Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 5140, Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act.

The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 5140, Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act of 2008.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S753-S804

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2603–2612, S. Res. 445, and S. Con. Res. 66. Pages S784-85

Measures Passed:

Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act: By 81 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 10), Senate passed H.R. 5140, to provide economic stimulus through recovery rebates to individuals, incentives for business investment, and an increase in conforming and FHA loan limits, and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: Pages S762-73

Adopted:

By 91 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 9) Reid Modified Amendment No. 4010, to revise the eligibility criteria for the 2008 recovery rebates for individuals.

Withdrawn:

Reid Amendment No. 3983, of a perfecting nature. Page S762

Reid Amendment No. 3984 (to Amendment No. 3983), to change the enactment date. Page S762

Motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions to report back forthwith, with Reid Amendment No. 3985. Page S762

Reid Amendment No. 3986 (to the instructions of the Reid motion to commit), of a perfecting nature. Page S762

Reid Amendment No. 3987 (to Amendment No. 3986), of a perfecting nature. Page S762

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached provided that, notwithstanding the passage of the bill, Reid Amendment No. 4010 (listed above), be modified. Page S773 Measures Considered:

FISA Amendments Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 2248, to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to modernize and streamline the provisions of that Act, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S775-78

Adopted:

Bond/Rockefeller Modified Amendment No. 3941 (to Amendment No. 3911), to expedite the review of challenges to directives under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. Pages S775-78 Rejected:

By 40 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 11), Feingold/ Dodd Amendment No. 3915 (to Amendment No. 3911), to place flexible limits on the use of information obtained using unlawful procedures.

Pages S775-76

By 38 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 12), Feingold Amendment No. 3913 (to Amendment No. 3911), to prohibit reserve targeting and protect the rights of Americans who are communicating with people abroad. Pages S775, S776-77

Pending:

Pages S762-73

Rockefeller/Bond Amendment No. 3911, in the nature of a substitute. Page S775

Whitehouse Amendment No. 3920 (to Amendment No. 3911), to provide procedures for compliance reviews. Page S775

Feingold Amendment No. 3979 (to Amendment No. 3911), to provide safeguards for communications involving persons inside the United States. **Page S775**

Feingold/Dodd Amendment No. 3912 (to Amendment No. 3911), to modify the requirements for certifications made prior to the initiation of certain acquisitions. **Page S775**

Dodd Amendment No. 3907 (to Amendment No. 3911), to strike the provisions providing immunity

from civil liability to electronic communication service providers for certain assistance provided to the Government. Page S775

Bond/Rockefeller Modified Amendment No. 3938 (to Amendment No. 3911), to include prohibitions on the international proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. Page S775

Feinstein Amendment No. 3910 (to Amendment No. 3911), to provide a statement of the exclusive means by which electronic surveillance and interception of certain communications may be conducted.

Page S775

Feinstein Amendment No. 3919 (to Amendment No. 3911), to provide for the review of certifications by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

Page S775

Specter/Whitehouse Amendment No. 3927 (to Amendment No. 3911), to provide for the substitution of the United States in certain civil actions. Page S775

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m. on Friday, February 8, 2008, Senate continue consideration of the bill; that on Friday, February 8, 2008 and Monday, February 11, 2008, all remaining amendments be debated and all time used; provided further, that on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at a time to be determined, Senate vote in relation to the amendments in an order specified later, with two minutes of debate prior to each vote, equally divided and controlled in the usual form, and any succeeding votes in the sequence be limited to 10 minutes; that no further amendments be in order on Tuesday, February 12, 2008; provided further, that upon disposition of all amendments, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill and that if cloture is invoked on the bill, the following Senators be recognized to speak for the specified times: Senator Dodd for up to 4 hours, and Senator Feingold for up to 15 minutes and that upon conclusion of those remarks, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Select Committee on Intelligence for up to 10 minutes each, and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary for 20 minutes each; provided further, Senate then vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended; and that any other provisions of the previous orders remain in ef-Pages S775-76 fect.

