

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senator Pryor read Washington's Farewell Address.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1093–S1147

Measures Introduced: On Friday, February 15, 2008, under the order of the authority of the Senate of February 14, 2008, the following three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2655–2657. On Monday, February 25, 2008, the following nine bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2658–S. 2666 and S. Res. 458–460. **Page S1121**

Measures Reported:

Reported on Friday, February 22, during the adjournment:

S. 2324, to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to enhance the Offices of the Inspectors General, to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–262) **Page S1121**

Reported on Monday, February 25, 2008:

S. 2142, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse veterans receiving emergency treatment in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities for such treatment until such veterans are transferred to Department facilities, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 110–263) **Page S1121**

S. 2450, to amend the Federal Rules of Evidence to address the waiver of the attorney-client privilege and the work product doctrine. (S. Rept. No. 110–264) **Page S1121**

Report to accompany S. 2045, to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs. (S. Rept. No. 110–265) **Page S1121**

Measures Passed:

Northern Illinois University Shooting: Senate agreed to S. Res. 458, expressing the condolences of

the Senate to those affected by the devastating shooting incident of February 14, 2008, at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. **Pages S1100–01**

Senate Legal Representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 460, to authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in the case of National Association of Manufacturers v. Taylor, et al. **Page S1145**

Measures Considered:

Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments: Senate resumed consideration of S. 1200, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend the Act, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S1101–14, S1146

Adopted:

By 78 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. 29), Murkowski (for DeMint) Amendment No. 4070 (to Amendment No. 3899), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1109**

Dorgan (for Thune) Amendment No. 4021 (to Amendment No. 3899), to require a study of tribal justice systems. **Page S1113**

Dorgan (for Johnson) Modified Amendment No. 4019 (to Amendment No. 3899), to provide for testimony by Service employees in cases of rape and sexual assault. **Page S1113**

Withdrawn:

Murkowski (for DeMint) Amendment No. 4073 (to Amendment No. 3899), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S1109–10**

Pending:

Vitter Amendment No. 3896 (to Amendment No. 3899), to modify a section relating to limitation on use of funds appropriated to the Service. **Pages S1101, S1113–14**

Dorgan Amendment No. 3899, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1101**

Smith Amendment No. 3897 (to Amendment No. 3899), to modify a provision relating to development of innovative approaches. **Pages S1101, S1110–13**

Murkowski (for DeMint) Amendment No. 4015 (to Amendment No. 3899), to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish an Indian health savings account demonstration project.

Page S1101

Murkowski (for DeMint) Amendment No. 4066 (to Amendment No. 3899), of a perfecting nature.

Page S1101

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

By 85 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 28), 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 Dorgan Amendment No. 3899 (listed above).

Page S1109

Chair sustained a point of order that DeMint Amendment No. 4080 (to Amendment No. 4070), to rescind funds appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, for the City of Berkeley, California, and any entities located in such city, and to provide that such funds shall be transferred to the Operations and Maintenance, Marine Corps account of the Department of Defense for the purposes of recruiting, was not germane to the bill, and the amendment thus fell.

Page S1109

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate continue consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m. on Tuesday February 26, 2008; that the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Indian Affairs each have 10 minutes of debate; that the voting sequence be as follows:

Vitter Amendment No. 3896,

Smith Amendment No. 3897,

Murkowski (for DeMint) Amendment No. 4015, and

Murkowski (for DeMint) Amendment No. 4066; that upon disposition of all pending amendments, Dorgan Amendment No. 3899, as amended be agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time, and Senate vote on passage of the bill; provided further, that the cloture motion on the bill be withdrawn, with no debate time in order except for the 2 minutes prior to each vote; that after the first vote, vote time be limited to 10 minutes each; that the other provisions of the February 14, 2008 order of the Senate remain in effect.

Pages S1112–13

Troop Redeployment: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2633, to provide for the safe redeployment of United States troops from Iraq.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, Feb-

ruary 14, 2008, a vote on cloture will occur at 2:50 p.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2008. **Pages S1144–45**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, Senate continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2663, to provide for the safe redeployment of United States troops from Iraq; that there be 20 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, the time be divided and controlled between the Majority and Republican Leaders, and that the Majority Leader control the final 10 minutes prior to the vote; provided further, that the other provisions of the February 14, 2008 order of the Senate remain in effect.

