyden and Smith, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1725, to strengthen Federal leadership, provide grants, enhance outreach and guidance, and provide other support to State and local officials to enhance emergency communications capabilities, to achieve communications interoperability, to foster improved regional collaboration and coordination, to promote more efficient utilization of funding devoted to public safety communications, to promote research and development by both the public and private sectors for first responder communications, with amendments;

An original bill to provide relief for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, with amendments;

- S. 1738, to expand the responsibilities of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction to provide independent and objective audits and investigations relating to the Federal programs for Hurricane Katrina, with an amendment;
- S. 939, to expedite payments of certain Federal emergency assistance authorized pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to exercise certain authority provided under that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1736, to provide for the participation of employees in the judicial branch in the Federal leave transfer program for disasters and emergencies;
- S. 572, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to give additional biosecurity responsibilities to the Department of Homeland Security, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1700, to establish an Office of the Hurricane Katrina Recovery Chief Financial Officer, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Stewart A. Baker, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, John R. Fisher, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Colleen Duffy Kiko, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and Juliet JoAnn McKenna, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

MEDICARE DRUG BENEFIT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine cost and payment plans for the Medicare Prescription Drug,

Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, focusing on access to outpatient prescription drug coverage under Medicare Part D, after receiving testimony from Leslie Norwalk, Deputy Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and Joseph R. Antos, American Enterprise Institute, Jagadeesh Gokhale, Cato Institute, and Marilyn Moon, American Institutes for Research, all of Washington, D.C.

DISPLACED SCHOOL CHILDREN

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Education and Early Childhood Development concluded a hearing to examine Federal and State efforts to meet the educational needs of students and families displaced by Hurricane Katrina, after receiving testimony from Senators Lott and Landrieu; Henry L. Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education; Rodney R. Lafon, St. Charles Parish Public School District, Luling, Louisiana; Sister M. Michaeline Green, Louisiana Department of Education, Baton Rouge; Michael Stein Margolin Hebrew Academy, Memphis, Tennessee; Daryl Gates, Caddo Public School District, Shreveport, Louisiana

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, to be Chief Justice of the United States.

KATRINA VS. SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impact of Hurricane Katrina on small businesses and the efforts of the Small Business Administration to provide relief to the victims, after receiving testimony from Hector V. Barreto, Administrator, and Herbert

L. Mitchell, Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Assistance, both of the U.S. Small Business Administration; John Rowland, Southern Hospitality Catering, on behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business, and Woodrow J. Wilson, Jr., Gulf South Animated Motion Technologies, Inc., both of New Orleans, Louisiana; Alta Baker, Safe Haven Enterprises, Jennings, Louisiana, on behalf of Women Impacting Public Policy; Mary Lynn Wilkerson, Louisiana Small Business Development Centers, Monroe; Richard Harris, Harris Homes, Ocean Springs, Mississippi; Timothy Swindall, SWR Inc., Troy, Alabama; and Michele Sutton, Fairway Ventures, Hammond, Louisiana.

NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Veterans' Affairs implementation of the capital crime prohibition statute, intended to prohibit certain capital offenders from internment or memorialization in Arlington National Cemetery, after receiving testimony from Senator Mikulski; Richard A. Wannemacher, Jr., Acting Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs; Thurman M. Higginbotham, Deputy Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery; Dennis M. Cullinan, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Washington, D.C., on behalf of sundry veterans' organizations; and Vernon G. Davis, Hagerstown, Maryland.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill authorizing funds for fiscal year 2006 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 36 public bills, H.R. 3857–3892; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 249; and H. Res. 458–459 were introduced.

Pages H8340–41

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H8341-43

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 513, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify when organizations described in section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code

of 1986 must register as political committees (Rept. 109–181, Pt. 2);

H. Res. 420, to direct the Attorney General to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution documents in the possession of the Attorney General relating to the disclosure of the identity and employment of Ms. Valerie Plame, adversely (Rept. 109–230);

H.R. 609, to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965, with an amendment (Rept. 109–231);

H.R. 2830, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the pension funding rules, with an amendment (Rept. 109–232, Pt. 1);

H.R. 3402, to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, with an amendment (Rept. 109–233); and

H. Res. 417, to direct the Secretary of Defense to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution documents in the possession of the Secretary of Defense relating to the disclosure of the identity and employment of Ms. Valerie Plame, adversely (Rept. 109–234).

