

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S3985–S4079*

**Measures Introduced:** Nineteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1003–1021, and S. Res. 130–133. **Page S4047**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 223, to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form, with an amendment. **Page S4046**

**Measures Passed:**

*National Agriculture Day:* Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 114, recognizing the contributions of agricultural producers in Pennsylvania and throughout the Nation on the occasion of National Agriculture Day, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S4078**

*Honoring Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 133, celebrating the life of Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson. **Pages S4078–79**

**Emergency Supplemental Appropriations:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 1591, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S3986–S4039**

**Adopted:**

Craig (for Warner) Modified Amendment No. 697, to provide for an independent assessment of the capabilities of the Iraqi Security Forces.

**Pages S3988–89, S3999, S4001–02, S4036**

By 75 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. 118), Wyden Amendment No. 709, to reauthorize the secure rural schools and community self-determination program and to provide funding for the payments in lieu of taxes program. **Pages S3986–88, S3990, S4017**

Murray (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 655, to authorize the conveyance of a parcel of land for use for purposes of a prison in the State of Texas.

**Pages S4027–28**

Murray (for Clinton) Amendment No. 666, to link award fees under Department of Homeland Security

contracts to successful acquisition outcomes under such contracts. **Page S4028**

Murray (for Kennedy) Modified Amendment No. 685, to provide for a prohibition relative to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. **Page S4028**

Murray (for Cochran) Amendment No. 674, to require the reports on the progress of the Government of Iraq in meeting benchmarks to be submitted jointly by the Commander, Multi-National Forces—Iraq, and the United States Ambassador to Iraq.

**Page S4028**

Murray (for Kerry/Hagel) Modified Amendment No. 687, to improve programs for small business concerns that employ Reservists. **Pages S4028–30**

Murray (for Stevens) Amendment No. 727, to make a technical correction regarding the availability of funds from the Iraq Freedom Fund. **Page S4030**

Murray (for Landrieu) Modified Amendment No. 732, of a technical nature. **Page S4030**

Murray (for Snowe) Amendment No. 772, to relieve burdens on small business concerns operating on Federal disaster projects. **Page S4031**

Murray (for Landrieu/Cochran) Amendment No. 776, to provide funds to recruit and retain teachers, principals, and other school leaders to areas impacted by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita. **Page S4031**

Murray (for Klobuchar) Amendment No. 793, to provide effective rural and small community assistance by the Environmental Protection Agency.

**Page S4032**

Murray (for Pryor) Amendment No. 807, to increase by \$5,000,000 the amount available for the Department of Homeland Security for State and Local Programs and make the increase available for the Domestic Preparedness Equipment Technical Assistance Program and to provide an offset. **Page S4032**

Murray (for Coleman) Modified Amendment No. 835 (to Amendment No. 700), to provide for a hospital in Cass County, Minnesota and Kemper County, Mississippi. **Pages S4032, S4034–35**

Murray (for Leahy/Specter) Modified Amendment No. 755, to authorize a cost of living adjustment for the Federal judiciary. **Pages S4030–31, S4034–35**

**Rejected:**

By 8 yeas and 89 nays (Vote No. 119), Burr Modified Amendment No. 716, to reauthorize the

secure rural schools and community self-determination program and to provide funding for the payments in lieu of taxes program.

**Pages S3986–88, S3989, S4017–18**

By 23 yeas and 74 nays (Vote No. 120), Coburn Amendment No. 657, to provide farm assistance in a fiscally responsible manner.

**Pages S3986, S4002–03, S4015, S4018–19**

By 45 yeas and 51 nays (Vote No. 121), Coburn Amendment No. 648, to remove \$100 million in funding for the Republican and Democrat party conventions in 2008.

**Pages S3986, S3999–S4000, S4014–15, S4016, S4019**

Withdrawn:

Hagel Amendment No. 707, to provide a Sense of Congress relative to additional policy and requirements on Iraq. **Pages S4004–08, S4015**

Pending:

Cochran (for Lugar) Amendment No. 690, to provide that, of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS” and “ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND” (except for the Community Action Program), up to \$50,000,000 may be made available to support and maintain a civilian reserve corps.