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn.

Page S1145

Global Strategic Report: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2634, to require a report setting forth the global strategy of the United States to combat and defeat al Qaeda and its affiliates.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, February 14, 2008, a vote on cloture will occur at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2008.

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn.

Page S1145

Washington's Farewell Address: Senator Pryor performed the traditional reading of Washington's Farewell Address.

Pages S1093–98

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

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.

Donald E. Booth, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia.

Nancy E. McEldowney, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria.

Stephen George McFarland, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala.

Gillian Arlette Milovanovic, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali.

Carol Dillon Kissal, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration.

Joseph A. Benkert, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral. **Pages S1146–47**

Messages from the House: **Page S1118**

Measures Referred: **Page S1118**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S1118**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S1118, S1145**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1118–21**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1121–24**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1124–44**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1116–17**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S1144**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1144**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—29) **Page S1109**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 7:35 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1145–46.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: On January 24, committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment: Senators Reed (RI) (Chairman), Menendez, Johnson, Schumer, Bayh, Casey, Akaka, Tester, Allard, Enzi, Bennett, Hagel, Bunning, Crapo, and Corker;

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions: Senators Johnson (Chairman), Tester, Menendez, Akaka, Reed (RI), Schumer, Bayh, Carper, Hagel, Bennett, Allard, Bunning Crapo, Dole, and Corker;

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development: Senators Schumer (Chairman), Akaka, Casey, Reed (RI), Carper, Brown, Tester, Crapo, Dole, Martinez, Allard, Enzi, and Hagel;

Subcommittee on Economic Policy: Senators Carper (Chairman), Brown, and Bunning;

Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance: Senators Bayh (Chairman), Brown, Johnson, Casey, Dodd, Martinez, Enzi, Dole, and Bennett.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: On Thursday, February 21, committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Catharina Haynes, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, John A. Mendez, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, and Stanley Thomas Anderson, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R.5478–5487; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 302–303; and H. Res. 994–997 were introduced. **Pages H1030–31**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1031–32**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows: H.R. 5264, to extend certain trade preference programs, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–529). **Page H1030**

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

Expressing support for the designation of the week of March 3–7, 2008, as “School Social Work Week”: H. Res. 978, to express support for the designation of the week of March 3–7, 2008, as “School Social Work Week” to promote awareness of the vital role of school social workers in schools, and in the community as a whole, in helping students prepare for their future as productive citizens, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 379 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 69; **Pages H1006–07, H1013–14**

Supporting the goals and ideals of “Career and Technical Education Month”: H. Res. 930, amended, to support the goals and ideals of “Career and Technical Education Month”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 380 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 70; **Pages H1007–10, H1014–15**

Honoring the service and accomplishments of Lieutenant General Russel L. Honoré, United States Army, for his 37 years of service on behalf of the United States: H. Res. 944, amended, to honor the service and accomplishments of Lieutenant General Russel L. Honoré, United States Army, for his 37 years of service on behalf of the United States, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 380 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 71; and **Pages H1010–13, H1015**

Providing for the continued minting and issuance of certain \$1 coins in 2008: H.R. 5478, to provide for the continued minting and issuance of certain \$1 coins in 2008. **Page H1013**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:50 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1013**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the shooting on the campus of Northern Illinois University on February 14, 2008. **Page H1014**

Dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Thirteenth

Congressional District of Florida—Order of Business: The House agreed by unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider H. Res. 989, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Thirteenth Congressional District of Florida; that the resolution be considered as read; and that the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution to its adoption without intervening motion except ten minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on House Administration, or their designees. **Pages H1016–17**

Dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Thirteenth Congressional District of Florida: The House agreed to H. Res. 989, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Thirteenth Congressional District of Florida, by voice vote. **Page H1017**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1006.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1013–14, H1014–15 and H1015. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 4 p.m. and adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Committee Meetings

RAILROAD ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2007

Committee on the Judiciary: Task Force on Antitrust and Competition Policy held a hearing on H.R. 1650, Railroad Antitrust Enforcement Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from Representative Baldwin; and public witnesses.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D151)

H.R. 4253, to improve and expand small business assistance programs for veterans of the armed forces and military reservists, and for other purposes. Signed on February 14, 2008. (Public Law 110–186)

