

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S2649–S2742*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-one bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 765–785, and S. Res. 95–98. **Pages S2693–94**

**Measures Passed:**

**Congressional Gold Medal:** Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 15, authorizing the Rotunda of the Capitol to be used on March 29, 2007, for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Tuskegee Airmen, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2662**

**Honoring Former Senator Thomas F. Eagleton:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 97, relative to the death of Thomas F. Eagleton, former United States Senator for the State of Missouri. **Pages S2741–42**

**Joint Committee on Printing and Joint Committee on Library:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 98, providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library. **Page S2742**

**Improving America's Security by Implementing Unfinished Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act:** Senate continued consideration of S. 4, to make the United States more secure by implementing unfinished recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to fight the war on terror more effectively, to improve homeland security, withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2653–90**

**Rejected:**

DeMint Amendment No. 314 (to Amendment No. 275), to strike the provision that revises the personnel management practices of the Transportation Security Administration. (By 51 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 60), Senate tabled the amendment). **Pages S2657–58, S2659–61**

Feinstein Amendment No. 335 (to Amendment No. 275), to improve the allocation of grants through the Department of Homeland Security. (By

56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 61), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S2678–83, S2684–85**

Obama Amendment No. 338 (to Amendment No. 275), to require consideration of high-risk qualifying criteria in allocating funds under the State Homeland Security Grant Program. (By 59 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 62), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S2663–69, S2673–75, S2685**

By 49 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 63), Leahy Amendment No. 333 (to Amendment No. 275), to increase the minimum allocation for States under the State Homeland Security Grant Program. **Pages S2653–56, S2685**

**Withdrawn:**

Menendez Amendment No. 352 (to Amendment No. 275), to improve the security of cargo containers destined for the United States. **Pages S2657, S2661–62**

**Pending:**

Reid Amendment No. 275, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2653**

Sununu Amendment No. 291 (to Amendment No. 275), to ensure that the emergency communications and interoperability communications grant program does not exclude Internet Protocol-based interoperable solutions. **Page S2653**

Salazar/Lieberman Modified Amendment No. 290 (to Amendment No. 275), to require a quadrennial homeland security review. **Page S2653**

Lieberman Amendment No. 315 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide appeal rights and employee engagement mechanisms for passenger and property screeners. **Page S2653**

McCaskill Amendment No. 316 (to Amendment No. 315), to provide appeal rights and employee engagement mechanisms for passenger and property screeners. **Page S2653**

Dorgan/Conrad Amendment No. 313 (to Amendment No. 275), to require a report to Congress on the hunt for Osama Bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and the leadership of al Qaeda. **Page S2653**

Landrieu Amendment No. 321 (to Amendment No. 275), to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to include levees in the list of critical infrastructure sectors. **Page S2653**

Landrieu Amendment No. 296 (to Amendment No. 275), to permit the cancellation of certain loans

under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. **Page S2653**

Landrieu Amendment No. 295 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide adequate funding for local governments harmed by Hurricane Katrina of 2005 or Hurricane Rita of 2005. **Page S2657**

Allard Amendment No. 272 (to Amendment No. 275), to prevent the fraudulent use of social security account numbers by allowing the sharing of social security data among agencies of the United States for identity theft prevention and immigration enforcement purposes. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Sessions) Amendment No. 305 (to Amendment No. 275), to clarify the voluntary inherent authority of States to assist in the enforcement of the immigration laws of the United States and to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide information related to aliens found to have violated certain immigration laws to the National Crime Information Center. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 310 (to Amendment No. 275), to strengthen the Federal Government's ability to detain dangerous criminal aliens, including murderers, rapists, and child molesters, until they can be removed from the United States. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 311 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide for immigration injunction reform. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 312 (to Amendment No. 275), to prohibit the recruitment of persons to participate in terrorism. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Kyl) Modified Amendment No. 317 (to Amendment No. 275), to prohibit the rewarding of suicide bombings and allow adequate punishments for terrorist murders, kidnappings, and sexual assaults. **Pages S2653, S2669–70**

McConnell (for Kyl) Amendment No. 318 (to Amendment No. 275), to protect classified information. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Kyl) Amendment No. 319 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide for relief from (a)(3)(B) immigration bars from the Hmong and other groups who do not pose a threat to the United States, to designate the Taliban as a terrorist organization for immigration purposes. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Kyl) Amendment No. 320 (to Amendment No. 275), to improve the Classified Information Procedures Act. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Grassley) Amendment No. 300 (to Amendment No. 275), to clarify the revocation of an alien's visa or other documentation is not subject to judicial review. **Page S2653**