Page H8340

Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Rev. Anthony Marciano, Executive Director, Charlotte Rescue Mission, Charlotte, North Carolina. Page H8251

Journal: Agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 346 yeas to 59 nays with one voting "present", Roll No. 487.

Pages H8263-64

School Readiness Act of 2005: H.R. 2123, to reauthorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children (by a recorded vote of 231 ayes to 184 noes, Roll No. 493).

Pages H8253-63, H8264-H8324

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill is considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read.

Page H8287

Agreed to:

Castle Manager's amendment (no. 1 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that revises the financial audit language in Section 17 to ensure that financial audit requirements for Head Start programs are consistent with those required under the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1986, and a number of technical and conforming changes;

Pages H8299–H8301

DeLauro amendment (no. 3 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) which allows Head Start centers to develop or maintain partnerships with institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations to support college students that serve as mentors and reading coaches to preschool children; Pages H8304–05

Kind amendment (no. 6 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that suspends further implementation of the National Reporting System while the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) conducts a review and provides guidance on appropriate child outcomes and assessments for young children, as authorized in H.R. 2123;

Pages H8307–08

Mica amendment (no. 7 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that directs the Secretary of HHS to undergo a management reform initiative. Requires

HHS to utilize an outside management consulting firm to recommend and support the implementation of internal reforms to improve the Head Start Bureau's operational effectiveness;

Pages H8308-10

Filner amendment (no. 8 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) which initiates a study to assess the impact of new Head Start teacher qualification and development regulations upon teacher retention;

Pages H8310-11

Millender-McDonald amendment (no. 9 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) which encourages Head Start grantees to reduce barriers by directing them to increase their outreach to homeless and foster children. It also encourages coordination between Head Start grantees and community service providers and homeless and foster children;

Pages H8311–12

Woolsey amendment (no. 11 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to assist Head Start programs in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. Requires the Secretary to provide additional technical assistance, guidance, and resources to Head Start agencies in affected areas, waives documentation requirements for six months, and provides the Secretary with waiver authority to exempt programs from providing their local match;

Pages H8313–14

Stearns amendment (no. 4 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) which includes in section 18 "Children with Disabilities," in the list of areas for training to be provided by the Secretary of Education, (by a recorded vote of 411 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 489);

Pages H8305–06, H8321

Davis of Illinois amendment (no. 5 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that directs the Secretary to implement an outreach program to train and recruit African-American and Latino-American men to become Head Start teachers in order to increase the provision of quality services and instructions to children with diverse backgrounds, (by a recorded vote of 401 ayes to 14 noes, Roll No. 490); and

Pages H8306-07, H8321-22

Boehner amendment (no. 12 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that provides hiring protections for faith-based Head Start providers, (by a recorded vote of 220 ayes to 196 noes, Roll No. 492).

Pages H8314-20, H8323

Rejected:

Souder amendment (no. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) that sought to restore the current joint governance structure of the Head Start program by allowing the policy councils to approve or disapprove most program planning and operation activities along with the board of directors, (by a recorded vote of 153 ayes to 266 noes, Roll No. 488); and

Pages H8301-04, H8320-21

Musgrave amendment (no. 10 printed in H. Rept. 109–229) which sought to allow for profit providers of Head Start services to take profit from 15% administrative account, (by a recorded vote of 175 ayes to 241 noes, Roll No. 491). Pages H8312–13, H8322

The amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was adopted.

Page H8323

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes in the engrossment of the bill to reflect the actions of the House.

Page H8324

H. Res. 455, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 486, after agreeing to order the previous question by voice vote.

Pages H8253-63

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourn today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, September 26, and when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, for Morning Hour debate.

Page H8326

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, September 28.

