

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House received the United States Association of Former Members of Congress in the House Chamber.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3635–S3767

Measures Introduced: Twenty bills and nine resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2663–2682, S.J. Res. 35, and S. Res. 448–455. **Pages S3703–04**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocations to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006”. (S. Rept. No. 109–251)

S. 1955, to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to expand health care access and reduce costs through the creation of small business health plans and through modernization of the health insurance marketplace, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2292, to provide relief for the Federal judiciary from excessive rent charges.

S. 2557, to improve competition in the oil and gas industry, to strengthen antitrust enforcement with regard to industry mergers. **Page S3703**

Measures Passed:

Public Service Recognition: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 412, expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 1 through 7, 2006, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S3760–61**

Democracy in Nepal: Senate agreed to S. Res. 451, expressing the support of the Senate for the reconvening of the Parliament of Nepal and for an immediate, peaceful transition to democracy. **Pages S3761–64**

Recognizing American Ballet Theatre: Senate agreed to S. Res. 452, recognizing the cultural and

educational contributions of the American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as “America’s National Ballet Company”. **Pages S3761–64**

Congratulating Charter Schools: Senate agreed to S. Res. 453, congratulating charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education. **Pages S3761–64**

Honoring Malcolm P. McLean: Senate agreed to S. Res. 454, honoring Malcolm P. McLean as the father of containerization. **Pages S3761–64**

Honoring Terrance W. Gainer: Senate agreed to S. Res. 455, honoring and thanking Terrance W. Gainer, former Chief of the United States Capitol Police. **Page S3764**

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 4939, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3639–92**

Adopted:

Coburn Amendment No. 3641 (Division II), to prohibit the availability of certain funds for the National Marine Fisheries Service to implement seafood promotion strategies. (By 44 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 100), Senate earlier failed to table Division II of the amendment.) **Pages S3669–71, S3671–73**

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. 101), Byrd/Carper Amendment No. 3709, to express the sense of the Senate on requests for funds for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for fiscal years after fiscal year 2007. **Pages S3673–74, S3675**

Warner Amendment No. 3621, to equalize authorities to provide allowances, benefits, and gratuities to civilian personnel of the United States Government in Iraq and Afghanistan. **Pages S3680–82**

Allard/Durbin Amendment No. 3701, to provide funding for critical emergency structural repairs to the Capitol Complex utility tunnels. **Pages S3683–84**

Harkin/Grassley Amendment No. 3600, to limit the compensation of employees funded through the Employment and Training Administration. **Page S3688**

Murray (for Lugar) Amendment No. 3599, to increase by \$8,000,000 and deposit in the Former Soviet Union Threat Reduction Account the amount appropriated for Cooperative Threat Reduction. **Page S3691**

Withdrawn:

Coburn Amendment No. 3641 (Division III), to provide that Sec. 7030(b), relating to certain economic development initiatives corrections, shall not take effect. **Pages S3675–76**

Pending:

McCain/Ensign Amendment No. 3616, to strike a provision that provides \$74.5 million to states based on their production of certain types of crops, livestock and or dairy products, which was not included in the Administration's emergency supplemental request. **Page S3639**

McCain/Ensign Amendment No. 3617, to strike a provision providing \$6 million to sugarcane growers in Hawaii, which was not included in the Administration's emergency supplemental request. **Page S3639**

McCain/Ensign Amendment No. 3618, to strike \$15 million for a seafood promotion strategy that was not included in the Administration's emergency supplemental request. **Page S3639**

McCain/Ensign Amendment No. 3619, to strike the limitation on the use of funds for the issuance or implementation of certain rulemaking decisions related to the interpretation of "actual control" of airlines. **Page S3639**

Warner Amendment No. 3620, to repeal the requirement for 12 operational aircraft carriers within the Navy. **Pages S3639, S3682–83**

Coburn Amendment No. 3641 (Divisions IV through XIX), of a perfecting nature. **Page S3639**

