

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3213–S3271

Measures Introduced: Three bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2898–2900, and S. Res. 524–528. **Page S3257**

Measures Reported:

S. 1046, to modify pay provisions relating to certain senior-level positions in the Federal Government. (S. Rept. No. 110–328)

Report to accompany S. 1551, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis. (S. Rept. No. 110–329)

S. 1853, to promote competition, to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–330)

H. Con. Res. 307, expressing the sense of Congress that Members' Congressional papers should be properly maintained and encouraging Members to take all necessary measures to manage and preserve these papers.

S. Res. 497, 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 5 through 11, 2008.

S. 431, to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, with amendments. **Page S3254**

Measures Passed:

Recognizing 60th Anniversary of the Founding of the Modern State of Israel: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 522, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel and reaffirming the bonds of close friendship and cooperation between the United States and Israel, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3267**

National Community Health Aide, Community Health Practitioner, and Dental Health Aide Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 526, designating April 20 through 26, 2008, as “National Commu-

nity Health Aide, Community Health Practitioner, and Dental Health Aide Week”. **Pages S3267–68**

National Adopt A Library Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 527, designating April 23, 2008, as “National Adopt a Library Day”. **Page S3268**

Global Youth Service Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 528, designating April 25, 2008, as “Global Youth Service Day”. **Pages S3268–69**

E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3196, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Sussex Street in Port Jervis, New York, as the “E. Arthur Gray Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3269**

Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3468, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the “Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3269**

Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3532, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5815 McLeod Street in Lula, Georgia, as the “Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3269**

Army PFC Juan Alonso Covarrubias Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3720, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 424 Clay Avenue in Waco, Texas, as the “Army PFC Juan Alonso Covarrubias Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3270**

John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3803, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the “John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3270**

Sgt. Jason Harkins Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3936, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Helen Highway in Cleveland, Georgia, as the “Sgt. Jason

Harkins Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3270**

Master Sergeant Kenneth N. Mack Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3988, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3701 Altamesa Boulevard in Fort Worth, Texas, as the “Master Sergeant Kenneth N. Mack Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex: Senate passed H.R. 4166, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, as the “Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 4203, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the “Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 4211, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the “Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Felix Sparks Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 4240, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10799 West Alameda Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado, as the “Felix Sparks Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 4454, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3050 Hunsinger Lane in Louisville, Kentucky, as the “Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office Building”, in honor of the servicemen and women from Louisville, Kentucky, who died in service during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5135, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Greenway Street in Derby, Kansas, as the “Sergeant Jamie O. Maugans Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Major Arthur Chin Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5220, to designate the facility of the

United States Postal Service located at 3800 SW. 185th Avenue in Beaverton, Oregon, as the “Major Arthur Chin Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Sgt. Michael M. Kasbkoush Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5400, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 160 East Washington Street in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, as the “Sgt. Michael M. Kashkoush Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Julia M. Carson Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5472, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2650 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Julia M. Carson Post Office Building”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 5489, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6892 Main Street in Gloucester, Virginia, as the “Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office”, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S3270

Measures Considered:

Veterans’ Benefits Enhancement Act: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1315, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance life insurance benefits for disabled veterans. **Pages S3221–27, S3227–33, S3233–48**

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

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. 109), 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 motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Page S3225

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, April 23, 2008, the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill be agreed to.

Pages S3270–71

Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 5:00 p.m., on Wednesday, April 23, 2008, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2831, to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and that the

time until 6:00 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the Majority and Republican Leaders, or their designees; provided further, that at 6:00 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and that all time during any adjournment, recess or morning business count against cloture.

Pages S3270–71

Messages from the House: Pages S3251–52

Executive Communications: Page S3252

Petitions and Memorials: Pages S3252–54

Executive Reports of Committees: Pages S3254–57

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S3257–59

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S3259–63

Additional Statements: Page S3251

Amendments Submitted: Pages S3263–66

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S3266

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S3266

Privileges of the Floor: Pages S3266–67

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—109) Page S3225

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:24 p.m., until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, 2008. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S3271.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CREDIT RATING AGENCIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States credit markets, focusing on the role of the credit rating agencies, after receiving testimony from former Representative Christopher Cox, Chairman, United States Securities and Exchange Commission; and John C. Coffee, Jr., Columbia University Law School, Arturo Cifuentes, R.W. Pressprich and Company, Stephen W. Joynt, Fitch Ratings, Inc., Claire Robinson, Moody’s Investors Service, and Vickie A. Tillman, Standard and Poor’s, all of New York, New York.