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

23 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy. Pages S801-804 Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Paul DeCamp, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007. Page S804

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Messages from the House:	Pages S781–82
Measures Referred:	Page S782
Executive Communications:	Pages S782-84
Petitions and Memorials:	Page S784
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	
	Pages S785–97
Additional Statements:	Page S781
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S797–S800
Notices of Hearings/Meetings:	Page S800
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	
	Pages S800-01
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S801

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—12) Pages S773, S776, S777

Recess: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and recessed at 6:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, February 8, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page \$803.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the final report of the Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, after receiving testimony from Major General Arnold L. Punaro, USMCR (Ret.), Chairman, and William L. Ball, III, Patricia L. Lewis, and Major General E. Gordon Stump, USAF (Ret.), all Commissioners, all of the Commission on the National Guard and Reserves.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine business transformation and financial management at the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; and Paul A. Brinkley, Deputy Under Secretary for Business Transformation, Peter E. Kunkel, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, Douglas A. Brook, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management and Comptroller, and John H. Gibson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, all of the Department of Defense.

GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED ENTERPRISES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways to reform the regulation of government-sponsored enterprises, after receiving testimony from David G. Nason, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions; James B. Lockhart, III, Director, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight; Ronald A. Rosenfeld, Chairman, Federal Housing Finance Board; Richard F. Syron, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, McLean, Virginia; and Daniel H. Mudd, Federal National Mortgage Association, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Robert A. Sturgell, of Maryland, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and Simon Charles Gros, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs, who was introduced by Representative LoBiondo, both of the Department of Transportation, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the energy market effects of the recently-passed renewable fuel standard enacted as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act (Public Law 110-140), after receiving testimony from Alexander Karsner, Assistant of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Robert J. Meyers, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Carol Werner, Environmental and Energy Study Institute, Charles T. Drevna, National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, Michael J. McAdams, Advanced Biofuels Coalition, and Bob Dinneen, Renewable Fuels Association, all of Washington, D.C.; and Brian Jennings, American Coalition for Ethanol, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

MEDICARE PRIVATE PLANS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine selling to seniors, focusing on the need for accountability and oversight of marketing and sales by Medicare private plans, after receiving testimony from Michael McRaith, Illinois Division of Insurance, Springfield, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Peter C. Hebertson, Salt Lake County Aging Services, Salt Lake City, Utah; Patrick O'Toole, Humana Inc., Louisville, Kentucky; and George Harper, Mayflower, Arkansas.

KENYA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on African Affairs concluded a hearing to examine the immediate and underlying causes and consequences of Kenya's flawed election, after receiving testimony from Jendayi Frazer, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs; Katherine J. Almquist, Assistant Administrator for Africa, United States Agency for International Development (USAID); and Chris Albin-Lackey, Human Rights Watch, Joel D. Barkan, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and David Mozersky, International Crisis Group, all of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Hector E. Morales, of Texas, to be Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador, who was introduced by Senator Hutchison, Larry Woodrow Walther, of Arkansas, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agency, who was introduced by Senator Lincoln, Ana M. Guevara, of Florida, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and Jeffrey J. Grieco, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert G. McSwain, of Maryland, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

FOUNDING FATHERS PROJECT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Founding Fathers Project, focusing on ensuring public access to the complete annotated writings of the six founding fathers of the United States, after receiving testimony from Deanna B. Marcum, Associate Librarian for Library Services, Library of Congress; Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records

Administration; Stanley Katz, Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton, New Jersey; Rebecca W. Rimel, Pew Charitable Trusts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Ralph Ketcham, Syracuse University Maxwell School, Syracuse, New York; and David G. McCullough, Camden, Maine.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 74 public bills, H.R. 5244–5317; 14 private bills, H.R. 5318–5331; and 10 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 289–290; and H. Res. 963–970 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Pastor Wes Davis, Riverton Friends Church, Baxter Springs, Kansas. Page H625

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Wednesday, February 6th:

Calling for a peaceful resolution to the current electoral crisis in Kenya: H. Con. Res. 283, amended, to call for a peaceful resolution to the current electoral crisis in Kenya, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 405 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 34; Page H640

Extending for one year parity in the application of certain limits to mental health benefits: H.R. 4848, amended, to extend for one year parity in the application of certain limits to mental health benefits by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 384 yeas to 23 nays, Roll No. 35; and Pages H640-41

Congratulating Lee Myung-Bak on his election to the Presidency of the Republic of Korea and wishing him well during his time of transition and his inauguration on February 25, 2008: H. Res. 947, to congratulate Lee Myung-Bak on his election to the Presidency of the Republic of Korea and wishing him well during his time of transition and his inauguration on February 25, 2008, by a 2/ 3 yea-and-nay vote of 388 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 41. Page H783

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in memory of the victims who lost their lives in the tornado outbreak in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky and Tennessee. Page H640

College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 4137, to amend and

extend the Higher Education Act of 1965, by a yeaand-nay vote of 354 yeas to 58 nays, Roll No. 40. Pages H641-H783

Rejected the Ferguson motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and Labor with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 194 ayes to 216 noes, Roll No. 39. Pages H780-82

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Page H658**

Pursuant to section 6 of the rule, H. Res. 941 is laid upon the table.