**Pages S3986, S4004**

Obama Amendment No. 664, to appropriate an additional \$58,000,000 for Defense Health Program for additional mental health and related personnel, an additional \$10,000,000 for operation and maintenance for each of the military departments for improved physical disability evaluations of members of the Armed Forces, and an additional \$15,000,000 for Defense Health Program for women’s mental health services. **Page S3986**

Webb Amendment No. 692, to prohibit the use of funds for military operations in Iran. **Page S3986**

Coburn Amendment No. 649, to remove a \$2 million earmark for the University of Vermont.

**Pages S3986, S4000–01, S4025–27**

Coburn Amendment No. 656, to require timely public disclosure of Government reports submitted to Congress. **Page S3986**

Coburn Amendment No. 717, to make certain provisions inapplicable. **Page S3986**

Coburn Amendment No. 718, to make certain provisions inapplicable. **Page S3986**

Reid Amendment No. 823 (to Amendment No. 690), to establish the enactment date. **Page S4004**

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

By a unanimous vote of 97 yeas (Vote No. 117), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill.

**Pages S4003–04**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9 a.m., on Thursday, March 29, 2007, that all debate time in post-cloture be deemed expired; that the only amendments remaining in order be the following, and that they not be subject to second-degree amendments: Ensign Amendment No. 752, to be modified, DeMint Amendment No. 704, Coburn Amendment No. 649, Sanders Amendment No. 737, to be modified, Biden Amendment No. 739; that Reid Amendment No. 823 (to Amendment No. 690) be withdrawn, and that Amendment No. 690 be agreed to; provided further, that all other pending amendments be withdrawn; and that there be 4 minutes, equally divided and controlled in the usual form, for debate prior to the votes, that, upon agreement by the Majority and Republican Leaders, and the bill managers, a managers’ amendment be in order; that upon disposition of the aforementioned amendments, the bill be read the third time; that the Senate vote on passage of the bill, as amended.

**Pages S4035, S4079**

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Vanessa Lynne Bryant, of Connecticut, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut. **Pages S4078, S4079**

**Nomination Withdrawn:** Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Sam Fox, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to Belgium, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007. **Page S4079**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S4044**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S4044**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Page S4044**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S4044–46**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S4046–47**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S4047–50**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S4050–63**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S4043–44**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S4063–67**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S4067–68**

**Record Votes:** Five record votes were taken today. (Total—121) **Pages S4004, S4017, S4018, S4018–19, S4019**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 8:44 p.m., until 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 29, 2007. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S4079.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Labor, after receiving testimony from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor.

### APPROPRIATIONS: FOREIGN AID

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the United States Agency for International Development and foreign assistance programs, after receiving testimony from Randall L. Tobias, United States Director of Foreign Assistance, and Administrator, United States Agency for International Development.

### APPROPRIATIONS: NAVY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the United States Navy, after receiving testimony from Donald C. Winter, Secretary, and Admiral Michael G. Mullen, Chief of Naval Operations, both of the United States Navy; and General James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury.

### U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

*Committee on Armed Services:* On Tuesday, March 27, 2007, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities met in closed session to receive a briefing on Special Operations Command's global operations from Major General David J. Scott, USAF, Deputy Director, Center for Special Operations, United States Special Operations Command and sundry members thereof.