Page H8326

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H8251.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8262–63, H8263–64, H8320–21, H8321, H8321–22, H8322, H8323, H8323–24. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The house met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THREATS IN EURASIA

Committee on Armed Services: Threat Panel held a hearing on threats in Eurasia. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

KATRINA/CONSUMER PROTECTION ISSUES

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled "The Commerce and Consumer Protection Implications of Hurricane Katrina." Testimony was heard from John Seesel, Associate General Counsel, Energy, FTC; Keith Hall, Chief Economist, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

KATRINA/HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint hearing entitled "Assessing Public Health and the Delivery of Care in the Wake of Katrina." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services; Julie Gerberding, M.D., Director, Center for Disease Control and Prevention; and Stewart Simonson, Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2005

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing on H.R. 3505, Financial Services Regulatory Relief Act of 2005. Testimony was heard from Mark W. Olson, member, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Julie L. Williams, First Senior Deputy Comptroller and Chief Counsel; and John E. Bowman, Chief Counsel, Office of Thrift Supervision; William F. Kroener, III, General Counsel, FDIC; Robert M. Fenner, General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration; and public witnesses.

NUCLEAR MATERIALS MOVEMENT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack held a hearing entitled "Trends in Illicit Movement of Nuclear Materials." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INTERNET—POLITICAL SPEECH—SHOULD IT BE REGULATED

Committee on House Administration: Held a hearing entitled "Political Speech on the Internet: Should it be Regulated?" Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FEC: Scott Thomas, Chairman; Michael Toner, Vice Chairman; and Ellen Weintraub, Commissioner; the following former officials of the FEC: Bradley A. Smith, Chairman; and Karl Sandstrom, Commissioner; and public witnesses.

U.S.-AFGHANISTAN POLICY

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing entitled "United States Policy in Afghanistan: Establishing Democratic Governance and Security in the Wake of Parliamentary Elections." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Maureen E. Quinn, Coordinator for Afghanistan, Bureau of South Asian Affairs; and Nancy J. Powell, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs; and Peter Rodman, Assistant Secretary, International Security Affairs, Department of Defense.

KELO DECISION/PRIVATE PROPERTY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution held an oversight hearing entitled "The Supreme Court's Kelo Decision and Potential Congressional Responses." Testimony was heard from Bart Peterson, Mayor, City of Indianapolis, Indiana; and public witnesses.

UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES—REDUCING PEER-TO-PEER PIRACY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing entitled "Reducing Peer-To-Peer Piracy (P2P) on University Campuses: A Progress Update." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 3824, amended, Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2005; H.R. 1129, amended, Pitkin County Land Exchange Act of 2005; H.R. 2383, To redesignate the facility of the Bureau of Reclamation located at 19550 Kelso Road in Byron, California, as the "C. W. 'Bill' Jones Pumping Plant;" H.R. 2875, amended, Public Lands Corps Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005; H.R. 3351, amended, Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2005; and S. 1339, Junior Duck Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2005.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL UPDATES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a Briefing on Global Updates. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

PREDICTING HURRICANES: WHAT WE KNEW ABOUT KATRINA AND WHEN

Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina: Held a hearing entitled "Predicting Hurricanes: What We Knew About Katrina and When." Testimony was heard from the following officials of National Weather Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce: BG David L. Johnson, USAF (Ret.), Director, and Max Mayfield, Director, National Hurricane Center.

Prior to the hearing, the Committee met for organizational purposes.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 939)

H.R. 3169, to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Pell Grants who are adversely affected by a natural disaster. Signed on September 21, 2005. (Public Law 109–66)

H.R. 3668, to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Federal student grant assistance who are adversely affected by a major disaster. Signed on September 21, 2005. (Public Law 109–67)

H.R. 3672, to provide assistance to families affected by Hurricane Katrina, through the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families. Signed on September 21, 2005. (Public Law 109–68)

S. 252, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land in Washoe County, Nevada, to the Board of Regents of the University and Community College System of Nevada. Signed on September 21, 2005. (Public Law 109–69)

S. 264, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize certain projects in the State of Hawaii. Signed on September 21, 2005. (Public Law 109–70)

S. 276, to revise the boundary of the Wind Cave National Park in the State of South Dakota. Signed on September 21, 2005. (Public Law 109–71)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans, hearing on the following bills: S. 260 and H.R. 2018, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 26 through October 1, 2005

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, to be Chief Justice of the United States.