Vitter Amendment No. 3627, to designate the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita as HUBZones and to waive the Small Business Competitive Demonstration Program Act of 1988 for the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita. **Page S3639**

Vitter/Landrieu Modified Amendment No. 3626, to increase the limits on community disaster loans. **Pages S3639, S3671**

Vitter Modified Amendment No. 3628, to base the allocation of hurricane disaster relief and recovery funds to States on need and physical damages. **Pages S3639, S3674**

Vitter Modified Amendment No. 3648, to expand the scope of use of amounts appropriated for hurricane disaster relief and recovery to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for Operations, Research, and Facilities. **Page S3639**

Wyden Amendment No. 3665, to prohibit the use of funds to provide royalty relief for the production of oil and natural gas. **Pages S3639, S3641–68**

Santorum Modified Amendment No. 3640, to increase by \$12,500,000 the amount appropriated for the Broadcasting Board of Governors, to increase by \$12,500,000 the amount appropriated for the Department of State for the Democracy Fund, to provide that such funds shall be made available for democracy programs and activities in Iran, and to provide an offset. **Pages S3639–41**

Salazar/Baucus Amendment No. 3645, to provide funding for critical hazardous fuels and forest health projects to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires and mitigate the effects of widespread insect infestations. **Pages S3668–69**

Vitter Amendment No. 3668, to provide for the treatment of a certain Corps of Engineers project. **Pages S3674–75**

Burr Amendment No. 3713, to allocate funds to the Smithsonian Institution for research on avian influenza. **Page S3675**

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) Amendment No. 3693, to reduce wasteful spending by limiting to the reasonable industry standard the spending for administrative overhead allowable under Federal contracts and subcontracts. **Pages S3676–77**

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) Amendment No. 3694, to improve accountability for competitive contracting in hurricane recovery by requiring the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve contracts awarded without competitive procedures. **Pages S3676–77**

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) Amendment No. 3695, to improve financial transparency in hurricane recovery by requiring the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to make information about Federal contracts publicly available. **Pages S3676–77**

Coburn (for Obama/Coburn) Amendment No. 3697, to improve transparency and accountability by establishing a Chief Financial Officer to oversee hurricane relief and recovery efforts. **Pages S3676–77**

Menendez Amendment No. 3675, to provide additional appropriations for research, development, acquisition, and operations by the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, for the purchase of container inspection equipment for developing countries, for the implementation of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program, and for the training of Customs and Border Protection officials on the use of new technologies. **Pages S3677–79**

Chambliss/Isakson Amendment No. 3702, relating to the comprehensive review of the procedures of the Department of Defense on mortuary affairs.

Pages S3679–80

Murray (for Harkin) Amendment No. 3714, to increase by \$8,500,000 the amount appropriated for Economic Support Fund assistance, to provide that such funds shall be made available to the United States Institute of Peace for programs in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to provide an offset.

Page S3680

Conrad/Clinton Amendment No. 3715, to offset the costs of defense spending in the supplemental appropriation.

Page S3683

Levin Amendment No. 3710, to require reports on policy and political developments in Iraq.

Pages S3684–85

Schumer/Reid Amendment No. 3723, to appropriate funds to address price gouging and market manipulation and to provide for a report on oil industry mergers.

Pages S3685–87

Schumer Amendment No. 3724, to improve maritime container security.

Pages S3685–87

Murray (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 3716, to provide funds to promote democracy in Iraq.

Pages S3687–88

Murray (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 3688, to provide funding for the covered countermeasures process fund program.

Pages S3687–88

Cornyn Amendment No. 3722, to provide for immigration injunction reform.

Pages S3688–89

Cornyn Amendment No. 3699, to establish a floor to ensure that States that contain areas that were adversely affected as a result of damage from the 2005 hurricane season receive at least 3.5 percent of funds set aside for the CDBG program.

Page S3689

Cornyn Amendment No. 3672, to require that the Secretary of Labor give priority for national emergency grants to States that assist individuals displaced by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita.