FUTURE OF THE INTERNET

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of the internet, after receiving testimony from Kevin J. Martin, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; Michele Combs, Christian Coalition of

America, Robert W. Hahn, American Enterprise Institute Center for Regulatory and Market Studies, and Kyle McSarrow, National Cable and Telecommunications Association, all of Washington, D.C.; Patric M. Verrone, Writers Guild of America, West, Los Angeles, California; Justine Bateman, FM78.tv, Studio City, California; and Lawrence Lessig, Stanford Law School, Stanford, California.

FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, focusing its report on the future of the surface transportation system in the United States, after receiving testimony from Frank J. Busalacchi, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Madison; Jack Schenendorf, Covington and Burling, Washington, D.C.; and Steve Heminger, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Oakland, California, Matthew K. Rose, BNSF Railway Company, Fort Worth, Texas, and Patrick E. Quinn, U.S. Xpress Enterprises, Inc., Chattanooga, Tennessee, all on behalf of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission.

LAND BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine S. 934 and H.R. 1374, bills to amend the Florida National Forest Land Management Act of 2003 to authorize the conveyance of an additional tract of National Forest System land under that Act, S. 2833, to provide for the management of certain public land in Owyhee County, Idaho, and S. 2834, to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, and improve public land in Washington County, Utah, after receiving testimony from Senators Bennett and Crapo; Julie Jacobson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management; Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; James J. Eardley, Washington County, Saint George, Utah; William H. Meadows, Washington, D.C., and Craig Gehrke, Boise, Idaho, both of the Wilderness Society; and Chad C. Gibson, Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association, Wilder, Idaho.

INTERNATIONAL DEFORESTATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental

Protection concluded a hearing to examine international deforestation and climate change, after receiving testimony from Stuart E. Eizenstat, Covington and Burling, LLP, David Hayes, former Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior, and Dirk Forrister, Natsource LLC, all of Washington, D.C.; and Kevin Gurney, Purdue University Climate Change Research Center (PCCRC), West Lafayette, Indiana.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

H.R. 3320, to provide assistance for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, Poland, with an amendment;

S. Con. Res. 74, honoring the Prime Minister of Ireland, Bertie Ahern, for his service to the people of Ireland and to the world and welcoming the Prime Minister to the United States;

S. Res. 494, expressing the sense of the Senate on the need for Iraq's neighbors and other international partners to fulfill their pledges to provide reconstruction assistance to Iraq, with an amendment;

S. Res. 523, expressing the strong support of the Senate for the declaration of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization at the Bucharest Summit that Ukraine and Georgia will become members of the alliance;

The Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on International Hydrographic Organization done at Monaco on April 14, 2005 (Treaty Doc. 110-09); and

The nominations of Mark Kimmitt, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs), Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Finland, Frank Charles Urbancic, Jr., of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus, Kurt Douglas Volker, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic

Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador, Nancy E. McEldowney, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, Scot A. Marciel, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Affairs, Patricia M. Haslach, of Oregon, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as United States Senior Coordinator for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, William Edward Todd, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, D. Kathleen Stephens, of Montana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Joxel Garcia, of Connecticut, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to the qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, Robert J. Callahan, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Nicaragua, Peter E. Cianchette, of Maine, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Costa Rica, Heather M. Hodges, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador, Hugo Llorens, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras, Stephen George McFarland, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, Samuel W. Speck, of Ohio, to be a Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada, Barbara J. Stephenson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Panama, and Yousif Boutrous Ghafari, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, and a promotion list in the Foreign Service.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 5856-5874; and 8 resolutions, H. Res. 1124, 1127-1133 were introduced.

Pages H2551-53

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2553-54

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 900, to provide for a federally sanctioned self-determination process for the people of Puerto Rico, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110-597);

H.R. 5151, to designate as wilderness additional National Forest System lands in the Monongahela National Forest in the State of West Virginia, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110-598, Pt. 1);

H.R. 5712, to require disclosure by Federal contractors of certain violations relating to the award or

performance of Federal contracts, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–599);

H.R. 5613, to extend certain moratoria and impose additional moratoria on certain Medicaid regulations through April 1, 2009, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–600);

H.R. 5522, to require the Secretary of Labor to issue interim and final occupational safety and health standards regarding worker exposure to combustible dust, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–601);

H.R. 3032, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–602);

H. Res. 1125, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5819) to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program and the Small Business Technology transfer (STTR) program (H. Rept. 110–603); and