Accepted:

George Miller (CA) manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110-523) that makes technical changes to the bill, as well as changes to the provisions on college costs to a more consumer friendly approach, while keeping the focus on accountability; revises the definition of the state funds that count toward meeting the State Maintenance of Effort requirement; revises a technical amendment to Pell grant funding; modifies the Cohort Default Rate provisions to provide for a transition period before the new sanctions are imposed and provides for targeted technical assistance to schools in danger of losing their federal student aid as a result of high Cohort Default Rates; provides assurances that students will be aware of lower-cost federal student aid options before turning to more expensive private loans and a means to help students avoid potentially compromising their federal aid eligibility by inadvertently relying on private student loans or borrowing excess amounts of private student loans; and includes studies; Page H736

McKeon amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that requires the National Research Council to conduct a study of the regulat ions on institutions of higher education; Pages H751-52

Hinojosa en bloc amendment consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 110–523: No. 3, that authorizes discretion currently exercised

Pages H811-13 Pages H813-15

by the Secretary of Education to reserve for competitive grants to Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities for construction, maintenance, or renovation of campus facilities a percentage of funds appropriated for Tribal Colleges and Universities under Title III of the Higher Education Act; No. 8, that prevents interest from accruing for active duty service members and qualifying National Guard members for the duration of their activation up to 60 months when serving in a combat zone; No. 14, that makes a technical correction to the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program to clarify Congressional intent that a Masters Degree level institution or program is eligible to be the lead recipient of a grant under the GAANN program; No. 15, that prohibits a state from charging members of the armed forces who are on active duty for more than 30 days and whose domicile or permanent duty station is in such state, and such members' dependents, more than the in-state tuition for attending a public institution of higher education (IHE) in that state and provides that, even if such members' permanent duty station is subsequently changed to a location outside the state, they or their dependents must continue to be charged no more than the instate tuition if they remain continuously emolled at such IHE in the state; and No. 20, that ensures that competitive Sustainability Planning Grants explicitly provided for "greenhouse gas emissions reductions" to reduce the threat of global warming and adds an eligibility requirement to FIPSE to ensure that institutions meet current energy efficiency standards. Additionally, includes a sense of Congress that the Federal Perkins Loan Program, which provides low-interest loans to help needy students finance a degree in higher education, should remain a campus-based aid program and to support increased funds to provide more low-income students with options;

Pages H752-55

Castle amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that requires the Quality Efficiency Task Forces to develop annual benchmarks for the top 5 percent of institutions in each institution category that have the largest increase in their tuition and fees over the most recent three year period in which data is available. The amendment also requires those institutions not meeting the benchmarks to provide the Secretary of Education a detailed explanation of the reasons why the institution did not meet such benchmarks; Page H758

Sestak amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that includes physical therapists as an occupation defined as an area of national need to qualify for student loan forgiveness under Sec. 428K of the Higher Education Act; Pages H760–61 Sestak amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that amends the articulation agreement strategies that may be employed by states and institutions of higher education to include management systems regarding course equivalency, transfer of credit, and articulation; Pages H761–62

Yarmuth amendment (No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that provides competitive Teach to Reach grants to eligible partnerships to provide general education teacher candidates with the knowledge and skills to effectively instruct students with disabilities in their classrooms. Eligible partnerships must include an institution of higher education, a special education department within that institution, and a high-need local education agency; Pages H762-63

Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 12 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that authorizes a nationwide pilot program through the Department of Education to promote holistic community-centered partnerships aimed at mitigating gang violence and reducing recidivism rates among juvenile ex-offenders previously detained for gang-related offenses; **Pages H763-65**

Welch (VT) amendment (No. 13 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that requires annual reporting by colleges and universities on how much of their endowment was paid out each year for the purpose of containing college costs; Pages H765–66

Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX) amendment (No. 16 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that expands Pell Grant eligibility to children who lost a parent or guardian as a result of the conflicts in Iraq or Afghanistan. These children will be eligible for the maximum amount of Pell Grant assistance;

Pages H766-67

Stupak amendment (No. 17 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that provides federal student loan relief to borrowers who go into school administration in low-income school districts. Applies to any borrower who has been employed as a full-time school super-intendent, principal, or other administrator for five consecutive complete school years in a school district in a low-income area; Pages H767–68

Doggett amendment (No. 18 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that encourages the prepopulation of FAFSA income and asset information, by taxpayer consent, with tax data provided directly from the IRS to the Department of Education, and allows the Secretary of Education to provide for the use of second preceding tax year information; Pages H768-69

Baird amendment (No. 19 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that directs the Secretary of Education to conduct a study on the costs and benefits of making student aid available to less than half-time students. The Secretary would then make recommendations on

how to best design a demonstration loan program targeted for less than half-time students;

Pages H769-70

Crowley amendment (No. 21 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that allows community college students to have \$10 forgiven from their student loans for every hour they dedicate to mentoring an at-risk child;

Pages H770–71

Cooper amendment (No. 22 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that increases the authorization level, from \$300 million to \$500 million, for the 103 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Increases the authorization level, from \$100 million to \$125 million, for the 18 Historically Black Graduate Institutions; Pages H771-72

Ryan (OH) amendment (No. 23 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that creates a pilot competitive grant program (available to no more than 10 colleges) to assist institutions of higher education in setting up college textbook rental programs;

Pages H772-73

Van Hollen amendment (No. 24 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that authorizes Teach for America at \$20 million for FY09 and \$25 million for FY10;

Pages H773-75

Gillibrand amendment (No. 25 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that provides that institutions of Higher Education shall adopt a statement of current policy concerning the working relationship of campus security personnel with State and local law enforcement agencies for the investigation of felonies or a report of a missing student; **Pages H775-76**

Murphy (PA) amendment (No. 26 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that helps students and families plan financially for higher education by requiring that colleges provide information about the anticipated cost of a post-secondary degree. Institutions would have the option of offering either a multi-year tuition and fee schedule or a traditional, single-year tuition and fee schedule with a nonbinding, multiyear estimate of a student's net costs; **Pages H776-77**

Shuler amendment (No. 27 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that authorizes a competitive grant program through the Department of Education that would allow institutions of higher education or consortia to create longitudinal data systems to efficiently and accurately manage, analyze, disaggregate, and use individual student data. The amendment authorizes programs in no more than five states for a period of three years; Pages H777-78

Petri amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that requires the existing Education-Treasury Study Group to evaluate the feasibility of an alternative market-based reform to the Federal Family Education Loan Program. The recommended alternative should reduce federal costs to taxpayers and

use savings to increase need-based grant aid to lowincome students (by a recorded vote of 260 ayes to 153 noes, Roll No. 36); and Pages H755-56, H778

Petri amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that extends the new audit and reporting provisions applied only to the Direct Loan program to the Federal Family Education Loan Program (by a recorded vote of 222 ayes to 191 noes, Roll No. 37). Pages H756–58, H778–79

Rejected:

Davis (IL) amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 110–523) that sought to restore protections to private student loan borrowers similar to those afforded other unsecured debtors by allowing the discharge of private student loans via bankruptcy (by a recorded vote of 179 ayes to 236 noes, Roll No. 38).

Pages H758-60, H779-80

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. Page H783

H. Res. 956, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 33, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 204 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 32. Pages H628-40

Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act of 2008-Order of Business: The House agreed by unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time to take from the Speaker's table the bill H.R. 5140, to provide economic stimulus through recovery rebates to individuals, incentives for business investment, and an increase in conforming and FHA loan limits, with a Senate amendment thereto, and without intervention of any point of order, consider a motion by the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means to agree to the Senate amendment; that the Senate amendment and the motion be considered as read; that the motion shall be debatable for forty minutes, equally divided and controlled; and that the previous question on the motion be considered as ordered to its adoption without intervening motion.

Pages H784–93

Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act of 2008: The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 5140, to provide economic stimulus through recovery rebates to individuals, incentives for business investment, and an increase in conforming and FHA loan limits, by a yea-and-nay vote of 380 yeas to 34 nays, Roll No. 42—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H784–93

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Hoyer and Representative Van Hollen to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through February 12, 2008. Page H793

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, February 13th. Page H795

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12th for morning hour debate.