Pages S3689–91

Murray (for Byrd) Amendment No. 3708, to provide additional amounts for emergency management performance grants.

Pages S3691–92

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

A unanimous-consent request was granted permitting Senator Shelby to change his nay vote to a yea vote on Vote No. 99 changing the outcome of the vote to 50 yeas to 47 nays on Coburn Amendment No. 3641 (Division I), to prohibit the availability of certain funds for the Rail Line Relocation Capital Grant program, tabled on Wednesday, April 26, 2006.

Page S3638

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of

rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a cloture vote will occur on Tuesday, May 2, 2006.

Page S3692

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that first degree amendments be filed at the desk in accordance with Rule XXII no later than 2:30 p.m., on Monday, May 1, 2006.

Page S3760

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 2 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2006.

Page S3764

Messages From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of an Executive Order blocking property of persons in connection with the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-46)

Pages S3702–03

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

- 25 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.
- 3 Army nominations in the rank of general.
- 1 Marine Corps 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 S3759–60

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Robert Anthony Bradtke, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia.

James B. Lockhart III, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, Department of Housing and Urban Development for a term of five years.

Dale Klein, of Texas, to be Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2011.

- 5 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.
- 1 Army nomination in the rank of general.
- 3 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, Navy.

Pages S3764–67

Messages From the House: Page S3700

Measures Referred: Page S3700

Measures Read First Time: Page S3700

Enrolled Bills Presented: Pages S3700–01

Executive Communications: Pages S3701–02

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S3703

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S3704–06

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**Pages S3706–24****Additional Statements:****Page S3700****Amendments Submitted:****Pages S3724–59****Authorities for Committees to Meet:****Page S3759****Privileges of the Floor:****Page S3759**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—101) **Pages S3673, S3675**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:59 p.m., until 2 p.m., on Monday, May 1, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3764.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: IRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, The Judiciary, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from Mark Everson, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Raymond T. Wagner, Jr., Chairman, Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board, J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, and Nina E. Olsen, National Taxpayer Advocate, Taxpayer Advocate Service, all of the Department of the Treasury.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch resumed hearings to examine the progress of Capitol Visitor Center (CVC) construction, focusing on the installation and fabrication of stone, and the acceptance testing of the CVC's complex fire and life-safety systems, receiving testimony from Alan M. Hantman, Architect, Robert C. Hixon, Jr., Capitol Visitor Center Project Manager, Stephen Ayers, Chief Operating Officer, all of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol; and Bernard L. Ungar, Director, and Terrell Dorn, Assistant Director, both of Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office.

Hearings continue on Wednesday, May 24, 2006.

MILITARY ACTIVITY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing to examine operations and intelligence from Peter W. Rodman, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs; Brigadier General Carter Ham, USA, Deputy

Director for Regional Operations, J-3, and Rear Admiral David J. Dorsett, USN, Director of Intelligence, J-2, both of The Joint Staff.

DROUGHT ISSUES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention and Prediction concluded an oversight hearing to examine drought research, monitoring, and forecasting issues and the shortage of water, focusing on drought management in the United States, and the need to move the nation to a more risk-based management approach to lessen the vulnerability to this natural hazard, after receiving testimony from Chester J. Koblinsky, Director, Climate Program Office, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; former Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer, Environmental Systems Research Institute, Redlands, California, on behalf of the Alliance for Earth Observations; and Donald A. Wilhite, University of Nebraska National Drought Mitigation Center, Lincoln.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRAVEL INITIATIVE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Narcotics Affairs concluded a hearing to examine the progress of implementing the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, which will require all travelers to and from the Americas, the Caribbean, and Bermuda to have a passport or other accepted document that establishes the bearer's identity and nationality to enter or re-enter the United States, in order to strengthen border security and facilitate entry into the United States for U.S. citizens and legitimate foreign visitors, after receiving testimony from Senators Dorgan and Schumer; Representatives Reynolds and Slaughter; Paul Rosenzweig, Counselor (Policy Directorate) and Acting Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Policy Development; Frank E. Moss, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Passport Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs; Ken Oplinger, Bellingham/Whatcom Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Bellingham, Washington; Brian Sage, Northwest Angle and Islands Homeowners Association, Angle Inlet, Minnesota; and Howard A. Zemsky, Greater Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Buffalo, New York, on behalf of the Binational Tourism Alliance.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2557, to improve competition in the oil and gas industry, to strengthen antitrust enforcement with regard to industry mergers;