### BUDGET: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the

Strategic Forces Program in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General James E. Cartwright, United States Marine Corps, Commander, United States Strategic Command, Major General Roger W. Burg, Director of Strategic Security, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters, United States Air Force, Rear Admiral Stephen E. Johnson, United States Navy, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, Naval Systems Command, and Brian R. Green, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Capabilities, all of the Department of Defense; and Thomas P. D'Agostino, Acting Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

### BUDGET: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from David S.C. Chu, Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, and Stephen L. Jones, DHA, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, all of the Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Michael D. Rochelle, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff G-1, United States Army; Vice Admiral John C. Harvey, Jr., USN, Chief of Naval Personnel; Lieutenant General Ronald S. Colman, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; and Lieutenant General Roger A. Brady, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of James R. Clapper, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense, S. Ward Casscells, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and William Charles Ostendorff, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, and 2,600 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

### COAST GUARD DIVE PROGRAM

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded an oversight hearing to examine the future of the Coast Guard Dive Program, focusing on lessons learned from the accident on

board CGC HEALY, and the steps taken to prevent future diving accidents, after receiving testimony from Rear Admiral Wayne Justice, Assistant Commandant for Response, and Rear Admiral Paul Higgins, Director, Health and Safety Directorate, both of the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; and Rear Admiral Michael P. Tillotson, Deputy Director, Standing Joint Force Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command, United States Navy.

### HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT SYSTEM

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine transitioning from the Space Shuttle to a next generation Human Space Flight System, after receiving testimony from William H. Gerstenmaier, Associate Administrator, Space Operations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Allen Li, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Ron Dittmore, ATK Launch Systems Group, Brigham City, Utah; John Karas, Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company, Littleton, Colorado; Johnny Walker, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Cape Canaveral, Florida; and Michael J. McCulley, United Space Alliance, Arlington, Virginia.

### GOVERNMENT BUILDING OPERATIONAL COSTS

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine reducing government building operational costs through innovation and efficiency, focusing on legislative solutions, after receiving testimony from David L. Winstead, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration; Kateri Callahan, Alliance to Save Energy, Washington, D.C.; and Melanie Townshend, Gilbane Building Company, Arlington, Virginia, on behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America.

### U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine risks and reform, focusing on the role of currency in the United States-China relationship, after receiving testimony from Senators Schumer and Graham; Stephen S. Roach, Morgan Stanley, New York, New York; Eswar S. Prasad, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; and Morris Goldstein, Peterson Institute for International Economics, and John H. Makin, American Enterprise Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported:

S. 193, to increase cooperation on energy issues between the United States Government and foreign governments and entities in order to secure the strategic and economic interests of the United States;

S. 613, to enhance the overseas stabilization and reconstruction capabilities of the United States Government;

H.R. 1003, to amend the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 to reauthorize the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy;

S. Res. 30, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the need for the United States to address global climate change through the negotiation of fair and effective international commitments;

S. Res. 65, condemning the murder of Turkish-Armenian journalist and human rights advocate Hrant Dink and urging the people of Turkey to honor his legacy of tolerance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 76, calling on the United States Government and the international community to promptly develop, fund, and implement a comprehensive regional strategy in Africa to protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations, contain and reduce violence, and contribute to conditions for sustainable peace in eastern Chad, and Central African Republic, and Darfur, Sudan; and

The nominations of Paul J. Bonicelli, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Curtis S. Chin, of New York, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador, Eli Whitney Debevoise II, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Zalmay Khalilzad, of Maryland, to be the Representative to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador and the Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative to the United Nations, Margrethe Lundsager, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Katherine Almquist, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Douglas Menarchik, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. (Reappointment), Ford M. Fraker, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and a promotion list in the Foreign Service.

## NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND REAUTHORIZATION

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine No Child Left Behind Reauthorization, focusing on effective strategies for engaging parents and communities to be involved in schools, after receiving testimony from Anne T. Henderson, Annenberg Institute for School Reform, and Wendy Puriefoy, Public Education Network, both of Washington, D.C.; Daniel J. Cardinali, Communities In Schools, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia; Kathy Patenaude, Rhode Island Parent Teachers Association, Coventry; and Philip J. Ritter, Texas Instruments Incorporated, Dallas.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* Committee ordered favorably reported S. 223, to require Senate

candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form, with an amendment.