During the balance of the week, Senate expects to continue consideration of the nomination of Mr. Roberts (listed above), with a vote expected to occur on confirmation of the nomination. Also, Senate will consider any other cleared legislative and executive business, including any appropriation bills, when available.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: September 26, Subcommittee on Defense, business meeting to markup H.R. 2863, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: September 27, to hold hearings to examine needed improvements to defense acquisition processes and organizations, 9:30 a.m., SR-325.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: September 28, to hold hearings to examine S. 1334, to provide for integrity and accountability in professional sports, and S. 1114, to establish minimum drug testing standards for major professional sports leagues, 10 a.m., SH–216.

September 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine communications for first responders in disaster, 10 a.m., SD–562.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: September 27, to hold hearings to examine S.1701, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to improve the reclamation of abandoned mines, and S. 961, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to reauthorize and reform the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program, 10 a.m., SD–366.

September 28, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 11:30 a.m., SD-366.

September 28, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, to hold oversight hearings to examine the grazing

programs of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service, including proposed changes to grazing regulations, and the status of grazing permit renewals, monitoring programs and allotment restocking plans, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: September 28, to hold hearings to examine the role of science in environmental policy making, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: September 28, to hold hearings to examine the international response to Darfur, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

September 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Protocol of 1997 Amending MARPOL Convention (Treaty Doc. 108–7), Agreement with Canada on Pacific Hake/Whiting (Treaty Doc. 108–24), Convention Concerning Migratory Fish Stock in the Pacific Ocean (Treaty Doc. 109–1), Convention Strengthening Inter-American Tuna Commission (Treaty Doc. 109–2), and the Convention on Supplementary Compensation on Nuclear Damage (Treaty Doc. 107–21), 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

September 29, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing regarding the evolving NATO role in Afghanistan, 3:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: September 27, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine assessing progress in the Federal government regarding alternative personnel systems, focusing on systems to learn where personnel systems have been successfully employed and what steps have been taken in their development to ensure effective implementation and operation, 10 a.m., SD–342.

September 27, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine housing-related programs for the poor, focusing on existing challenges in measuring improper rent subsidy payments in housing assistance programs at HUD, as well as Federal oversight of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

September 28, Full Committee, to resume hearings to examine issues relating to recovering from Hurricane Katrina, focusing on the needs of those displaced, today and tomorrow, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

September 29, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine the effectiveness and cost of the Defense Travel System of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: September 28, to hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian housing, 2:30 p.m., SR-485.

September 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine proposed Duck Valley Reservation, Shoshone Paiute Tribes, Water Rights Settlement, 10 a.m., SR–485.

Committee on the Judiciary: September 28, to hold hearings to examine protecting copyright and innovation in a post-Grokster world, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

September 28, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine whether there is more consolidation or new choices for consumers regarding video competition in 2005, 2 p.m., SD–226.

September 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 28, to receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

September 29, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: September 29, to hold hearings to examine the impact of direct-to-consumer drug advertising on seniors' health and health care costs, 10 a.m., SH–216.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, September 28, Subcommittee on Livestock and Horticulture, hearing to review the development of a private sector-based National Animal Identification System (NAIS), 1:30 p.m., Longworth.

September 29, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing to review the current state of the farm economy and the economic impact of Federal policy on agriculture, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, September 27, Sub-committee on Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies, hearing on Department of Housing and Urban Development (Hurricane Katrina), 9:30 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

September 27, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Department of Defense (Hurricane Katrina), 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

September 28, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on Corps of Engineers (Hurricane Katrina), 2 p.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

September 29, Subcommittee on the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies, hearing on Department of Transportation (Hurricane Katrina), 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, September 29, hearing entitled "Closing the Achievement Gap in America's Schools: the No Child Left Behind Act," 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 27, Sub-committee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled "Hurricane Katrina: Assessing the Present Environmental Status, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

September 29, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing entitled "Public Safety Communications from 9/11 to Katrina: Critical Public Policy Lessons," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, September 27, Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology, hearing entitled "IDA–14: Historic Advance or Incremental Change in Debt and Development Policy," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