S. 2292, to provide relief for the Federal judiciary from excessive rent charges; and

The nominations of Michael Ryan Barrett, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, Brian M. Cogan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Thomas M. Golden, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Timothy Anthony Junker, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Iowa, and Patrick Carroll Smith, Sr., of Maryland, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina.

Also, Committee began markup of S. 2453, to establish procedures for the review of electronic surveillance programs; S. 2455, to provide in statute for the conduct of electronic surveillance of suspected terrorists for the purposes of protecting the American people, the Nation, and its interests from terrorist attack while ensuring that the civil liberties of United States citizens are safeguarded; and S. 2468, to provide standing for civil actions for declaratory and injunctive relief to persons who refrain from electronic communications through fear of being subject to warrantless electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence purposes, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee held a hearing to examine renewing the temporary provisions of the Voting Rights Act, ensuring that the right to vote continues to be protected to the full extent of Congress's constitutional authority, receiving testimony from Representatives Sensenbrenner, and Conyers.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Daniel L. Cooper, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Benefits.

per, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Benefits.

VA RESEARCH

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs medical and prosthetic research program, focusing on funding basic science and clinical research, after receiving testimony from Jonathan B. Perlin, Under Secretary for Health, Joel Kupersmith, Chief Research and Development Officer, Richard F. Weir, Research Scientist, VA Prosthetics Research Laboratory, Jesse Brown, VA Medical Center (Chicago, Illinois), and Fred S. Wright, VA Connecticut Healthcare System (West Haven), and Dennis L. Stevens, Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Boise, Idaho), both Associate Chiefs of Staff for Research, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; John R. Feussner, Medical University of South Carolina Department of Medicine, Charleston; and John I. Kennedy, Jr., University of Alabama at Birmingham, on behalf of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

Joint Meetings

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded hearings to examine the current economic outlook, focusing on the monetary policy of the Federal Reserve, and incentives for investment activity, after receiving testimony from Ben Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 36 public bills; H.R. 5216–5251; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 84; H. Con. Res. 395–396; and H. Res. 784–787 were introduced. **Pages H1915–16**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1917–18**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3418, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–442);

H.R. 4013, to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to provide for conjunctive use of surface and groundwater in Juab County, Utah (H. Rept. 109–443);

H.R. 4686, to reauthorize various fisheries management laws, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109-444);

H.R. 5112, to provide for reform in the operations of the executive branch (H. Rept. 109-445); and

H. Res. 724, honoring Leonidas Ralph Mecham, Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and Secretary of the Judicial Conference of the United States (H. Rept. 109-446).

Pages H1914-15

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Don Borling, Pastor, All Saints Lutheran Church, Oakland Park, Illinois. **Page H1855**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:12 a.m. and reconvened at 10:55 a.m. **Page H1855**

Reception in the House Chamber to Receive Former Members of Congress: The House recessed to receive the United States Association of Former Members of Congress in the House Chamber. Later, agreed to the Dreier motion that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

Pages H1855, H1872

Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006—Rule for Consideration: The House began debate on H. Res. 783, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4975, to provide greater transparency with respect to lobbying activities, and was subsequently withdrawn. **Pages H1855-72, H1877**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:35 a.m. and reconvened at 3:41 p.m. **Pages H1874-77**

Agreed by unanimous consent that the House vacate the ordering of the yeas and nays on adoption of H. Con. Res. 357 and H. Con. Res. 349 to the end that the Chair may put the question on the resolutions de novo. **Page H1877**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, April 25th:

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month: H. Con. Res. 357, to support the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month; and **Page H1877**

Authorizing the use of Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby: H. Con. Res. 349, to authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. **Page H1877**

Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 783, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4975, to provide greater trans-

parency with respect to lobbying activities, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 216 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 110.