H. Res. 1126, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2830) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008 (H. Rept. 110–604). **Page H2551**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cohen to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H2491**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:42 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m. **Page H2494**

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Wynn, wherein he resigned as Representative for the 4th Congressional District of Maryland, effective 11:59 p.m. EST, May 31, 2008. **Page H2495**

Commission on Children and Disasters—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Boehner, Minority Leader, in which he appointed the following individuals to the Commission on Children and Disasters: Dr. David Schonfeld of Glendale, Ohio and Mr. Lawrence E. Tan of Newark, Delaware. **Page H2495**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Copper Salmon Wilderness Act: H.R. 3513, amended, to amend the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 to designate the Copper Salmon Wilderness and to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the North and South Forks of the Elk River in the State of Oregon as wild or scenic rivers; **Pages H2496–97**

Wild Monongahela Act: A National Legacy for West Virginia's Special Places: H.R. 5151, amended, to designate as wilderness additional National

Forest System lands in the Monongahela National Forest in the State of West Virginia, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 368 yeas to 17 nays, Roll No. 206; **Pages H2497–99, H2531**

Coffman Cove Administrative Site Conveyance Act of 2008: H.R. 831, amended, to provide for the conveyance of certain Forest Service land to the city of Coffman Cove, Alaska, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 382 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 207; **Pages H2499–H2500, H2531–32**

Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Act: H.R. 3734, to rename the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in the State of Idaho as the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in honor of the late Morley Nelson, an international authority on birds of prey, who was instrumental in the establishment of this National Conservation Area; **Pages H2500–01**

Expressing Congressional support for the goals and ideals of National Health Care Decisions Day: H. Con. Res. 323, to express Congressional support for the goals and ideals of National Health Care Decisions Day; **Pages H2501–02**

Recognizing March 6, 2008, as the first-ever World Glaucoma Day: H. Res. 981, amended, to recognize March 6, 2008, as the first-ever World Glaucoma Day, established to increase awareness of glaucoma, which is the second leading cause of preventable blindness in the United States and worldwide, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 387 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 205; **Pages H2508–10, H2530–31**

Recognizing 2008 as the International Year of the Reef: H. Res. 1112, to recognize 2008 as the International Year of the Reef; **Pages H2510–12**

Celebrating 35 years of space-based observations of the Earth by the Landsat spacecraft: H. Res. 891, amended, to celebrate 35 years of space-based observations of the Earth by the Landsat spacecraft and to look forward to sustaining the longest unbroken record of civil Earth observations of the land; **Pages H2512–13**

Honoring the life and achievements of John Archibald Wheeler and expressing condolences on his passing: H. Res. 1118, to honor the life and achievements of John Archibald Wheeler and to express condolences on his passing; and **Pages H2513–15**

Declaring the support of the House of Representatives for the goals and ideals of Earth Day for developing the scientific and technological capabilities to achieve those goals: H. Res. 1117, to declare the support of the House of Representatives for the

goals and ideals of Earth Day and for developing the scientific and technological capabilities to achieve those goals. **Pages H2528–30**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:54 p.m. and reconvened at 5:22 p.m. **Page H2528**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:35 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H2530**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed until Wednesday, April 23rd:

Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008: H.R. 5613, amended, to extend certain moratoria and impose additional moratoria on certain Medicaid regulations through April 1, 2009 and

Pages H2502–08

Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel and reaffirming the bonds of close friendship and cooperation between the United States and Israel: H. Con. Res. 322, to recognize the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel and to reaffirm the bonds of close friendship and cooperation between the United States and Israel. **Pages H2515–27**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2495.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2530–31, H2531, and H2531–32. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FDA FOREIGN DRUG INSPECTION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “FDA’s Foreign Drug Inspection Program: Weaknesses Place Americans at Risk.” Testimony was heard from Andrew C. von Eschenbach, M.D., Commissioner FDA; Department of Health and Human Services; Marcia G. Crosse, Director, Health Care, GAO; Carl R. Nielsen, former Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs, Division of Import Operations, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

PRISON ABUSE REMEDIES ACT OF 2007

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security held a hearing on H.R. 4109, Prison Abuse Remedies Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from Sarah V. Hart, Assistant

District Attorney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Jeanne S. Woodford, Chief Adult Probation Officer, City and County, San Francisco, California and former Warden, San Quentin State Prison; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETING COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted by voice vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2830, the “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007.” The rule provides one hour of general debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. In lieu of the amendments in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Homeland Security, and the Judiciary now printed in the bill, the rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the Rules Committee report shall be an original bill for the purpose of amendment. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the Committee report shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the Committee report except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. This does not affect the point of order available under clause 9 of rule XXI (regarding earmark disclosure).