## AFFORDABLE DRUG COVERAGE

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine affordable drug coverage that works for the state of Wisconsin, focusing on preserving Wisconsin's SeniorCare Program, after receiving testimony from Leslie V. Norwalk, Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle, Tom Frazier, Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, Patricia FINDER-STONE, AARP Wisconsin, and Bette Linton, all of Madison, Wisconsin.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 27 public bills, H.R. 1725–1751; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 281–282, were introduced. **Pages H3277–78**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H3278–79**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Baldwin to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H3187**

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rabbi Paul Silton, Temple Israel, Albany, New York. **Page H3187**

**Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2007:** The House passed H.R. 835, to reauthorize the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing assistance for Native Hawaiians, by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 150 nays, with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 205. Debate began on Tuesday, March 27th.

**Pages H3190–91, H3205–06**

H. Res. 269, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Tuesday, March 27th.

**Wounded Warrior Assistance Act of 2007:** The House passed H.R. 1538, to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, by a yea-and-

nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 208. **Pages H3206–36**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Armed Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. **Page H3219**

On a demand for a separate vote on a certain amendment agreed to in the Committee of the Whole:

By a yea-and-nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 207, agreed to the Sestak amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that requires the Secretary of the Department of Defense to develop and implement a plan to help prevent Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other stress-related psychopathologies (including substance abuse conditions) from developing in our military service members (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole by a recorded vote of 434 yeas with none voting "no", Roll No. 206).

**Pages H3227–28, H3231, H3233–34, H3234–35**

Earlier, agreed to amendments in the Committee of the Whole:

Barrow amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that eliminates the deductible and changes the method of determining the mileage reimbursement rate under the beneficiary travel program administered by the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs;

**Pages H3224–25**

Skelton amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that makes technical changes in section 101 to clarify the qualification of military officers who may supervise medical care case managers and in section 107 to require that the tracking system for reports to medical authorities regarding wounded warrior symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder or suicidal tendencies be developed not later than 180 days after the date of enactment and that the results be included in the Congressional reporting requirement; **Page H3225**

Kline (MN) amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that directs the Secretary of Defense to ensure that \$10,000,000 is directed to support programs, activities, and facilities associated with the Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment program from the Medical Support Fund created by this bill; **Pages H3225–26**

Kennedy amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that adds a definition to Sec. 2 to clarify that “medical care” includes mental health care; **Page H3226**

Corrine Brown amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that ensures confidentiality for members of the military who call the hotline for help; **Pages H3226–27**

Eddie Bernice Johnson amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that strengthens language that professionals’ training be “improved” rather than “modified,” and places greater emphasis on adequate training to detect mental health conditions among recovering service members; **Pages H3229–30**

Hooley amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that gives members of the Reserve Component the option to use Military Medical Treatment Facilities closest to home for treatment on an outpatient basis of injuries sustained in theater; **Pages H3230–31**

Hensarling amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that directs the Secretary of Veterans’ Affairs to conduct a study to determine what the average length of time is between the date for which a veteran requests an appointment and the date he is able to receive care and also requires that the Secretary report back to Congress within 180 days with recommendations as to how this time could be decreased to 15 days; **Page H3231**

Bilirakis amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that creates an office of the ombudsman within the Office of the Secretary of Defense which would develop policies for the military departments on providing assistance to recovering service members and their families; **Pages H3231–32**

Buchanan amendment (No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that directs the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a report on the feasibility of

a Soldier Patient Tracking System so any patient can be located in the medical holdover (MHO) process; and **Pages H3232–33**

Welch (VT) amendment (No. 12 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that requires that the Secretary concerned provide the medical care managers and service member advocates with all the resources they need to expeditiously carry out their work and also requires the Department of Defense to conduct outreach to inform all service members and their families about the existence of and services available to them by the medical care managers and service member advocates contained in the bill. **Page H3233**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H3236**

H. Res. 274, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 243 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 204, after agreeing to order the previous question. **Pages H3199–S3203, H3204–05**

**Older Americans Reauthorization Technical Corrections Act:** The House agreed by unanimous consent to S. 1002, to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to reinstate certain provisions relating to the nutrition services incentive program—clearing the measure for the President. **Pages H3236–27**

**Revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2009 through 2012:** The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 99, to revise the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2009 through 2012. Further consideration is expected to continue Thursday, March 29th. **Pages H3237–65**

H. Res. 275, the rule providing for consideration of the resolution, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 229 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 203, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 202. **Pages H3192–99, H3203–04**

**Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Representative Pastor, Chairman, Representative Linda T. Sánchez, Vice-Chairman, and Representatives Filner, Reyes, Solis, Rodriguez, and Giffords. **Page H3265**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H3236.

**Senate Referral:** S. Con. Res. 21 was held at the desk.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Six yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3203–04, H3204, H3205, H3205–06, H3233–34, H3235, and H3235–36. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **CROP PROTECTION PROVISIONS**

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review proposals to amend the program crop provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Rural Development. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Tom Dorr, Under Secretary; Jack Gleason, Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service; Russ Davis, Administrator, Rural Housing Service; James Andrew, Administrator, Rural Utilities Service; and W. Scott Steele, Budget Officer.

### **COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Testimony was heard from Michael J. Sullivan, Acting Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Department of Justice.

### **ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Energy: Nuclear Energy/Office of Civilian Nuclear Waste/Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Dennis R. Spurgeon, Assistant Secretary, Nuclear Energy; Edward F. Sproat III, Director, Office of Civilian

Nuclear Waste; and Dale E. Klein, Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

### **FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Secretary of the Treasury. Testimony was heard from Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury.

### **HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Ensuring that the Department of Homeland Security's Research and Technology Investments Pay Off. Testimony was heard from Jay Cohen, Under Secretary, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

### **INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Department of Interior: Office of Insular Affairs/Departmental Management/Office of the Solicitor. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Dale Hall, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Nikolao Pula, Director, Office of Insular Affairs; R. Thomas Weimer, Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management, and Budget; and David Bernhardt, Solicitor.

### **LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Army Budget. Testimony was heard from GEN Richard Cody, USA, Vice Chief of Staff, Department of the Army.

### **STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on Latin America and Caribbean. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Tom Shannon, Assistant Secretary, Western Hemisphere Affairs; and Adolpho Franco,

Assistant Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development.

### TRANSPORTATION, HUD, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Federal Railroad Administration/National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK). Testimony was heard from Joseph Boardman, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation; and Alexander Kummant, President and CEO, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK).

### IRAQI SECURITY FORCE TRANSITION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on outside perspectives on transitioning security to the Iraqi security forces. Testimony was heard from Robert Perito, Senior Program Officer, U.S. Institute for Peace; and public witnesses.

### DOD IT BUDGET

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Budget Request on information technology. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: John Grimes, Assistant Secretary, Networks and Information Integration and Chief Information Officer; and LTG Charles Croom, USAF, Director, Defense Information Systems Agency.

### COAL MINE SAFETY

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Held a hearing on Protecting the Health and Safety of America's Mine Workers. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### DIGITAL TV TRANSITION

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing entitled "Status of the Digital Television Transition." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Financial Services:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1257, Shareholder Vote on Executive Compensation Act.

The Committee began markup of H.R. 1427, Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2007.

Will continue tomorrow.

### BAD AROlsen HOLOCAUST ARCHIVES

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Europe held a hearing on Opening up of the Bad Arolsen

Holocaust Archives in Germany. Testimony was heard from Representative Hastings of Florida; J. Christian Kennedy, Special Envoy, Holocaust Issues, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State; Paul Shapiro, Director, Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; and public witnesses.

### AFRICAN OPINIONS ON U.S. POLICIES

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight and the Subcommittee on Africa, and Global Health held a joint hearing on African Opinion on U.S. Policies, Values and People. Testimony was heard from a public witness.