Pages H1877-86, H1887-88

Tax Relief Act of 2005—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House rejected the McDermott motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006, which was debated yesterday, April 26th, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 190 yeas to 232 nays, Roll No. 109.

Pages H1886-87

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, May 1st, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, for Morning Hour debate.

Page H1889

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, May 3, 2006. **Pages H1889**

Supporting the goals and ideals of the National Arbor Day Foundation and National Arbor Day: The House agreed by unanimous consent to H. Con. Res. 383, to support the goals and ideals of the National Arbor Day Foundation and National Arbor Day. **Pages H1889-90**

Presidential Message: Read a letter from the President wherein he transmitted notification of his issuance of an Executive Order blocking property of persons in connection with the conflict in Sudan's Darfur Region—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 109-101). **Page H1890**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1886-87 and H1887-88. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 9 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FUTURE MARKET AND GASOLINE PRICES

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review the Futures Market and Gasoline Prices. Testimony was heard from Walter L. Lukken, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and James E. Newsome, President and Chief Executive Officer, New York Mercantile Exchange.

SCIENCE, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Science, the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the SEC. Testimony was heard from Christopher Cox, Chairman, SEC.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Projection Forces approved for full Committee action H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness approved for full Committee action H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities approved for full Committee action H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Examining the Use of Non-Consensus Standards in Workplace Health and Safety.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PIPELINE SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing on Pipeline Safety: A Progress Report Since the Enactment of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Stacey L. Gerard, Acting Administrator/Chief Safety Officer, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration; and Theodore Alves, Principal Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation; Robert Chipkevich, Director, Office of Railroad, Pipeline, and Hazardous Materials Investigations, National Transportation Safety Board; Katherine Siggerud, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Reauthorizing the Ryan White CARE Act: How to Improve the Program to Ensure Access to Care.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Elizabeth M. Duke, Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration; and Kevin Fenton, M.D., Director, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and Marcia Crosse, Director, Health Care, GAO.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE U.S.

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology held a hearing entitled “CFIUS and the Role of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PERSISTENT MILITARY PAY PROBLEMS

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled “Financial Friendly Fire: A Review of Persistent Military Pay Problems.” Testimony was heard from Gregory Kutz, Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Defense: J. David Patterson, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Office of the Comptroller; Nelson Ford, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller; Zach E. Gaddy, Director, Defense Finance Accounting Service; LTC John M. Lovejoy, U.S. Army Reservist, 364th Civil Affairs Brigade; Mark Lewis, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, Department of the Army; and COL Mark McAllister, Finance Officer, 18th Airborne Corps; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—GAO REPORT—INFORMATION SHARING

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism met in executive session to receive a briefing on the GAO report Information Sharing: The Federal Government Needs To Establish Policies and Processes for Sharing Terrorism-Related and Sensitive but Unclassified Information (GAO-06-385). The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

UNITED NATIONS REFORM

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on United Nations Reform: Improving Internal Oversight Within the UN. Testimony was heard from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, GAO.

NORTH KOREA—HUMAN RIGHTS UPDATE

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations held a joint hearing on North Korea: Human Rights Update and International Abduction Issues. Testimony was heard from Jay Lefkowitz, Special Envoy for Human Rights in North Korea, Department of State; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—CONSTITUTION AND LINE ITEM VETO

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution held an oversight hearing on the Constitution and Line Item Veto. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kennedy of Minnesota and Ryan of Wisconsin; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—PATENT HARMONIZATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing on Patent Harmonization. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—PUERTO RICO'S STATUS

Committee on Resources: Held an oversight hearing on The Report by the Administration's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status. Testimony was heard from C. Kevin Marshall, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice and Co-Chair, President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status; Senator Pedro Rossello, Senate of Puerto Rico; former Resident Commissioner Carlos A. Romero-Barcelo of Puerto Rico; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—BIOMASS ENERGY