McConnell (for Grassley) Amendment No. 309 (to Amendment No. 275), to improve the prohibitions on money laundering. **Page S2653**

Thune Amendment No. 308 (to Amendment No. 275), to expand and improve the Proliferation Security Initiative while protecting the national security interests of the United States. **Page S2653**

Cardin Amendment No. 326 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide for a study of modification of area of jurisdiction of Office of National Capital Region Coordination. **Page S2653**

Cardin Amendment No. 327 (to Amendment No. 275), to reform mutual aid agreements for the National Capital Region. **Page S2653**

Cardin Modified Amendment No. 328 (to Amendment No. 275), to require Amtrak contracts and leases involving the State of Maryland to be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia. **Page S2653**

Schumer/Clinton Amendment No. 336 (to Amendment No. 275), to prohibit the use of the peer review process in determining the allocation of funds among metropolitan areas applying for grants under the Urban Area Security Initiative. **Page S2653**

Schumer/Clinton Amendment No. 337 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide for the use of funds in any grant under the Homeland Security Grant Program for personnel costs. **Page S 2653**

Collins Amendment No. 342 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide certain employment rights and an employee engagement mechanism for passenger and property screeners. **Page S2653**

Coburn Amendment No. 325 (to Amendment No. 275), to ensure the fiscal integrity of grants awarded by the Department of Homeland Security. **Page S2653**

Sessions Amendment No. 347 (to Amendment No. 275), to express the sense of the Congress regarding the funding of Senate approved construction of fencing and vehicle barriers along the southwest border of the United States. **Page S2653**

Coburn Amendment No. 345 (to Amendment No. 275), to authorize funding for the Emergency Communications and Interoperability Grants program, to require the Secretary to examine the possibility of allowing commercial entities to develop public safety communications networks. **Pages S2656, S2687–90**

Coburn Amendment No. 301 (to Amendment No. 275), to prohibit grant recipients under grant programs administered by the Department from expending funds until the Secretary has reported to Congress that risk assessments of all programs and activities have been performed and completed, improper payments have been estimated, and corrective action plans have been developed and reported as required under the Improper Payments Act of 2002 (31 U.S.C. 3321 note). **Pages S2656–57**

Coburn Amendment No. 294 (to Amendment No. 275), to provide that the provisions of the Act shall cease to have any force or effect on and after December 31, 2012, to ensure congressional review and oversight of the Act. **Pages S2658–59, S2675–77**

Lieberman (for Menendez) Amendment No. 354 (to Amendment No. 275), to improve the security of cargo containers destined for the United States. **Pages S2662–63**

Specter Amendment No. 286 (to Amendment No. 275), to restore habeas corpus for those detained by the United States. **Page S2663**

Kyl Modified Amendment No. 357 (to Amendment No. 275), to amend the data-mining technology reporting requirement to avoid revealing existing patents, trade secrets, and confidential business processes, and to adopt a narrower definition of data-mining in order to exclude routine computer searches. **Pages S2670–73, S2686–87**

Ensign Amendment No. 363 (to Amendment No. 275), to establish a Law Enforcement Assistance Force in the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate the contributions of retired law enforcement officers during major disasters. **Pages S2683–84**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 7, 2007; provided that Senate then resume consideration of McCaskill Amendment No. 315 and Collins Amendment No. 342 (both listed above), and debate concurrently until 10 a.m., with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators McCaskill and Collins, or their designees; that no amendments be in order to either amendment prior to the vote; that at 10 a.m., Senate vote on, or in relation to, McCaskill Amendment No. 315, that upon disposition of that amendment, Senate then vote on, or in relation to Collins Amendment No. 342; that there be 2 minutes equally divided between the votes; and that following the second vote, Senate proceed as a body to the House of Representatives for the joint meeting to hear an address by the King of Jordan; that Senate then stand in recess subject to the call of the chair. **Page S2742**

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

Ryan C. Crocker, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq. **Pages S2741, S2742**

**Messages from the House:** **Pages S2691–92**

**Messages Referred:** **Page S2692**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Pages S2649, S2692**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S2692–93**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S2694–96**

#### Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

**Pages S2696–S2724**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S2690–91**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S2724–41**

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** **Page S2741**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S2741**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—63) **Pages S2661, S2684–85**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m., and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Thomas F. Eagleton, United States Senator from the State of Missouri, in accordance with S. Res. 97, adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 7, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2742.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### CHILD NUTRITION

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine child nutrition and the school setting, focusing on nutrition standards, and breakfast commodities, after receiving testimony from Janey Thornton, Hardin County School District, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, on behalf of the School Nutrition Association; Teresa Nece, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, Iowa; Susan K. Neely, American Beverage Association, Washington, D.C.; Mary Lou Hennrich, Community Health Partnership, Portland, Oregon; and Kelly D. Brownell, Yale University Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, New Haven, Connecticut.

### WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the care, living conditions, and administration of outpatients at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, after receiving testimony from David S.C. Chu, Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, and William Winkenwerder, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, both of the Department of Defense; and General Peter J. Schoomaker, USA, Chief of Staff, and Lieutenant General Kevin C. Kiley, USA, Surgeon General, both of the United States Army.

### CAFE

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Program, which includes mile per gallon standards for light trucks and cars that manufacturers must

meet for vehicles sold in the United States, after receiving testimony from Nicole R. Nason, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; Katherine Siggerud, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; David L. Greene, Corporate Fellow, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National Transportation Research Center, Department of Energy; and David Friedman, Union of Concerned Scientists, Elizabeth A. Lowery, General Motors, Alan Reuther, International Union, United Automobile Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, and Tom Stricker, Toyota Motor North America, all of Washington, D.C.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 377, to establish a United States-Poland parliamentary youth exchange program;

S. 494, to endorse further enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and to facilitate the timely admission of new members to NATO;

S. 676, to provide that the Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank or the Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank may serve on the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation; and

The nominations of Ryan C. Crocker, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, William B. Wood, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and Stanley Davis Phillips, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia.

Also, Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress.

### NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND REAUTHORIZATION

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine strategies for attracting, supporting, and retaining high quality educators relating to No Child Left Behind Reauthorization, after receiving testimony from Pamela Burtnett, Lake County Education Association, Leesburg, Florida; Linda Darling-Hammond, Stanford University, Stanford, California; Kati Haycock, Education Trust, Washington, D.C.; Barbara Maguire, Park Elementary School, Casper, Wyoming; William L. Sanders, SAS Institute, Inc., Cary, North Carolina; Jon Schnur, New Leaders for New Schools, New York, New York; Jesse Solomon, Boston Public Schools, Boston, Massachusetts; Wanda J. Watkins, Richardson Independent School District, Dallas, Texas; and Beverly Young, California State University System, Long Beach.

### UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine if the Department of Justice is politicizing the hiring and firing of United States attorneys, including S. 214, to amend chapter 35 of title 28, United States Code, to preserve the independence of United States attorneys, after receiving testimony from Carol C. Lam, Southern District of California, San Diego, David C. Iglesias, District of New Mexico, Albuquerque, John McKay, Western District of Washington, Seattle, and H.E. Bud Cummins, III, Eastern District of Arkansas, Little Rock, each a former United States Attorney.

### 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.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 37 public bills, H.R. 1327–1363; 1 private bill, H.R. 1364; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 81–83; and H. Res. 216–217 were introduced. **Pages H2241–43**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H2243**

### Reports Filed:

A report was filed on January 2, 2007 as follows:

Report on the Activities of the Committee on House Administration During the 109th Congress (H. Rept. 109–752).

Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 214, providing for consideration of H.R. 569, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for sewer overflow control grants (H. Rept. 110–31);

H. Res. 215, providing for consideration of H.R. 700, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control

Act to extend the pilot program for alternative water source projects (H. Rept. 110–32); and

H.R. 799, to reauthorize and improve the program authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, with an amendment H. Rept. 110–33.

Page H2241

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

Page H2167

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H2168

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Stan Gruneich, National Chaplain, The American Legion.

Page H2168

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

*Honoring the life and achievements of the late Dr. John Garang de Mabior:* H. Res. 98, amended, honoring the life and achievements of the late Dr. John Garang de Mabior and reaffirming the continued commitment of the House of Representatives to a just and lasting peace in the Republic of the Sudan, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 121;

Pages H2172–74, H2208

*NATO Freedom Consolidation Act of 2007:* H.R. 987, to endorse further enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and to facilitate the timely admission of new members to NATO;

Pages H2174–78

*Supporting the goals of International Women's Day:* H. Res. 149, to support the goals of International Women's Day, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 122;

Pages H2178–82, H2208–09

*Lyndon Baines Johnson Federal Building Designation Act:* H.R. 584, amended, to designate the headquarters building of the Department of Education in Washington, DC, as the Lyndon Baines Johnson Federal Building;

Pages H2182–90

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To designate the Federal building located at 400 Maryland Avenue Southwest in the District of Columbia as the 'Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building'."