H.R. 3541, to eliminate the automatic removal of telephone numbers registered on the Federal “do-not-call” registry. Signed on February 15, 2008. (Public Law 110–187)

S. 781, to extend the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to collect Do-Not-Call Registry fees to fiscal years after fiscal year 2007. Signed on February 15, 2008. (Public Law 110–188)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2008

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold oversight hearings to examine the oil, gas, and mineral revenue programs managed by the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of the Army, and the future years defense program, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold an oversight hearing to examine U.S. oil inventory policies, focusing on the Department of Energy's Strategic Petroleum Reserve Project Management Office policies, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the economic and fiscal conditions of the States, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of February 25 through March 1, 2008

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at approximately 10:00 a.m., Senate will continue consideration of S. 1200, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments, and vote on the pending amendments and on passage of the bill. At 2:50 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2633, Troop Redeployment, following which, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2634, Global Strategy Report.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: February 26, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold oversight hearings to examine the oil, gas, and mineral revenue programs managed by the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–124.

February 27, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year

2009 for the U.S. Army, Department of Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

February 28, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the recent Hallmark/Westland meat recall, 2 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: February 26, to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of the Army, and the future years defense program, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

February 27, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States; with the possibility of a closed session in S–407 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

February 27, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for the Active component, Reserve component, civilian personnel programs, and the future years defense program, 3 p.m., SR–232A.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for Department of the Navy, and the future years defense program; with the possibility of a closed session in SR–222 immediately following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009, for the Department of the Navy, and the future years defense program; with the possibility of a closed session in SR–222 immediately following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: February 28, to hold hearings to examine the semiannual monetary policy report to the Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: February 27, Subcommittee on Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the National Space and Aeronautics Administration (NASA), 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: February 26, to hold an oversight hearing to examine U.S. oil inventory policies, focusing on the Department of Energy's Strategic Petroleum Reserve Project Management Office policies, 10 a.m., SD–366.

February 27, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stanley C. Suboleski, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy), and J. Gregory Copeland, of Texas, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Energy, 9:45 a.m., SD–366.

February 27, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, to hold hearings to examine S. 2229, to withdraw certain Federal land in the Wyoming Range from leasing and provide an opportunity to retire certain leases in the

Wyoming Range, S. 2379, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cancel certain grazing leases on land in Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument that are voluntarily waived by the lessees, to provide for the exchange of certain Monument land in exchange for private land, to designate certain Monument land as wilderness, S. 832, to provide for the sale of approximately 25 acres of public land to the Turnabout Ranch, Escalante, Utah, at fair market value, S. 2508 and H.R. 903, bills to provide for a study of options for protecting the open space characteristics of certain lands in and adjacent to the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests in Colorado, S. 2601 and H.R. 1285, bills to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to King and Kittitas Counties Fire District No. 51 a certain parcel of real property for use as a site for a new Snoqualmie Pass fire and rescue station, H.R. 523, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public land located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Wells Hydroelectric Project of Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, to the utility district, and H.R. 838, to provide for the conveyance of the Bureau of Land Management parcels known as the White Acre and Gambel Oak properties and related real property to Park City, Utah, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the impact of increased minimum wages on the economies of American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

February 28, Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine S. 177 and H.R. 2085, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the McGee Creek Authority certain facilities of the McGee Creek Project, Oklahoma, S. 1473 and H.R. 1855, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Madera Irrigation District for purposes of supporting the Madera Water Supply Enhancement Project, S. 1474 and H.R. 1139, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to plan, design and construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, and other uses from the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin, Santa Ana River, California, S. 1929, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study of water augmentation alternatives in the Sierra Vista Subwatershed, S. 2370, to clear title to certain real property in New Mexico associated with the Middle Rio Grande Project, and H.R. 2381, to promote Department of the Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, 2 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: February 27, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

February 28, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold oversight hearings to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, focusing on the security of the nuclear power plants in the United States, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: February 26, to hold hearings to examine the economic and fiscal conditions of the States, 10 a.m., SD-215.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the real estate market, focusing on building a strong economy, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: February 28, to hold hearings to examine the policy options of the United States in post-election Pakistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

February 28, Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection, to hold hearings to examine international deforestation and climate change adaptation, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: February 27, business meeting to consider S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, S. 1810, to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the provision of scientifically sound information and support services to patients receiving a positive test diagnosis for Down syndrome or other prenatal and postnatal diagnosed conditions, S. 999, to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, S. 1760, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Healthy Start Initiative, H.R. 20, to provide for research on, and services for individuals with, postpartum depression and psychosis, and S. 1042, to amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly, and any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: February 27, to hold hearings to examine U.S. reliance on private security firms in overseas operations, 10 a.m., SD-342.