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held an oversight hearing on the GAO Report on Promoting Woody Biomass for Energy and Other Uses. Testimony was heard from Robin M. Nazzaro, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; Marcia Patton-Mallory, Biomass and Bioenergy Coordinator, Forest Service, USDA; Richard Moorer, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Technology Department, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1796, Mississippi River Trail Study Act; H.R. 3085, to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability study originally prepared for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with that trail; and H.R. 4612 Wright Brothers-Dunbar

National Historic Park Designation Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives McCollum of Minnesota, Wamp and Turner; Christopher Jarvi, Associate Director, Partnerships, Interpretation and Education, Volunteers, and Outdoor Recreation, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

H-PRIZE ACT OF 2006

Committee on Science: Held a hearing on H.R. 5143, H-Prize Act of 2006. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HEALTHCARE AND SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Workforce Empowerment and Government Programs held a hearing entitled "Healthcare and Small Business: Proposals That Will Help Lower Costs and Cover the Uninsured." Testimony was heard from Representative Shadegg, Robert J. Carroll, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Tax Analysis, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—OIL POLLUTION ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held an oversight hearing on Implementation of the Oil Pollution Act. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security: RADM Thomas H. Gilmour, USCG, Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection; and Jan P. Lane, Director, National Pollution Funds Center; and David Kennedy, Director, Office of Response and Restoration, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

VETERANS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on the following: H.R. 4791, Disabled Veterans Adaptive Housing Improvement Act; the Veterans Employment State Grant Improvement Act of 2006; the GI Bill Flexibility Act of 2006; the Veterans and Credentialing Act of 2006; and a proposal to amend H.R. 3082, Veterans-Owned Small Business Promotion Act of 2005. Testimony was heard from Gordon Mansfield, Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; Charles Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training, Department of Labor; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL UPDATES/HOTSPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Updates/

Hotspots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2006

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Government Reform, hearing entitled "Making the Grade? Examining District of Columbia Public Schools Reform Proposals," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of May 1 through May 6, 2006

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 2 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4939, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations. Also, at 5:30 p.m. Senate expects to vote on the confirmation of a judicial nomination.

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 4939, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill.

During the balance of the week, Senate expects to continue consideration of H.R. 4939, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, and may consider any other cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: May 2, to hold hearings to examine the implementation of the peanut provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Appropriations: May 3, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Government Printing Office, Congressional Budget Office, and Office of Compliance, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: May 2, Subcommittee on Personnel, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

May 2, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 3:30 p.m., SR-232A.

May 2, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of

the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 5:30 p.m., SR-222.

May 3, Subcommittee on SeaPower, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 9 a.m., SR-222.

May 3, Subcommittee on Airland, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 10 a.m., SR-232A.

May 3, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 11:30 a.m., SR-222.

May 3, Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

May 4, Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

May 5, Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on the Budget: May 2, to hold hearings to examine S. 2381, to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide line item rescission authority, 9:30 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: May 2, Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine National Science Foundation, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

May 4, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine, to hold hearings to examine protecting consumers from fraudulent practices in the moving industry, 10 a.m., SD-562.

May 4, Subcommittee on Trade, Tourism, and Economic Development, to hold hearings to examine promoting economic development opportunities through nano commercialization, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: May 1, to resume hearings to examine the economic and environmental issues associated with coal gasification technology and on implementation of the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 addressing coal gasification, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Dirk Kempthorne, of Idaho, to be Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: May 2, business meeting to consider S. 2459, to improve cargo security, H.R. 2066, to amend title 40, United States Code, to establish a Federal Acquisition Service, to replace the General Supply Fund and the Information Technology Fund with an Acquisition Services Fund, and the nominations of Uttam Dhillon, of California, to be Director of the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, Mark D. Acton, of

