



The Daily Whip

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2005

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Unlimited "One Minutes"	2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

H.R. 54 - To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, and for other purposes (*Rep. Castle - Financial Services*) (*Subject to a Rule*). This bill limits the number of Congressional Gold Medals that Congress may approve in any given calendar year to two, beginning in 2006. This bill also imposes new guidelines requiring that (1) only an individual may be a recipient and that (2) no gold medal may be presented posthumously except during the 20-year period beginning 5 years after the death of the individual. This bill was not considered by the Financial Services Committee.

The Rules Committee has recommended a restrictive rule that provides one hour of general debate and one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule makes in order three amendments but blocks an important amendment to strike the provision in the bill that limits the awarding of medals to individuals only. The three amendments made in order by the rule are:

- **Oxley Manager's Amendment (10 minutes).** This amendment would change the effective date of the bill from 2006 to the date of enactment of the bill.
- **Crowley Amendment #2 (20 minutes).** This amendment would increase the limit of gold medals provided for under the bill from 2 per calendar year to 6 per Congress.
- **Crowley Amendment #4 (20 minutes).** This amendment would provide for an equitable distribution of gold medals under the bill between the majority party and the minority party.

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: no votes are expected on Thursday and Friday.

Daily Quote...

"[Republican Sen. Olympia] Snowe [ME] indicated she worried that Bush's plan to use payroll taxes for personal accounts would jeopardize the current system. 'It stems from the concern that ultimately it could erode the Social Security Trust Fund and the defined guaranteed benefit. ... I'm a believer in the Social Security Trust Fund. It's worked well for 70 years, and I don't want to erode the principles that have served that Trust Fund well and have served the seniors that have relied on that program,' she said."

- *Congress Daily* today