February 29, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine government-wide intelligence community management reforms, focusing on ensuring effective Congressional oversight and the role of the Government Accountability Office, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: February 27, to hold hearings to examine S. 2232, to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a demonstration program to adapt the lessons of providing foreign aid to underdeveloped economies to the provision of Federal economic development assistance to certain similarly situated individuals, 9:30 a.m., SR-485.

Committee on the Judiciary: February 27, to hold hearings to examine S. 2041, to amend the False Claims Act, focusing on strengthening the government's most effective tool against fraud for the 21st century, 10 a.m., SD-226.

February 27, Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold hearings to examine supporting the front line in the

fight against crime, focusing on restoring federal funding for state and local law enforcement, 2 p.m., SD-226.

February 28, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2304, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, S. 2449, to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, relating to protective orders, sealing of cases, disclosures of discovery information in civil actions, S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. 2136, to address the treatment of primary mortgages in bankruptcy, S. 2133, to authorize bankruptcy courts to take certain actions with respect to mortgage loans in bankruptcy, S. 2041, to amend the False Claims Act, and the nominations of Kevin J. O'Connor, of Connecticut, to be Associate Attorney General, and Gregory G. Katsas, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, Brian Stacy Miller, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and James Randal Hall, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Georgia, 10 a.m., SD-226.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine weaknesses in the visa waiver program, focusing on possible safeguards needed to protect the United States of America, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: February 27, to hold hearings to examine protecting voters in the United States at the polls, focusing on limiting abusive robocalls and vote caging practices, 10 a.m., SR-301.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: February 27, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Small Business Administration, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: February 27, to hold hearings to review veterans' disability compensation, focusing on expert work on post-traumatic stress disorder and other issues, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: February 26, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

February 27, Full Committee, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

February 28, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: February 27, to hold hearings to examine issues relative to surgeons, focusing on conflicts and consultant payments in the medical device industry, 10:30 a.m., SD-628.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, February 27, to consider Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2009 for submission to the Committee on the Budget, 12 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, February 26, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, on Office of Science and Technology Policy, 10 a.m., and on

International Trade Commission, 2 p.m., B-309 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Missile Defense Agency, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

February 26, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Immigration Enforcement Issues, including Comprehensive Identification and Removal of Criminal Aliens and Students and Exchange Visitor Program fee increases—Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Environmental Protection Agency, 1:30 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Secretary of Education, 10 a.m., and an Overview hearing on Opportunities Lost and Costs to Society: The Social and Economic Burden of Inadequate Education, Training and Workforce Development, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs and Related Agencies, on American Battle Commission, 1:30 p.m.; on Arlington National Cemetery and United States Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, 2:15 p.m., on Armed Forces Retirement Income, 2:45 p.m., and on United States Court of Appeals for Veterans' Claims, 3:15 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

February 26, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget-Millennium Challenge Account, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on Federal Railroad Administration and National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK), 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Drug Safety, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, on National Science Board/National Science Foundation, 9:30 a.m., H-309 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Defense, on Shipbuilding, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

February 27, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Bureau of Reclamation Commission, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, on Election Administration, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on Bureau of Land Management, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Office of Inspector General, 1:30 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

February 27, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies, on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, U.S. Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., 2358—A Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Inspector General, 10 a.m., 2362—A Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Defense, on Defense Health Program, 10 a.m., and on National Guard and Reserve Issues, 1:30 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