Page H2189

*R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse Designation Act:* H.R. 399, to designate the United States Courthouse to be constructed in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse";

Pages H2190–91

*Santiago E. Campos United States Courthouse Designation Act:* H.R. 544, to designate the United States courthouse at South Federal Place in Santa Fe,

New Mexico, as the "Santiago E. Campos United States Courthouse";

Pages H2191–92

*Commending and congratulating Virginia State University on the occasion of its 125th anniversary:* H. Res. 182, amended, to commend and congratulate Virginia State University on the occasion of its 125th anniversary;

Pages H2197–98

*Authorizing the Rotunda of the Capitol to be used on March 29, 2007, for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Tuskegee Airmen:* S. Con. Res. 15, to authorize the Rotunda of the Capitol to be used on March 29, 2007, for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Tuskegee Airmen;

Pages H2198–H2200

*Recognizing the contributions of the Negro Baseball Leagues and their players:* H. Res. 162, amended, to recognize the contributions of the Negro Baseball Leagues and their players;

Pages H2200–02

*Supporting the goals and ideals of a National Children and Families Day:* H. Con. Res. 62, to support the goals and ideals of a National Children and Families Day, in order to encourage adults in the United States to support and listen to children and to help children throughout the Nation achieve their hopes and dreams; and

Pages H2202–03

*Honoring the life and achievements of Leo T. McCarthy and expressing profound sorrow on his death:* H. Res. 180, to honor the life and achievements of Leo T. McCarthy and expressing profound sorrow on his death.

Pages H2203–07

**Suspension—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed until Wednesday, March 7th:

*Living Kidney Organ Donation Clarification Act:* H.R. 710, amended, to amend the National Organ Transplant Act to clarify that kidney paired donation does not involve the transfer of a human organ for valuable consideration.

Pages H2192–97

**Moment of Silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in honor of former Senator Thomas Eagleton.

Page H2208

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H2197 and H2233.

**Senate Referrals:** S. 743 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and S. Con. Res. 16 was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Page H2240

**Amendments:** Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rules appear on page H2244.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2208 and H2208–09. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

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

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Natural Resources and Conservation Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Mark E. Rey, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment; Arlen Lancaster, Chief; and Steven A. Probst, Director, Budget Planning and Analysis Division, both with the National Resources Conservation 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 Department of Commerce Overview. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the Secretary of Commerce. Testimony was heard from Carlos M. Gutierrez, Secretary of Commerce.

### **ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Secretary of Energy. Testimony was heard from Samuel W. Bodman, Secretary of Energy.

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

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Issues in the Federal Workforce. Testimony was heard from Linda M. Springer, Director, OPM; Neil A.G. McPhie, Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, J. Christopher Mihm, Managing Director, Strategic Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

### **HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security held an oversight hearing on Container

Security Challenges and Goals. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Jayson Ahern, Customs and Border Patrol; and Vayl Oxford, Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office.

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

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on the NIH Director with National Cancer Institute/National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of NIH, Department of Health and Human Services: Elias Zerhouni, M.D., Director, NIH; John Niederhuber, M.D., Director, National Cancer Institute; Elizabeth Nabel, M.D., Director, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; Anthony Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease; Duane Alexander, M.D., Director, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; and John Ruffin, Director, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

### **MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies held a hearing on VA Medical Care. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing and on Department of Veterans Affairs Panel. Testimony was heard from Michael J. Kussman, Acting Under Secretary, Health, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs held a hearing on Iraq Political and Reconstruction Strategy, Alternative Perspectives. Testimony was heard from Ambassador Peter Galbraith, Department of State; LTC Christopher W. Stockel, USAR; COL Lawrence Wilkerson, USA (ret.), USA; and a public witness.

### **TRANSPORTATION, AND HUD, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Department of Transportation Inspector General Management Challenges and GAO High Risk Series. Testimony

was heard from Calvin Scovel, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; and Patricia Dalton, Director, Physical Infrastructure, GAO.

