

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 4340—United States-Baharain Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session today. It will next meet at 2 p.m., on Monday, December 12, 2005.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 4452–4470; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 311; and H. Res. 589–590 were introduced.
Pages H11219–20

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H11220–21**

Reports Filed: Report were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 588, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4297) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006 (H. Rept. 109–330).
Page H11219

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

Honoring the pilots of United States commercial air carriers who volunteer to participate in the Federal flight deck officer program: H. Con. Res. 196, to honor the pilots of United States commercial air carriers who volunteer to participate in the Federal flight deck officer program, by a yea-and-nay vote of 413 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 614;

Pages H11118–20, H11148–49

Amending the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters: H.R. 1721, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters;
Pages H11120–22

Amending the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for Long Island Sound: H.R. 3963, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for Long Island Sound;
Pages H11122–24

Amending section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App): H.R. 4311, to amend section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App);
Pages H11124–27

Recognizing the anniversary of the ratification of the 13th Amendment and encouraging the American people to educate and instill pride and purpose into their communities and to observe the anniversary annually with appropriate programs and activities: H. Res. 196, to recognize the anniversary of the ratification of the 13th Amendment and encouraging the American people to educate and instill pride and purpose into their communities and to observe the anniversary annually with appropriate programs and activities;
Pages H11128–30

Terrorism Risk Insurance Extension Act of 2005: S. 467, amended, to extend the applicability of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, by a yea-and-nay vote of 371 yeas to 49 nays, Roll No. 612—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H11130–41, H11147

Stealth Tax Relief Act of 2005: H.R. 4096, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend to 2006 the alternative minimum tax relief available in 2005 and to index such relief for inflation, by a yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 613; **Pages H11141–47, H11147–48**

To allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation: H.R. 327, to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation; **Pages H11149–50**

Tax Revision Act of 2005: H.R. 4388, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions; by a yea-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 617; and **Pages H11150–52, H11181–82**

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for the Gulf Opportunity Zone and certain areas affected by Hurricanes Rita and Wilma: H.R. 4440, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for the Gulf Opportunity Zone and certain areas affected by Hurricanes Rita and Wilma, by a yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 618. **Pages H11152–63, H11182**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House completed debate on the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further consideration will continue tomorrow, December 8th.

Securing Aircraft Cockpits Against Lasers Act of 2005: H.R. 1400, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes. **Pages H11127–28**

United States-Baharain Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act: The House passed H.R. 4340, to implement the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement by a yea-and-nay vote of 327 yeas to 95 nays, Roll No. 616. **Pages H11117–18, H11163–79, H11181**

H. Res. 583, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question without objection. **Pages H11117–18**

Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY06—Motion to go to Conference: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment and agreed to a further conference on H.R. 3010, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. **Pages H11179–81**

Point of Order sustained against:
Obey first motion to instruct conferees; and

Pages H11179–80

Obey second motion to instruct conferees.

Page H11180

Tabling the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3010: Agreed to table the Obey motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 615. **Pages H11180–81**

Later, the Chair appointed conferees: Messrs. Regula, Istook, Wicker, Mrs. Northup, Ms. Granger, Messrs. Peterson of Pennsylvania, Sherwood, Weldon of Florida, Walsh, Lewis of California, Obey, Hoyer, Mrs. Lowey, Ms. DeLauro, Messrs. Jackson of Illinois, Kennedy Rhode Island, and Ms. Roybal-Allard. **Page H11183**

Terrorism Risk Insurance Extension Act of 2005—Motion to go to Conference: The House insisted on its amendment and requested a conference on S. 467, to extend the applicability of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002. **Page H11183**

The Chair appointed conferees: from the Committee on Financial Services, for consideration Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Oxley, Baker, Ms. Pryce of Ohio, Mrs. Kelly, Messrs. Kanjorski, Capuano, and Crowley. **Page H11183**

Provided that Mr. Israel is appointed in lieu of Mr. Capuano for consideration of sections 4, 5, and 7 of the Senate bill, and sections 103 and 105 of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference. **Page H11183**

From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of sections 2 and 6 of the Senate bill and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. Sensenbrenner, Goodlatte, and Mr. Conyers. **Page H11183**

For consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. Sessions. **Page H11183**

Member Sworn—Fiftieth Congressional District of California: Representative-elect Campbell presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. **Page H11186**

The Chair announces to the House that, in light of the Administration of the Oath of Office to the gentleman from California, the whole number of the House is 434. **Page H11187**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today, and appear on pages H11147, H11147–48, H11148–49, H11180, H11181, H11181–82, H11182. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:06 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CFTC REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005; FOREST EMERGENCY RECOVERY AND RESEARCH ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Approved, as amended, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Reauthorization Act of 2005.