### TRADE, FOREIGN POLICY EFFECTS ON AMERICAN WORKERS

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade held a hearing on Trade, Foreign Policy and the American Worker. Testimony was heard from Carla A. Hills, former U.S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

### AMERICAS—POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing on Poverty and Inequality in the Americas: The Unaddressed Problem. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AUTHORIZATION ACT FY 2008

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1684, Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008..

### SECOND CHANCE ACT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Ordered reported H.R. 1593, Second Chance Act of 2007.

### OVERSIGHT—ROYALTIES AT RISK

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Held an oversight hearing on Royalties at Risk? Testimony was heard from C. Stephen Allred, Assistant Secretary, Department of the Interior; Mark Gaffigan, Acting Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; Bobby Maxwell, former Auditor, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior; Dennis Roller, Audit Manager, Auditors Office—Royalty Audit Section, State of North Dakota; Michael Geesey, Director, Department of Audit, State of Wyoming; and public witnesses.

### GSA—ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Held a hearing on Allegations of Misconduct at the General Services Administration. Testimony was heard from Senator Grassley; and the following officials of the



GSA: Lurita A. Doan, Administrator; and Brian D. Miller, Inspector General.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 362, amended, 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds, Science and Math Scholarship Act; H. Con. Res. 76, Honoring the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (IGY) and its past contributions to space research, and looking forward to future accomplishments; and H. Res. 252, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of John Herschel Glenn, Jr.'s, historic achievement in becoming the first United States astronaut to orbit the Earth.

#### MEDIA INFLUENCING SCIENCE POLICY

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing on Shaping the Message, Distorting the Science: Media Strategies to Influence Science Policy. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### SMALL MEDICAL PRACTICES HEALTH IT

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Regulation, Health Care and Trade held a hearing entitled "The Value of Health IT to Solo and Small Medical Practices." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### FAA'S AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on the FAA's Airport Improvement Program. Testimony was heard from D. Kirk Shaffer, Associate Administrator, Airports, FAA, Department of Transportation; Gerald Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure, GAO; James E. Bennett, President and CEO, Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority; and public witnesses.

#### TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1677, Taxpayer Protection Act of 2007.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY LETTERS

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Held a hearing on National Security Letters. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Glenn A. Fine, Inspector General; John S. Pistole, Deputy Director, FBI; and Kenneth Wainstein, Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division; and public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

#### ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

*Joint Economic Committee:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the current economic outlook, focusing on economic activity, inflation, and the housing market, after receiving testimony from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2007

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of David James Gribbin IV, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, 11 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* business meeting to consider S. 521, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse and customhouse located at 515 West First Street in Duluth, Minnesota, as the "Gerald W. Heany Federal Building and United States Courthouse and Customhouse", S. 801, to designate a United States courthouse located in Fresno, California, as the "Robert E. Coyle United States Courthouse", S. 992, to achieve emission reductions and cost savings through accelerated use of cost-effective lighting technologies in public buildings, S. 496, to reauthorize and improve the program authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, and the nominations of Roger Romulus Martella, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Bradley Udall, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence In National Environmental Policy Foundation, 10 a.m., S-211, Capitol.

*Committee on Finance:* to hold hearings to examine clean energy from the margins to the mainstream, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine eliminating and recovering improper payments, focusing on the Office of Management and Budget report entitled "Improving the Accuracy and Integrity of Improper Payments", 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian trust fund litigation, 9:15 a.m., SR-485.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to continue hearings to examine Department of Justice hiring and firing of United States Attorneys, focusing on preserving prosecutorial independence, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 236, to require reports to Congress on Federal agency use of data mining, S. 376, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, S. 849, to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), S. 119, to prohibit profiteering and fraud relating to military action, relief, and reconstruction efforts, S. 621, to establish commissions to review the facts and circumstances surrounding injustices suffered by European Americans, European Latin Americans, and Jewish refugees during World War II, and S. Res. 108, designating the first week of April 2007 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week" and to discuss the possibility of the issuance of certain subpoenas in connection with investigation into replacement of United States Attorneys, 2 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* business meeting to mark up S. 163, to improve the disaster loan program of the Small Business Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Gold Star Wives of America, Fleet Reserve Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* closed business meeting and hearing regarding certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