#### **NATIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL SYSTEM—IS IT WORKING?**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on the National Security Personnel System—Is it Working? Testimony was heard from Michael Luis Dominguez, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FY 2008 BUDGET**

*Committee on the Budget:* Held a hearing on the Department of Defense and the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget. Testimony was heard from Gordon England, Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense.

#### **RETIREMENT SECURITY AND 401(k)s**

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Held a hearing on Are Hidden 401(k) Fees Undermining Retirement Security? Testimony was heard from Barbara Bovbjerg, Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

#### **CARBON CAPTURE AND SEQUESTRATION**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “Carbon Capture and Sequestration: An Overview.” Testimony was heard from Thomas D. Shope, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; the following officials of the EPA: William Wehrum, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation; and Ben Grumbles, Assistant Administrator, Water; S. Julio Friedman, Carbon Management Program, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; and public witnesses.

#### **MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT SYSTEM**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Exploring Options for Improving the Medicare Physician Payment System.” Testimony was heard from Glenn M. Hackbarth, Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; A. Bruce Steinwald, Director, Health Care, GAO; and public witnesses.

#### **GULF COAST HURRICANE HOUSING RECOVERY ACT OF 2007**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Began markup of H.R. 1227, Gulf Coast Hurricane Housing Recovery Act of 2007.

Will continue tomorrow.

#### **THE IRANIAN CHALLENGE**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Held a hearing on The Iranian Challenge. Testimony was heard from R. Nicholas Burns, Under Secretary, Political Affairs, Department of State.

#### **GLOBAL OPINION OF AMERICAN POLICIES**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight held a hearing on Global Polling Data on Opinion of American Policies, Values and People. Testimony was heard from a public witness.

#### **RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT OF 2007**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Held a hearing on a measure entitled “Rail and Public Transportation Security Act of 2007.” Testimony was heard from Kip Hawley, Administrator, Transportation Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Terri Rosapep, Deputy Associate Administrator, Program Management, Department of Transportation; Richard Fairfax, Director, Enforcement Programs, OSHA, Department of Labor; Richard Falkenrath, Deputy Commissioner, Counterterrorism, Police Department, New York City; Fred Weiderhold, Inspector General, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK); and public witnesses.

#### **U.S. ATTORNEY FIRINGS; ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 580, to amend chapter 35 of title 28, United States Code, to provide for a 120-day limit to the term of a United States Attorney appointed on an interim basis by the Attorney General. Testimony was heard from Representative Issa; Will Moschella, Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice; former Representative Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas; the following former U.S. Attorneys: Daniel Bogden, District of Nevada; Bud Cummins, Eastern District of Arkansas; David C. Iglesias, District of New Mexico; John McKay, District of Western Washington; Carol Lam, Southern District of California; and Paul K. Charlton, District of Arizona.

Prior to the hearing, the Subcommittee met and approved the issuance of subpoenas to former U.S. Attorneys Daniel Bogden, District of Nevada and Paul K. Carlton, District of Arizona in conjunction with the hearing on H.R. 580.

#### **CORAL REEF CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held a hearing on the

Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from Tim Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA, Department of Commerce; David B. Cohen, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and National Archives approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 1309, To promote openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act); and H.R. 1255, To amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records.

#### WATER QUALITY INVESTMENT ACT OF 2007

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, an open rule with a preprinting requirement. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 569, Water Quality Investment Act of 2007, equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. The rule provides that the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

The rule makes in order only those amendments to the amendment in the nature of a substitute that are pre-printed in the Congressional Record or are pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. The rule provides that each amendment printed in the Congressional Record may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or a designee, and that each amendment shall be considered as read. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Oberstar and Representatives Mica and Baker.

#### HEALTHY COMMUNITIES WATER SUPPLY ACT OF 2007

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, an open rule with a preprinting requirement. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 700, Healthy

Communities Water Supply Act of 2007, equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read.

The rule makes in order only those amendments to the bill that are pre-printed in the Congressional Record or are pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. The rule provides that each amendment printed in the Congressional Record may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or a designee, and that each amendment shall be considered as read. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Oberstar and Representatives Mica and Baker.

#### MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION'S REPORT—SUSTAINABLE GROWTH RATE

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's report on the Sustainable Growth Rate. Testimony was heard from Glenn M. Hackbarth, Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; and public witnesses.