Page H795

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today and messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H625, H783, H795.

Senate Referral: S. 2457 was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. Page H810

Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H638–39, H639, H640, H641, H778, H778–79, H779, H781–82, H782–83, H783, H793. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

VETERINARY MEDICAL SERVICE ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry held a hearing to review the National Veterinary Medical Service Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Kingston; Gale Buchanan, Under Secretary, Research, Education and Economics, USDA; and a public witness.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense met in executive session to hold a hearing on DOD Force Health Protection. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Ward Cascells, M.D., Under Secretary, Health Affairs; and Ellen Embrey, Under Secretary, Force Health Protection.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session on the Surgeon Generals of the Services. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: VADM Adam M. Robinson, Jr., M.D.,USN.; LTG James G. Roudebush, M.D., USAF; and LTG Eric B. Schoomaker, M.D., USA.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a

hearing on Department of Interior, Overview. Testimony was heard from Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary of the Interior.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from Stephen Ayers, Acting Architect of the Capitol; Terri Rouse, CEO for Visitor Services, and Bernie Ungar, Project Executive, both with the Capitol Visitor Center; and Terry Dorn, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Quality of Life. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Kenneth O. Preston, SGM, USA.; Joe R. Campa, Jr., Master Chief Petty Officer, USN.; Carlton W. Kent, MSgt., USMC, and Rodney J. McKinley, CMSgt., USAF.

TRANSPORTATION, HUD, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Transportation Fiscal Year Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Mary Peters, Secretary of Transportation.

BENEFICIARY ADVOCACY OVERVIEW

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on beneficiary advocacy overview. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. Testimony was heard from Jim Nussle, Director, OMB.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S FY BUDGET PROPOSAL

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Held a hearing entitled "Department of Energy's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Proposal." Testimony was heard from Samuel W. Bodman, Secretary of Energy.

HOLOCAUST INSURANCE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2007

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "The Holocaust Insurance Accountability Act of 2007 (H.R. 1746): Holocaust Era Insurance Restitution After ICHEIC, the International Commission on **D104**

Holocaust Era Insurance Claims." Testimony was heard from Ambassador J. Christian Kennedy, Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, Department of State; Michael Kurtz, Assistant Archivist, Records Services, National Archives and Records Administration; Stuart Eisenstat, former Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL SECTOR WORKPLACE DIVERSITY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Diversity in the Financial Services Sector." Testimony was heard from Orice M. Williams, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, GAO; Ronald Edwards, Director, Program Research and Surveys Division, Office of Research, Information and Planning, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; and public witnesses.

MERIDA INITIATIVE—U.S. OBLIGATIONS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing on U.S. Obligations under the Merida Initiative. Testimony was heard from Thomas A. Shannon, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; Scott Burns, Deputy Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Marisa R. Lino, Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy/International Affairs, Department of Homeland Security; and the following officials of the Department of Justice: William J. Hoover, Assistant Director, Office of Field Operations, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Anthony P. Placido, Assistant Administrator, and Chief of Intelligence, DEA; and Kenneth W. Kaiser, Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, FBI.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACQUISITION/ CONTRACTING

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology, hearing entitled "Other Transaction Authority: Flexibility at the Expense of Accountability?" Testimony was heard from the following official of the Department of Homeland Security: Thomas Essig, Chief Procurement Officer; and Keith B. Ward, Chief Research and Development Branch, Chemical and Biological Division, Science and Technology; the following officials of the CRS, Library of Congress: Elaine Halchin, Analyst, American National Government; and John D. Moteff, Specialist, Science and Technology Policy; and John Needham, Acting Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, GAO.

OVERSIGHT—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Held an oversight hearing on the Department of Justice. Testimony was heard from Michael Mukasey, Attorney General, Department of Justice.

FOREIGN SCHOLAR/STUDENT VISAS

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Science Education held a hearing on Visas for Foreign Scholars and Students. Testimony was heard from Tony Edson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Visa Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3916, To provide for the next generation of border and maritime security technologies; H.R. 4847, United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2007; and H.R. 5161, Green Transportation Infrastructure Research and Technology Transfer Act.

SBA'S BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2009

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled "The Small Business Administration's Budget for Fiscal Year 2009." Testimony was heard from Steven C. Preston, Administrator, SBA.