The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. The amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the Rules Committee report, may be offered only by a Member designated in this report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in this report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI.

The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In addition, in the engrossment of H.R. 2830, the Clerk IS directed to add at the end the text of H.R. 2399, the “Alien Smuggling and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007,” as it

passed the House. The rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration to a time designated by the Speaker. Finally, the rule authorizes the chairman of the Judiciary Committee to file a supplemental report on H.R. 2830. Testimony was heard from Chairwoman Velázquez and Representatives Wu, Welch of Vermont, Sutton, Foster, Chabot, and Ehlers.

REAUTHORIZING—SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION AND SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAMS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5819, the “SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act.” The rule provides one hour of general debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science and Technology.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except clauses 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Small Business now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute except for clause 10 of rule XXI.

The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. The amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI are waived. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Oberstar and Chairman Thompson and Representatives Cummings, Cuellar, Clay, Bordallo, LaTourette, Poe, Boustany, Bilirakis, Chabot, and Kirk.

Joint Meetings

FARM BILL EXTENSION ACT

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2008

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Missile Defense Agency, 10:30 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine phantom traffic, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, to hold hearings to examine S. 662, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Brunswick, Maine, to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System, S. 827, to establish the Freedom’s Way National Heritage Area in the States of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, S. 923 and H.R. 1528, bills to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the New England National Scenic Trail, S. 956, to establish the Land Between the Rivers National Heritage Area in the State of Illinois, S. 2073, to amend the National Trails System Act relating to the statute of limitations that applies to certain claims, S. 2513, to modify the boundary of the Minute Man National Historical Park, S. 2604, to establish the Baltimore National Heritage Area in the State of Maryland, S. 2804, to adjust the boundary of the Everglades National Park, H.R. 53, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a long-term lease with the Government of the United States Virgin Islands to provide land on the island of Saint John, Virgin Islands, for the establishment of a school, and H.R. 1483, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for certain national heritage areas, 3 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the crisis in Darfur, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the crisis in Tibet, focusing on a path to peace, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Nanci E. Langley, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine National Security Letters, focusing on the need for greater accountability and oversight, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to continue oversight hearings to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense cooperation and collaboration, 9:30 a.m., SR-418.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense/Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, executive, on the National Security Agency, 5 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on Department of Housing and Urban Development—Status of Project-Based Section 8 Program, 10 a.m., and 1 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on challenges associated with achieving full dental readiness in the reserve component, 2:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing on Improving Workplace Safety: Strengthening OSHA Enforcement of Multi-Site Employers, 11:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1343, Health Centers Renewal Act of 2007; H.R. 5669, Poison Center Support, Enhancement, and Awareness Act of 2008; H.R. 1553, Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2007; and H.R. 3112, Prenatally Diagnosed Condition Awareness Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to consider the following H.R. 5818, Neighborhood Stabilization Act of 2008; and pending Committee business, 12 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on Foreign Assistance Reform in the Next Administration: Challenges and Solutions, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, hearing on A New Beginning for the U.S.-South Korea Strategic Alliance, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, hearing on the Bucharest Summit and the Way Forward for NATO, 1 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled "Moving Beyond the First Five Years: Improving the Functionality, Governance, and Accountability of the Department of Homeland Security," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, oversight hearing on the FBI, 10:15 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, to consider H.R. 2801, Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuge and Wilderness Enhancement and King Cove Safe Access Act, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, to markup the following bills: H.R. 21, Oceans Conservation, Education, and National Strategy for the 21st Century Act; H.R. 2964, Captive Primate Safety Act; H.R. 5534, Bear Protection Act of 2008; and H.R. 5618, National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, to markup the following bills: H.R. 2649, To make amendments to the Reclamation Project Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992; H.R. 3323, Goleta Water Distribution System Conveyance Act of 2007; and H.R. 4841, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Settlement Act, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, hearing on Domestic Abstinence-Only Programs: Assessing the Evidence, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing on H.R. 5811, Electronic Communications Preservation Act, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, hearing on Opportunities and Challenges for Nuclear Power, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Regulations, Health Care and Trade, hearing entitled "Minority and Hispanic Participation in the Federal Workforce and the Impact on the Small Business Community," 12 p.m., 1539 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on the Reauthorization of the National Transportation Safety Board, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Railroad, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing on Rail Capacity, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 5684, Veterans Education Improvement Act of 2008; H.R. 4884, Helping Our Veterans to Keep Their Homes Act of 2008; H.R. 4883, To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for a limitation on the sale, foreclosure, or seizure of property owned by a servicemember during the one-year period following the servicemember's period of military service; H.R. 4889, The Guard and Reserved Are Fighting Too Act of 2008; H.R. 3681, Veterans Benefits Awareness Act of 2007; H.R. 3889, To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a longitudinal study of the vocational rehabilitation programs administered by the Secretary; H.R. 5664, To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update at least once every six years the plans and specifications for specially adapted housing furnished to veterans by the Secretary; and H.R. 3467, Second Chance for America's Veterans Act, 1 p.m., 340 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Health, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 2790, To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the position of Director of Physician Assistant Services within the office of the under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health; H.R. 3819, Veterans Emergency Care Fairness Act of 2007; H.R. 5729, Spina Bifida Health Care Program Expansion Act; H.R. 5554, Veterans Substance Use Disorders Prevention and Treatment Act of 2008; and H.R. 5856, Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Authorization and Lease Act of 2008, 2:30 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, hearing on Clearing the Disability Backlog, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget-Human Capital, 1 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