#### LOW-INCOME FAMILY ASSISTANCE

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support held a hearing on Recent Changes to Programs Assisting Low-Income Families. Testimony was heard from Sidonie Squier, Director, Office of Family Assistance, Department of Health and Human Services; Robin Arnold-Williams, Secretary, Department of Social and Health Services, State of Washington; David A. Hansell, Acting Commissioner, Department of Temporary Disability Assistance, State of New York; Nancy K. Ford, Director, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, State of Nevada; Mary Dean Harvey, Director, Department of Human Resources, Division of Family and Children, State of Georgia; and a public witness.

#### DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM BUDGET ROLL-OUT

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Director of National Intelligence (DNI) and National Intelligence Program (NIP) Budget Roll-out. Testimony was heard from Mike McConnell, Director of National Intelligence.



## Joint Meetings

### VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, after receiving testimony from Gary Kurpius, Robert Wallace, William Bradshaw, Robert Crfat, and Dennis Cullinan, all of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Washington, D.C.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* to hold hearings to examine investing in our nation's future through agricultural research, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense medical programs, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Energy, 2 p.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism, to hold hearings to examine policy implications of pharmaceutical importation for U.S. consumers, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Subcommittee on Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine national imperatives for Earth Science research, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine market constraints on large investments in advanced energy technologies and investigate ways to stimulate additional private-sector investment in the deployment of these technologies, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 3 p.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* to hold hearings to examine strengthening American competitiveness for the 21st Century, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine fees, interests rates and grace periods relating to credit card practices, focusing on high fees charged for late payments, over-the-limit charges, including how those fees are assessed, how they add to interest costs, and how they contribute to consumer debt, and an industry practice requiring consumer payments to be applied first to balances with the lowest interest rates instead of to balances with the highest interest rates, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine the McCarran-Ferguson Act and Antitrust Immunity, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the enforcement of the antitrust laws, 2:15 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Veterans Administration adjudication process, 9:30 a.m., SR-418.

#### House

*Committee on Agriculture,* Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research, hearing to review the financial structure of renewable energy resources, 1 p.m., 1302 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, on Economic and Statistics Administration/Census/Bureau of Economic Analysis, 10 a.m., and on Economic Development Administration/Minority Business Development Agency, 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Defense, on Walter Reed Infrastructure, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services, and General Government, on Ensuring the Integrity of Elections, 10 a.m., 2220 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs and Related Agencies, on Pacific Command, 2 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

*Committee on Armed Services,* hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea, 8:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, hearing on Air Force and Army airlift and aerial refueling fixed-wing aircraft programs, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing entitled "Climate Change: Are Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Human Activities Contributing to a Warming of the Planet?" 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing entitled "Digital Future of the United States: Part II—The Future of Radio," 2:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* to continue markup of H.R. 1227, Gulf Coast Hurricane Housing Recovery Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Domestic and International Policy, Trade, and Technology, hearing entitled "The Role of Remittances in Leveraging Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, hearing on A Regional Overview of South Asia, 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* hearing on "Protecting the Right to Vote: Election Deception and Irregularities in Recent Federal Elections," 3 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 162, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve Boundary Adjustment Act of 2007; H.R. 249, To restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros; H.R. 285, Steel Industry National Historic Site Act; H.R. 309, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a demonstration program to facilitate landscape restoration programs within certain units of the National Park System established by law to preserve and interpret resources associated with American history; H.R. 319, Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area Act; H.R. 505, Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2007; H.R. 865, Copper Valley Native Allotment Resolution Act of 2007; and H.R. 886, Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2007, 1:30 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Rules*, to consider H. Res. 202, Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Tenth Congress, 2 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Committee on Science and Technology*, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on the Department of

Energy Fiscal Year 2008 Research and Development Budget Proposal, 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, hearing entitled "Advancing the Innovation Agenda: The Perspective of the Technology and Telecommunications Industry," 9 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit and the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, joint hearing on Transit and Rail Security, 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on the impact of Aquatic Invasive Species on the Great Lakes, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing Performance Review of Services, 2 p.m., 340 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on the Alternative Minimum Tax, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, briefing on Hot Spots, 8:45 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 7

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 7

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of S. 4, Improving America's Security by Implementing Unfinished Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act, and after a period of debate, vote on, or in relation to McCaskill Amendment No. 316 (to Amendment No. 315), and Collins Amendment No. 342 (to Amendment No. 275).

*(At 11 a.m., Senate will meet with the House of Representatives in the House Chamber to receive a message from His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.)*

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Joint Meeting with the Senate to receive His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, followed by consideration of H.R. 569—Water Quality Investment Act of 2007.

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