Kentucky, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission, and a committee report entitled "Hurricane Katrina: A Nation Still Unprepared", 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: May 2, to hold hearings to examine Federal Bureau of Investigation oversight, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

May 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine certain judicial and executive nominations, 4 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: May 3, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

May 4, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: May 3, to hold hearings to examine the future of social services for older Americans, 10 a.m., SD-106.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, May 3, Subcommittee on Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and Related Agencies, on State Department, Public Diplomacy, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, May 3, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, May 2, Subcommittee on Select Education, hearing on the Seniors Independence Act of 2006, 2:30 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 3, full Committee, hearing entitled "Building American Competitiveness: Examining the Scope and Success of Existing Federal Math and Science Programs," 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 4, Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, hearing entitled "Examining the Impact of State Mandates on Employer-Provided Health Insurance," 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, May 3, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, to continue hearings entitled "Digital Content and Enabling Technology: Satisfying the 21st Century Consumer," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

May 3, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to continue hearings entitled "Sexual Exploitation of Children Over the Internet: What Parents, Kids and Congress Need To Know About Child Predators," 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, May 3, hearing entitled "Protecting Investors and Fostering Efficient Markets: A Review of the S.E.C. Agenda," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, May 2, Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 4, full Committee, to consider pending business; followed by a hearing entitled "Sifting Through Katrina's Legal Debris: Contracting in the Eye of the Storm," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, May 2, Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, executive, briefing on the Defense Science Board's 2005 study

"Reducing Vulnerabilities to Weapons of Mass Destruction," 5 p.m., H2-176 Ford.

May 4, Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, to continue hearings entitled "Bio-Science and the Intelligence Community (Part II): Closing the Gap," 2 p.m., room to be announced.

Committee on International Relations, May 3, Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats, hearing on The United States and NATO: Transformation and the Riga Summit, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

May 4, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, hearing on Germany's World Cup Brothels: 40,000 Women and Children at Risk of Exploitation through Trafficking, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

May 4, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Technology and Counterproliferation, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, May 3, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1384, Firearm Commerce Modernization Act; and H.R. 1415, NICS Improvement Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 4, Subcommittee on the Constitution, hearings on a measure to Reauthorize and Amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Part 1, 9 a.m., and Part II, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, May 3, hearing on the following bills; H.R. 5018, American Fisheries Management and Maine Life Enhancement Act; and H.R. 1431, Fisheries Science and Management Enhancement Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 3, Subcommittee on Water and Power and the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, joint oversight hearing on The Need for Proper Forest Management on Federal Rights of Way To Ensure Reliable Electricity Service, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

May 4, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on the Future of Federal Coal: Status, Availability and Impact of Technological Advances in Using Coal To Create Alternative Energy Resources, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 4, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 3835, National Ocean Exploration Program Act, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, May 3, hearing on the Role of the National Science Foundation in K-12 Science and Math Education, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

May 4, Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards, hearing on Improving Drought Monitoring and Preparedness: H.R. 5136, National Integrated Drought Information System Act of 2006; followed by mark up of H.R. 5136, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, May 3, hearing entitled: Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404: What Is the Proper Balance Between Investor Protection and Capital Formation for Smaller Public Companies? 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

May 3, Subcommittee on Rural Enterprises, Agriculture and Technology, hearing entitled "The Future of Rural Telecommunications: Is Universal Service Reform Needed?" 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, May 3, Subcommittee on Aviation, oversight hearing on Mis-handled Baggage: Problems and Solutions, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

May 4, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on The Chesapeake Bay Program Reauthorization; and H.R. 4126, Chesapeake Bay Restoration Enhancement Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, May 3, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on implementation of the new Medicare

prescription drug benefit known as Part D, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

May 4, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on unemployment compensation aspects of U.S. Department of Labor Fiscal Year 2007 Budget, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, May 4, hearing on Al-Qaeda Use of Strategic Communications," 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, May 1

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, May 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4939, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations. Also, at 5:30 p.m. Senate expects to vote on the confirmation of a judicial nomination.

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

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