5 p.m., Wednesday, April 23

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, April 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2831, Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, and after 60 minutes of debate vote on motion to invoke cloture thereon.

House Chamber

Program or Wednesday Consideration of the following suspensions: (1) H.R. 5479—The “Alonzo Woodruff Post Office Building” Designation Act; (2) H.R. 5528—The “Rocky Marciano Post Office Building” Designation Act; (3) H.R. 5483—The “Private First Class David H. Sharrett II Post Office Building” Designation Act; (4) H.R. 3721—The “Marine Gunnery Sgt. John D. Fry Post Office Building” Designation Act; (5) H.R. 4185—The “Marisol Heredia Post Office Building” Designation Act; (6) H. Res. 1016—Expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of William F. Buckley, Jr.; (7) H.R. 3033—Contractors’ and Federal Spending Accountability Act; (8) H.R. 5712—Close the Contractor Fraud Loophole Act. Consideration of H.R. 5819—SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Andrews, Robert E., N.J., E669	Jackson-Lee, Sheila, Tex., E681	Neal, Richard E., Mass., E681
Baca, Joe, Calif., E679	Kildee, Dale E., Mich., E686	Payne, Donald M., N.J., E668
Bachmann, Michele, Minn., E673	Knollenberg, Joe, Mich., E685	Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E667, E669, E671, E673, E674, E676
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E686	Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E684	Poe, Ted, Tex., E682
Bishop, Timothy H., N.Y., E672	Lewis, Jerry, Calif., E670	Rangel, Charles B., N.Y., E668, E670, E672, E682
Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E682, E687	McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E674	Rodriguez, Ciro D., Tex., E680
Capps, Lois, Calif., E667, E669	McCollum, Betty, Minn., E680	Ruppersberger, C.A. Dutch, Md., E679
Capuano, Michael E., Mass., E684	McGovern, James P., Mass., E683	Sali, Bill, Idaho, E667, E669, E685
Clarke, Yvette D., N.Y., E675	McIntyre, Mike, N.C., E685	Sessions, Pete, Tex., E673
Conyers, John, Jr., Mich., E680	McMorris Rodgers, Cathy, Wash., E679	Shimkus, John, Ill., E676
Cramer, Robert E. (Bud), Jr., Ala., E682, E687	Marchant, Kenny, Tex., E667, E668, E669, E671, E672, E674, E676, E678, E679, E680	Shuster, Bill, Pa., E673
Crenshaw, Ander, Fla., E684	Markey, Edward J., Mass., E680	Speier, Jackie, Calif., E687
Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E685	Matsui, Doris O., Calif., E670	Stark, Fortney Pete, Calif., E678
Gillibrand, Kirsten E., N.Y., E686	Miller, George, Calif., E686	Tancredo, Thomas G., Colo., E672
Graves, Sam, Mo., E667, E669, E671, E673, E674, E676, E678, E680	Mitchell, Harry E., Ariz., E682	Velázquez, Nydia M., N.Y., E676
Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E674	Moore, Gwen, Wisc., E675	Walsh, James T., N.Y., E678
	Moran, Jerry, Kans., E671, E675	Woolsey, Lynn C., Calif., E679
	Murphy, Patrick J., Pa., E668, E670, E671	



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