September 28, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Private Sector Priorities for Basel Reform," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, September 27, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, hearing entitled "It's Time to React—Reauthorizing Executive Authority to Consolidate Tasks: Establishing Results and Sunset Commissions (H.R. 3276 and H.R. 3277)," 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

September 28, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled "The Impact of Regulation on U.S. Manufacturing: Spotlight on the Environmental Protection Agency," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

September 29, to consider the following measures: H.R. 1317, Federal Employee Protection of Disclosures Act; H.R. 3134, Federal Real Property Disposal Pilot Program and Management Improvement Act of 2005; H.R. 3699, Federal and District of Columbia Government Real Property Act of 2005; and H. Res. 15, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Campus Safety Awareness Month; followed by a hearing entitled "The Last Frontier: Bringing the IT Revolution to Healthcare," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 28, Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity, hearing entitled "Solving the OTM Undocumented Alien Problem: Expedited Removal for Apprehensions along the U.S. Border," 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

September 28, Subcommittee on Management, Integration, and Oversight, hearing entitled "Sniffing Out Terrorism: The Use of Dogs in Homeland Security," 10:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

September 29, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science, and Technology, hearing entitled "Incident Command, Control, and Communications during Catastrophic Events," 1 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on International Relations, September 28, hearing and briefing on United Nations Rhetoric or Reform: Outcome of the High-Level Event, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 28, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing on Keeping Democracy on Track: Hotspots in Latin America, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

September 29, Subcommittee on International Terrorism and Nonproliferation, hearing on Evolving Counterterrorism Strategy, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, September 27, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on H.R. 1956, Business Activity Tax Simplification Act of 2005, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

September 27, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on the Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act, 4 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

September 29, Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims, oversight hearing entitled "Dual Citizenship, Birthright Citizenship, and the Meaning of Sovereignty," 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, September 27, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 679, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey a parcel of real property to Beaver County, Utah; H.R. 2069, Utah Recreational Land Exchange Act of 2005; H.R. 3462, To provide for the conveyance of the Bureau of Land Management parcels known as the White Acre and Gambel Oak properties and related real property to Park City, Utah; and H.R. 3818, Forest Service Partnership Enhancement Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

September 27, Subcommittee on Water and Power, hearing on the following measures: H.R. 1564, Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District Conveyance Act of 2005; H.R. 2873, Albuquerque Biological Park Title Clarification Act; H.R. 2925, To amend the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 to extend the authority for drought assistance; H.R. 3443, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution facilities to the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District; and a measure regarding a water supply project near Madera, California, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

September 29, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans and the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, joint hearing on S. 362, Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

September 29, Subcommittee on National Parks, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 326, To amend the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Act of 2000 to adjust the boundary of the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area and to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance under that Act; H.R. 1436, To remove certain use restrictions on property located in Navajo County, Arizona; and H.R. 1972, Franklin National Battlefield Study Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, September 29, hearing on NIST's Investigation of the World Trade Center Collapse: What Are the Lessons Learned and How Are They Being Applied to Improve Building Safety?" 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, September 29, Sub-committee on Regulatory Reform and Oversight, hearing to discuss the Entrepreneur Soldiers Empowerment Act (ESEA), 10:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, September 28, Subcommittee on Aviation, oversight hearing on Current Situation and Future Outlook of U.S. Commercial Airline Industry, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

September 29, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on H.R. 1749, Pest Management and Fire Suppression Flexibility Act, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, September 28, oversight hearing regarding the status of seamless transition between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, September 27, Sub-committee on Social Security and the Subcommittee on Human Resources, joint hearing on the Commissioner of Social Security's proposed regulation to improve the disability determination process, 4 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

September 28, full Committee, hearing on Economic and Trade Issues with Japan, 1 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

September 29, full Committee, hearing on the Implementation of the U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement (FTA), 10:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

September 29, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on H.R. 3617, Medicare Value-Based Purchasing for Physicians' Services Act of 2005, 3 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE 1 p.m., Monday, September 26 Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2 p.m., Monday, September 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, to be Chief Justice of the United States.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 2 p.m.

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