## House

*Committee on Agriculture,* Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture, hearing to review colony collapse disorder in honey bee colonies across the United States, 10 a.m., 1302 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1 p.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, on Commission on Civil Rights/Legal Services Corporation/State Justice Institute, 10 a.m., and on International Trade Commission, 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Defense, on Secretary of Defense, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Weapons Activities Oversight, 10

a.m., and on Department of Energy: Weapons Activities and Naval Reactors, 2 p.m., 2362B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services, General Government, and Related Agencies, on IRS, 10 a.m., 2220 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Bioterrorism Preparedness and the Role of Department of Homeland Security Chief Medical Officer, 10 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Bureau of Indian Affairs/Office of the Special Trustee, 3 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, on public witnesses, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on House of Representatives, 10 a.m., H-144 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Air Force Budget, 2 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, on Public Witnesses, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on Transportation Safety: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration/Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration/Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration/National Transportation Safety Board, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on overview of morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) programs, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and Labor,* Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, hearing on How NCLB Affects Students with Disabilities, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing entitled "Climate Change: Lessons Learned from Existing Cap and Trade Programs," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* to continue markup of H.R. 1427, Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2007 and to mark up the following: H.R. 1515, to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to treat certain communities as metropolitan cities for purposes of the community development block grant program; H.R. 1675, Preservation Approval Process Improvement Act of 2007; and H.R. 1676, Native American Home Ownership Opportunity Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* hearing on the 2007 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices and the Promotion of Human Rights in U.S. Foreign Policy, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity and Science and Technology, to mark up H.R. 1680, Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate Act of 2007, 10:30 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* to mark up H.R. 1281, Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2007, 10:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on Ensuring Executive Branch Accountability, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, oversight hearing on ocean policy priorities in the United States, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 189, Paterson Great Falls National Park Act of 2007; H.R. 359, César Estrade Chávez Study Act; and H.R. 1080, Grand Teton National Park Extension Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, to consider the following measures, H.R. 401, National Capital Transportation Amendments Act of 2007; H.R. 1124, To extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999; H.R. 1402, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 South Lecanto Highway in Lecanto, Florida, as the "Sergeant Dennis J. Flanagan Lecanto Post Office Building;" H.R. 1425, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4551 East 52nd Street in Odessa, Texas, as the "Staff Sergeant Marvin 'Rex' Young Post Office Building;" H.R. 988, To designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5757 Tilton Avenue in Riverside, California, as the "Lieutenant Todd Jason Bryant Post Office;" H.R. 1434, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 896 Pittsburgh Street in Springdale, Pennsylvania, as the "Rachel Carson Post Office Building;" H. Con. Res. 88, Honoring the life of Ernest Gallo; H. Con. Res. 71, Commemorating the 85th anniversary of the founding of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), a leading association for the Nation's 1.3 million American citizens of Greek Ancestry, and Philhellenes; H. Res. 179, Expressing support for a National Foster Parents

Day; and H. Res. 273, Supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing on Build It and They Will Come: Do Taxpayer-financed Sports Stadiums, Convention Centers and Hotels deliver as promised for America's Cities, 10:30 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science and Technology*, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, hearing on reauthorizing the National Science Foundation, Part 2, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing on JPDO and the Next Generation Air Transportation System: Status and Issues, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, hearing entitled "The Importance of Patent Reform on Small Businesses," 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on the FAA's oversight of Outsourced Air Carrier Maintenance, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on The SouthEast Crescent Authority and the Northern Border Economic Development Commission, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

### Joint Meetings

*Joint Hearing*: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Gold Star Wives of America, Fleet Reserve Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

## Next Meeting of the SENATE

9 a.m., Thursday, March 29

## Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 29

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 1591, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, and vote on, or relation to, certain amendments, to be followed by a vote on final passage of the bill.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Complete consideration of H. Con. Res. 99—Revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

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