FAA'S FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2009 Federal Aviation Administration Budget. Testimony was heard from Ramesh K. Punwani, Assistant Administrator, Financial Services, Chief Financial Officer, FAA, Department of Transportation; and Gerald Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO.

AGENCY'S BUDGET AND PRIORITIES FISCAL YEAR 2009

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on Agency Budgets and Priorities for Fiscal Year 2009. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the EPA: Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator, Water; Susan Parker Bodine, Assistant Administrator, Solid Waste and Emergency Response; and the following officials of the Department of the Army: John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary, Civil Works; and LTG Robert Van Antwerp, USA, Chief of Engineers, Corps of Engineers.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET REQUEST FISCAL YEAR 2009

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2009. Testimony was heard from James B. Peake, M.D., Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on President Bush's Budget Proposals for Fiscal Year 2009. Testimony was heard from Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury.

WORLDWIDE THREATS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Held a hearing on Worldwide Threats. Testimony was heard from J. Michael McConnell, Director, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Michael V. Hayden, Director, CIA; LTG Michael Maples, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense; Robert Mueller, Director, FBI, Department of Justice; Charlie Allen, Chief Intelligence Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and Randall M. Fort, Assistant Secretary, Intelligence and Research, Department of State.

Joint Meetings

COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM (PART II)

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded hearings to examine anti-Semitism in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) region, after receiving testimony from Gregg Rickman, Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti Semitism, Department of State; Felice D. Gaer, Commissioner, United States Commission on International Religious Freedom; Andrew Baker, American Jewish Committee, Mark Levin, National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Stacy Burdett, Anti-Defamation League, all of Washington, D.C.; and Marvin Hier, Simon Wiesenthal Center, Los Angeles, California.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2008

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Financial Services, hearing entitled "Negative Implications of the President's Signing Statement on the Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, hearing on the November 26 Declaration of Principles: Implications for UN Resolutions on Iraq and for Congressional Oversight, 9:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, Election Task Force, GAO briefing on the findings in the Investigation into the FL-13 Congressional District Contested Election, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, oversight hearing on Voter Suppression, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, hearing on Military Base Realignment: Contracting Opportunities for Impacted Communities," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on Government Accountability Office's Review of the Federal Protective Service: Preliminary Findings," 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, February 12. Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Wildland Fire Management Oversight, 10 a.m., B-308 Capitol.

February 13, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on USDA Secretary Edward Schaefer, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Defense, on DOD Budget Overview with Secretary Robert Gates, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn and, on United States Marine Corps Readiness, 2 p.m., 140–Capitol.

February 13, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Management Challenges—Inspector General and GAO, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on U.S. Forest Service, 10 a.m., B 308 Capitol.

February 13, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, overview hearing on Implications of Economic Trends for Workers, Families, and the Nation, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on Architect of the Capitol, 10 a.m., H-144 Capitol.

February 13, Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request, 9:30 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on NRCS Under Secretary Mark Rey, 2 p.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, 10 a.m., and, on Army Readiness, 1:30 p.m., H 140 Capitol.

February 14, Subcommittee on Energy and Waste Development, and Related Agencies, Overview hearing on Vehicle Technology and Gas Prices, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Land Border Enforcement, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn, and on Land Border Enforcement, 1:30 p.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, Overview hearing on Opportunities Lost and Costs to Society: The Social and Economic Burden of Disease, Injuries, and Disability, 10 a.m., and an Overview hearing on Opportunities Lost and Costs to Society: The Social and Economic Burden of Inadequate Education, Training and Workforce Development, 2 p.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on House of Representatives Budget, 10 a.m., H–144 Capitol.

February 14, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, February 13, hearing on Global Security Assessment, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on Readiness at Risk: Department of Defense Security Clearance Processes, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 14, full Committee, hearing on Implications for Our Strategic Posture, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Provincial Reconstruction Teams: A Case for Interagency National Security Reform? 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

February 15, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on the status of the implementation of the Army's medical action plan and other services' support for wounded servicemembers, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, February 13, hearing on Treasury Department Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

February 15, hearing on Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, February 12, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions, hearing on Protecting American Employees from Workplace Discrimination, 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

February 13, full Committee, hearing on Modern Public School Facilities: Investing in the Future, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing on the 15th Anniversary of the Family Medical Leave Act: Achievements and Next Steps, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, February 12, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Ketek Clinical Study Fraud: What Sanofiaventis Knew," 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, February 13, hearing entitled "The Community Reinvestment Act: Thirty Years of Accomplishments, but Challenges Remain," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing on The State of the Bond Insurance Industry, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, February 13, hearing on International Relations Budget for Fiscal Year 2009, 2:30 p.m., room to be announced.