The Committee also held a hearing on H.R. 4200, Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Walden of Oregon and Baird; Dale Bosworth, Chief, Forest Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

BCS/COLLEGE FOOTBALL POST-SEASON

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Determining a Champion on the Field: A Comprehensive Review of the BCS and Postseason College Football.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNDERSTANDING THE PEAK OIL THEORY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “Understanding the Peak Oil Theory,” focusing on H. Res. 507, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States, in collaboration with other international allies, should establish an energy project with the magnitude, creativity, and sense of urgency that was incorporated in the “Man on the Moon” project to address the inevitable challenges of “Peak Oil.” Testimony was heard from Representatives Bartlett of Maryland and Udall of New Mexico; Murray Smith, Minister—Counsellor Government, Canadian Embassy; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—ROLL OF IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT AND FORENSIC DOCUMENT LABORATORY

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment and the Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity met in executive session to receive a joint briefing on the overview and roll of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Forensic Document Laboratory (FDL). The Subcommittees were briefed by departmental witnesses.

AVIAN FLU PANDEMIC

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on Avian Flu: Addressing the Global Threat. Testimony

was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Anthony F. Rock, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; and Kent R. Hill, Assistant Administrator, Global Health, U. S. Agency for International Development; the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH; and Anne Schuchat, M.D., Acting Director, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Margaret Chan, M.D., representative of the Director-General for Pandemic Influenza, WHO; and a public witness.

U.N. OIL-FOR-FOOD PROGRAM REPORT

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations approved a Subcommittee report entitled “The Oil-for-Food Program: The Systematic Failure of the United Nations.”

OVERSIGHT—INTERNATIONAL IPR REPORT CARD

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing on International IPR Report Card—Assessing U.S. Government and Industry Efforts to Enhance Chinese and Russian Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights. Testimony was heard from Chris Israel, Coordinator, International Intellectual Property Enforcement, Department of Commerce; Victoria Espinel, Acting Assistant U.S. Trade Representative, Intellectual Property; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 862, To redesignate the Rio Grande American Canal in El Paso, Texas, as the “Travis C. Johnson Canal”; H.R. 2334, City of Oxnard Water Recycling and Desalination Act of 2005; H.R. 2978, To allow the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights recognized under the Fort Peck—Montana Compact for the purpose of meeting the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Incorporated; H.R. 4000, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise certain repayment contracts with the Bostwick Irrigation District in Nebraska, the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District No. 2, the Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District, and the Webster Irrigation District No 4, all a part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program; and S. 101, To convey to the town of Frannie, Wyoming,

certain land withdrawn by the Commissioner of Reclamation. Testimony was heard from Representative Moran of Kansas; William Rinne, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior; Carlos Marin, Acting U.S. Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, Department of State; Andres Herrera, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Oxnard, California; John Morles, Chairman, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation; and a public witness.

TAX RELIEF EXTENSION RECONCILIATION ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing one hour of debate in the House on H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution, if offered by Representative Rangel of New York or his designee, which shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Rules Committee report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Camp and Neal.

GULF COAST RECOVERY ACT; FEDERAL AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT REAL PROPERTY ACT; ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SURVEY RESOLUTIONS; GSA RESOLUTION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 4438, Gulf Coast Recovery Act of 2005; and H.R. 3699, amended, Federal and District of Columbia Government Real Property Act of 2005.

The Committee also approved the following: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey resolutions; and a GSA 3314(b) resolution.

OVERSIGHT—VETERANS AFFAIRS DISABILITY CLAIMS PROCESS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held an oversight hearing on the challenges and opportunities facing dis-

ability claims process at the Veterans Benefits Administration. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Under Secretary, Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration; and James P. Terry, Chairman, Board of Veterans' Appeals; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL UPDATES/HOTSPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Updates/Hotspots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

BRIEFING—MUSLIM EXTREMISM

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence and the Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy met in executive session to receive a joint briefing on Muslim Extremism. The Subcommittees were briefed by departmental witnesses.

HURRICANE KATRINA: PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE BY STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina: Held a hearing entitled "Hurricane Katrina: Preparedness and Response by the State of Mississippi." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the State of Mississippi: Haley Barbour, Governor; Brian W. Amy, M.D., State Health Officer; Robert Latham, Director, Emergency Management Agency; Brent Warr, Mayor, Gulfport; Tommy Longo, Mayor, Waveland; Benjamin Spraggins, Director, Harrison County Emergency Management Agency; and Bobby Strahan, Director, Pearl River County Emergency Management Agency; and William Carwile, former FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer, State of Mississippi.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine perspectives of FEMA's operations professionals relative to Hurricane Katrina, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of George W. Foresman, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Preparedness, and Tracy A. Henke, of Missouri, to be Executive Director of the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness,

both of the Department of Homeland Security, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Science, The Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and Related Agencies, hearing on Federal efforts related to the exclusion, removal and prosecution of aliens and naturalized U.S. citizens who have committed war crimes or human rights abuses outside the U.S., 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Improving America's Health: Examining Federal Research Efforts for Pulmonary Hypertension and Chronic Pain", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled "Housing Options in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, executive, briefing on the Defense Science Board's 2005 summer study entitled "Reducing Vulnerabilities to Weapons of Mass Destruction", 2 p.m., 202 John Adams Building.

Committee on International Relations, to mark up H. Res. 549, Requesting the President of the United States provide to the House of Representatives all documents in his possession relating to his October 7, 2002, speech in Cincinnati, Ohio, and his January 28, 2003, State of the Union address, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 4437, Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005; and H.R. 972, Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, hearing on H.R. 4322, Indian Trust Reform Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
2 p.m., Monday, December 12

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Thursday, December 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 4297—Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act of 2005 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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