February 28, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Department of Energy, 9 a.m., 2362—B Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, on Consumer Protection in Financial Services, 10 a.m., 2220 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Improving the Efficiency of the Aviation Security System—TSA, GAO, American Airlines, and Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Reducing the Disability Backlog at the Social Security Administration/Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Overview, 10 a.m., 2358—C Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget-State Operations, Embassy Baghdad, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on Housing Needs of Special Populations (Elderly; Disabled; Homeless; HOPWA), 10 a.m., 2358—A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, February 26, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Budget Request on Overview of Recruiting, Retention and Compensation, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, and the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, joint hearing on Irregular Warfare and Stability Operations: Approaches to Interagency Integration, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 27, full Committee, hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Air Force, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces, hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Budget Request overview for the United States Marine Corps, 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on U.S. Strategic Posture/Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request for Strategic Programs, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 28, full Committee, hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Budget Request

from the Department of the Army, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Budget Request on military construction, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, February 27, hearing on Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, 10 a.m., and a hearing on Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

February 28, hearing on Members' Day, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, February 26, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions, hearing on H.R. 2703, Private Security Officer Employment Authorization Act of 2007, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, February 26, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Covering Uninsured Kids: Reversing Progress Already Made," 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Contaminated Food: Private Sector Accountability," 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, entitled "Drugs in Sports: Compromising the Health of Athletes and Undermining the Integrity of Competition," 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing on Wireless Consumer Protection and Community Broadband Empowerment, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

February 28, full Committee, hearing entitled "A Review of the Department of Health and Human Services Fiscal Year 2009 Budget," 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing entitled "Climate Change: Competitiveness Concerns and Prospects for Engaging Developing Countries," 1 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, hearing on S. 742, Ban Asbestos in America Act of 2007 and on other proposals to Ban Asbestos in Products, 1:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, February 26 and 27, hearings on Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, February 26, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight and the Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia, joint briefing on Iraqi Refugees: Can the U.S. Do More to Help? 1 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

February 27, full Committee, to mark the following measures: Global HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008; H. Res. 185, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region as a result of human rights violations; H. Res. 854, Expressing the gratitude to all member states of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service (ITS) on ratifying the May 2006 Agreement to amend the 1955 Bonn Accords

granting open access to vast Holocaust and other World War II related archives located in Bad Arolsen, Germany; H. Res. 865, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the March 2007 report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development makes an important contribution to the understanding of the high levels of crime and violence in the Caribbean, and that the United States should work with Caribbean countries to address crime and violence in the region; H. Con. Res. 154, Expressing the sense of Congress that the fatal radiation poisoning of Russian dissident and writer Alexandria Litvinenko raises significant concerns about the potential involvement of elements of the Russian Government in Mr. Litvinenko's death and about the security and proliferation of radioactive materials; H. Con. Res. 255, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States commitment to preservation of religious and cultural sites and condemning instances where sites are desecrated; and H. Con. Res. 278, Supporting Taiwan's fourth direct and democratic presidential elections in March 2008, 9:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, hearing on Multidrug Resistant Tuberculosis: Assessing the U.S. Response to an Emerging Global Threat, 2:30 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, hearing and briefing on Climate Change and Vulnerable Societies: A Post-Bali Overview, 2 p.m., 340 Cannon.

February 28, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, hearing on Status of Forces in Agreements and UN Mandates: What Authorities and Protections Do They Provide to U.S. Personnel? 9:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, February 26, hearing on the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

February 26, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled "Homeland Security Intelligence at a Crossroads: the Office of Intelligence and Analysis' Vision for 2008," 4 p.m., 311 Cannon.

February 27, Subcommittee on Border, Maritime and Global Counterterrorism and the Subcommittee on Management, Investigations and Oversight, joint hearing entitled "Project 28: Lessons Learned and the Future of SBInet," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

February 28, full Committee, hearing entitled "The Cyber Initiative," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, February 26, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, to consider a resolution authorizing the Chairman to issue a subpoena to former Attorney General John Ashcroft for testimony and related documents at a hearing before the Subcommittee regarding deferred prosecution agreements and independent corporate monitors; followed by an oversight hearing on the Implementation of the U.S. Department of Justice's Special Counsel Regulations, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, to consider a resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Committee to issue a subpoena to J. Kenneth Blackwell for testimony and related documents at a hearing before the Subcommittee regarding voter suppression; followed by an oversight hearing on Voter Suppression, 9:25 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on Cracked Justice—Addressing the Unfairness in Cocaine Sentencing, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, to meet to request Department of Homeland Security Departmental Reports on the beneficiaries of private relief measures, 11 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, oversight hearing on the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 1:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, February 26, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, oversight hearing entitled "The fiscal year 2009 budget request for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