February 14, Subcommittee on Asia, The Pacific and the Global Environment, hearing on an Overview of Cambodia and the Need for Debt Recycling: How can the U.S. be of Assistance? 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

February 14, full Committee, hearing on the following legislation: The Global HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008; H. Res. 185, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region as a result of human rights violations; H. Res. 854, Expressing gratitude to all of the member states of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service (ITS) on ratifying the May 2006 Agreement to amend the 1955 Bonn Accords granting open access to vast Holocaust and other World War II related archives located in Bad Arolsen, Germany; H. Res. 865, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the March 2007 report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development makes an important contribution to the understanding of the high levels of crime and violence in the Caribbean, and that the United States should work with Caribbean countries to address crime and violence in the region; H. Res. 909, Commemorating the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American Independence in the "Siege of Savannah" and for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery; H. Con. Res. 154, Expressing the sense of Congress that the fatal radiation poisoning of Russian Dissident and writer Alexander Litvinenko raises significant concerns about the potential involvement of elements of the Russian Government in Mr. Litvinenko's death and about the security and proliferation of radioactive materials; H. Con. Res. 255, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States commitment to preservation of religious and cultural sites and condemning instances where sites are desecrated; and H. Con. Res. Supporting Taiwan's fourth direct and democratic presidential elections in March 2008; 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Homeland Security, February 13, hearing entitled "The President's FY 2009 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

February 14, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled "Homeland Security Intelligence at a Crossroads: the Office of Intelligence and Analysis' Vision for 2008," 11 a.m., Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, February 13, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, hearing on Problems with ICE Interrogation, Detention and Removal Procedures, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on H.R. 3679, State Video Tax Fairness Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, oversight hearing on the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, hearing on Design Law—Are Special Provisions Needed to Protect Unique Industries? 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, February 13, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 2176, To provide for and approve the settlement of certain land claims of the Bay Mills Indian Community; H.R. 4115, To provide for and approve the settlement of certain land claims of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; H.R. 1143, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes; H.R. 1311, Nevada Cancer Institute Expansion Act; H.R. 1922, Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area Act of 2007; H.R. 816, Orchard Detention Basin Flood Control Act; and H. R 3473, Bountiful City Land Consolidation Act, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 13, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1187, Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act; H.R. 1907, Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection Act; H.R. 2342, National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation Act of 2007; H.R. 3352, Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Amendments of 2007; H.R. 3891, To amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act to increase the number of Directors on the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; and H.R. 4933, Captive Wildlife Safety Technical Amendments Act of 2008, 3 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 14, full Committee, oversight hearing on the Administration's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, February 12, hearing on Myths and Facts about Human Growth Hormone, B 12, and Other Substances, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Federal; Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia, hearing on Robbing Mary to Pay Peter and Paul: the Administration's Pay for Performance System, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 13, full Committee, to continue hearings on The Mitchell Report: The Illegal Use of Steroids in Major League Baseball, Day 2, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, hearing on Surplus Property: Improving Donation and Sales Programs, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing on One year later: Medicaid's Response to Systemic Problems Revealed by the death of Deamonte Driver, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and National Archives and the Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization and Procurement, hearing on Federal IT Security: A Review of H.R. 4791, Federal Agency Data Protection Act, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, February 13, hearing on NASA's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

February 14, hearing on Funding for the America COMPETES Act in the Fiscal Year 2009 Administration Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, February 13, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing on SBIR: Advancing Medical Breakthroughs, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

February 14, full Committee, hearing entitled "Business Activity Taxes and their Impact on Small Businesses, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, February 13, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Runway Safety. 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

February 13, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing on Reviewing the Recommendations of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on National Flood Plain Remapping: The Practical Impact, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

February 14, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on Revitalization of the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Program, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, February 13, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Review of Expiring Programs, 2 p.m., 340 Cannon.

February 14, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on Examining the VA's Claims Processing System, 2 p.m., 340 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, February 13, hearing on the Administration's budget proposals for fiscal year 2009, 10 a.m., and 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Friday, February 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 2248, FISA Amendments Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10:30 a.m., Friday, February 8

House Chamber

Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 10:30 a.m.

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