

May 21, 2003

Summary of Amendments Made in Order to H.R. 1588 - The National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2004

The following are summaries of the amendments made in order under the rule (H.Res. 245) for today's consideration of the Defense Authorization bill (H.R. 1588). More amendments are likely tomorrow under a different rule. Debate time is indicated parenthetically after each amendment summary.

Amendments may only be offered in the order listed below. After each summary is indicated in **red bold** whether the amendment was agreed to or failed.

Hunter #73: Makes technical corrections and other minor adjustments. Leaves in place the section of the current Endangered Species Act that defines a "critical habitat." Confines the new definition of "harassment" of marine mammals to "military readiness activity." **(10 minutes) AGREED TO**

Goode #1: Gives temporary authority (through the end of FY2005) to the Secretary of Defense to assign members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, under certain circumstances and subject to certain conditions (including completion of a training program and accompaniment by civilian law enforcement upon actual assignment), to assist the Department of Homeland Security in the performance of border protections functions. The military assignees would have no arrest authority. Authorizes the Homeland Security Department to establish ongoing joint task forces, if deemed helpful. **(20 minutes) AGREED TO**

Sanchez, Loretta #65: Permits Department of Defense facilities not located in the United States to perform abortions on demand. Current law prohibits abortion in domestic and overseas military hospitals (except in the cases of rape, incest, and life of the mother). Though the pregnant moms would have to pay for their own abortions, taxpayers would still be required to subsidize the purchase of the abortion equipment and the salary for the abortionist, among other costs.

The House has rejected this identical amendment every year since 1996. This year, the Armed Services Committee rejected it by voice vote.

RSC Note: When President Clinton allowed abortions in military facilities from 1993 to 1996, all military physicians (as well as many nurses and supporting personnel) refused to

perform or assist in elective abortions. In response, the Clinton Administration sought to hire a civilian to do abortions. **(30 minutes) FAILED**

Tauscher #32: Transfers \$15 million for the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator and \$6 million for additional and exploratory studies under the Advanced Concepts Initiative (under stockpile research) to conventional programs to defeat hardened and deeply buried targets. **(20 minutes) FAILED**

Hoeffel #9: Requires the President to submit an annual report, upon completion of the Moscow Treaty on strategic offensive reductions, on the number of strategic nuclear warheads that have been dismantled under the Treaty in the previous calendar year and that will be dismantled in the coming year. **(10 minutes) AGREED TO**

Goss #36: Requires the Secretary of Defense to report (within 60 days of enactment) on appropriate steps that could be taken by DOD in response to nations that attempt to commence legal proceedings against any current or former official or employee of the United States relating to the performance of official duties. **(20 minutes) AGREED TO**

Goss #54: Requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment (within 180 days of enactment) of U.S. costs associated with the location of NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, and the costs and benefits of relocating the headquarters to another suitable location Europe. **(20 minutes) AGREED TO**

Saxton #17: Repeals the statutory requirement that an officer serving as defense attaché to France must hold, or be on the promotion list, the grade of brigadier general or rear admiral, lower half. **(10 minutes) AGREED TO**

Hunter #75: Expresses the sense of Congress that the President should reevaluate the current posture of U.S. forces stationed in Europe and consider a military posture that takes advantage of basing and training opportunities in new NATO member states. **(20 minutes) AGREED TO**

Staff contact: Paul Teller, paul.teller@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9718