February 26, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 5151, Wild Monongahela Act: A National Legacy for West Virginia's Special Places, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 26, Subcommittee on Water and Power, oversight hearing on the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Requests for the Bureau of Reclamation, the Water Resources Division of the United States Geological Survey, and the Federal Power Marketing Administrations, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 27, full Committee, oversight hearing on the Department of Interior's recently released guidance on taking land into trust for Indian Tribes and its ramifications, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 27, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, oversight hearing on the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Requests for the National Park Service, Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 28, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2009 Budget for the Minerals Management Service, the Bureau of Land Management, Energy and Minerals programs, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the Minerals programs, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the Minerals and Geology Program of the Forest Service, and the United States Geological Survey, except for the activities and programs of the Water Resources Division, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

February 28, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3223, Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act of 2007; H.R. 5451, Coastal Zone Reauthorization Act of 2009; H.R. 5452, Coastal State Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2008;

and H.R. 5453, Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

February 28, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, oversight hearing on the Fiscal Year 2009 budget request for the Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, 1 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, February 26, hearing on Electronic Records Preservation at the White House; followed by consideration of the following: Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2009 for submission to the Committee on the Budget; H. Con. Res. 286, Expressing the sense of Congress that Earl Lloyd should be recognized and honored for breaking the color barrier and becoming the first African American to play in the National Basketball Association League 58 years ago; H. Con. Res. 292, Honoring Margaret Truman Daniel and her lifetime of accomplishments; H. Res. 537, Expressing support for the designation and goals of National 9–1–1 Educational Month, and for other purposes; 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”; 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”; H.R. 4774, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10250 John Saunders Road in San Antonio, Texas, as the “Cyndi Taylor Krier Post Office Building”; H.R. 5168, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 19101 Cortez Boulevard in Brooksville, Florida, as the “Cody Crater Post Office Building”; 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”; and 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,” 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization and Procurement, hearing on Contracting Reform: Expert Recommendations and pending measures, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 27, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, hearing on One Year After Walter Reed: An Independent Assessment of the Care, Support, and Disability Evaluation for Wounded Soldiers, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 28, full Committee, to continue hearings on Executive Compensation II: CEO Pay and the Mortgage Crisis, 10 a.m., 2145 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia, to consider pending business, and to hold a hearing on the Implementation of the Postal Accountability Enhancement Act of 2006, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, February 26, to consider H.R. 5351, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008, 4 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, February 26, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on the

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Proposal and GAO's Report on the Aviation Weather Service, 1 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Science and Education, oversight hearing on the NSF, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

February 27, full Committee, to markup the following bills: H.R. 3916, To provide for the next generation of border and maritime security technologies; H.R. 4847, U.S. Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008; and H.R. 5161, Green Transportation Infrastructure Research and Technology Transfer Act, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, February 26, hearing entitled “State Strategies to Expand Health Insurance Coverage for Small Businesses,” 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

February 26, Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology, hearing entitled “Plain Language in Paperwork—The Benefits to Small Business,” 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

February 27, full Committee, to consider Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2009 for submission to the Committee on the Budget, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

February 28, full Committee, hearing entitled “Improving the Paperwork Reduction Act for Small Businesses,” 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, February 26, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget: Coast Guard, Federal Maritime Commission and Maritime Administration, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, February 26, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on Revising the VA Schedule of Rating Disabilities, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

February 27, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on VA Construction Authorization, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

February 28, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Subprime Mortgage Crisis and America's Veterans, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

February 28, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Mental Health Treatment for Families: Supporting Those Who Support our Veterans, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, February 27, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Improving the Child Welfare System, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Medicare Advantage, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, February 26, executive, briefing on Cyber Initiative, 11 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

February 27, Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, hearing on Security Clearances, 9:30 a.m., 340 Cannon.

February 27, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence, executive, briefing on Hot Spots, 8:45 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

February 28, full Committee, executive, briefing on FISA, 12:30 p.m., and, executive, meeting on FY 09 Budget, 2 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, February 26, hearing entitled “Food for Thought: Sustainability from Counter to Compost,” 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: February 28, to hold hearings to examine the total economic costs of the war beyond the Federal budget, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, February 26

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 1200, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments, and vote on the pending amendments and on passage of the bill; following which, there will be a period of morning business.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 3521—Public Housing Asset Management Improvement Act of 2007 (Subject to a Rule).

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