

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3035–3096

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 576–594, and S. Res. 74–75. **Pages S3073–74**

Measures Reported:

S. 49, to help Federal prosecutors and investigators combat public corruption by strengthening and clarifying the law, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3073**

Measures Passed:

Omnibus Indian Advancement Act: Committee on Indian Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 338, to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land, and the bill was then passed. **Page S3091**

Bennett Freeze: Committee on Indian Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 39, to repeal section 10(f) of Public Law 93–531, commonly known as the “Bennett Freeze”, and the bill was then passed. **Page S3091**

Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, and the Republic of Poland as members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization 10-Year Anniversary: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 60, commemorating the 10-year anniversary of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, and the Republic of Poland as members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3091**

Philadelphia Zoo 150th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 75, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Philadelphia Zoo: America’s First Zoo. **Pages S3091–92**

Authorizing Use of the Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 37, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. **Page S3092**

Measures Considered:

Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act Cloture Agreement: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 146, to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. **Page S3096**

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, March 12, 2009, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2009; provided further, that if cloture is invoked, then post-cloture time count as if cloture had been invoked at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 16, 2009, and that during any recess or adjournment period, post-cloture time continue to run. **Page S3096**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 16, 2009. **Page S3096**

Appointments:

Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to provisions of Public Law 106–79, appointed the following Senators to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Senator Bennett. **Page S3092**

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appointed the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Senators Schumer and Whitehouse. **Page S3092**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 65 yeas 28 nays (Vote No. EX. 97), David W. Ogden, of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Pages S3042–51

By 72 yeas 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 98), Thomas John Perrelli, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General.

Pages S3051–54

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Thomas L. Strickland, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife.

Alexander Vershbow, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. Page S3096

Messages from the House: Page S3073

Measures Referred: Page S3073

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S3073

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S3073

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S3074–75

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S3075–90

Additional Statements: Pages S3072–73

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S3090

Authorities for Committees To Meet: Page S3090

Privileges of the Floor: Pages S3090–91

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total 98) Pages S3051, S3054

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 6:58 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3096.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine sustainable transportation solutions, focusing on investing in transit to meet 21st century challenges, after receiving testimony from Raymond H. LaHood, Secretary of Transportation; Joseph F. Marie, Connecticut Department of Transportation, West Hartford, on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; Mayor John Hickenlooper, Denver, Colorado, on behalf of the United States Conference of Mayors; and Beverly Scott, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, Atlanta, Georgia, on behalf of the American Public Transportation Association.

BUDGET AND REVENUE PROPOSALS

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's fiscal year 2010 budget and revenue proposals, after receiving testimony from Timothy F. Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: On Wednesday, March 11, 2009, committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 111th Congress:

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security: Senators Dorgan (Chair), Inouye, Kerry, Boxer, Nelson (FL), Cantwell, Lautenberg, Pryor, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Warner, Begich, Rockefeller (ex officio), DeMint, Snowe, Ensign, Thune, Wicker, Isakson, Vitter, Brownback, Martinez, Johanns, and Hutchison (ex officio).

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology: Senators Kerry (Chair), Inouye, Dorgan, Nelson (FL), Cantwell, Lautenberg, Pryor, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Udall (NM), Warner, Begich, Rockefeller (ex officio), Ensign, Snowe, DeMint, Thune, Wicker, Isakson, Vitter, Brownback, Martinez, Johanns, and Hutchison (ex officio).

Subcommittee on Competitiveness, Innovation, and Export Promotion: Senators Klobuchar (Chair), Kerry, Dorgan, McCaskill, Udall (NM), Warner, Begich, Rockefeller (ex officio), Martinez, Ensign, DeMint, Thune, Brownback, Johanns, and Hutchison (ex officio).

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance: Senators Pryor (Chair), Dorgan, Boxer, Nelson (FL), McCaskill, Klobuchar, Udall (NM), Rockefeller (ex officio), Wicker, Snowe, DeMint, Thune, Isakson, Vitter, and Hutchison (ex officio).

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard: Senators Cantwell (Chair), Inouye, Kerry, Boxer, Lautenberg, Begich, Rockefeller (ex officio), Snowe, Wicker, Isakson, Vitter, Martinez, and Hutchison (ex officio).

Subcommittee on Science and Space: Senators Nelson (FL) (Chair), Inouye, Kerry, Boxer, Pryor, Udall (NM), Warner, Rockefeller (ex officio), Vitter, Snowe, Ensign, Thune, Isakson, Johanns, and Hutchison (ex officio).

Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine: Senators Lautenberg (Chair), Inouye, Kerry, Dorgan, Boxer, Cantwell, Pryor, Udall, Warner, Begich, Rockefeller (ex officio), Thune, Snowe, Ensign, DeMint, Wicker, Isakson, Vitter, Brownback, Johanns, and Hutchison (ex officio).

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine climate science, focusing on empowering our response to climate change, after receiving testimony from Sean Dilweg, Wisconsin Insurance Division, Madison, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Tim Killeen, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA; Katharine Jacobs, Arizona Water Institute, Tucson; and Frank Alix, Powerspan Corporation, Portsmouth, NH.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of John P. Holdren, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and Jane Lubchenco, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, both of the Department of Commerce, and routine promotion lists in the Coast Guard.

ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINES SITING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine proposed legislation regarding siting of electricity transmission lines, including increased federal siting authority and regional transmission planning, after receiving testimony from Senator Reid; Jon Wellinchoff, Acting Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Tony Clark, North Dakota Public Service Commission, Bismarck, on behalf of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners; Reid Dechton, Energy Future Coalition, Washington, DC; Joseph L. Welch, ITC Holdings Corporation, Novi, MI; Graham Edwards, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operation, Inc., Carmel, IN; James A. Dickenson, JEA, Jacksonville, FL, on behalf of the Large Public Power Council; and Michael G. Morris, American Electric Power, Columbus, OH.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of David J. Hayes, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary

of the Interior, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Bayh, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine workforce issues in health care reform, focusing on assessing the present and preparing for the future, after receiving testimony from David C. Goodman, Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, Hanover, NH; Allan H. Goroll, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; and Fitzhugh Mullan, George Washington University, and Steven A. Wartman, Association of Academic Health Centers, both of Washington, DC.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Ronald Kirk, of Texas, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

INDIAN AFFAIRS BUDGET

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for tribal priorities, after receiving testimony from Jacqueline Johnson, National Congress of American Indians, Robert B. Cook, National Indian Education Association, and Cheryl Parish, Bay Mills Housing Authority, on behalf of the National American Indian Housing Authority, all of Washington, DC; and Jessica Burger, National Indian Health Board, Manistee, MI.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 49, to help Federal prosecutors and investigators combat public corruption by strengthening and clarifying the law, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of David S. Kris, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 55 public bills, H.R. 1454–1508; and 11 resolutions, H.J.

Res. 40; H. Con. Res. 71–72; and H. Res. 237–244, were introduced.

Pages H3399–H3401

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H3401–02

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 237, electing the following Member to the Committee on Foreign Affairs: Representative Woolsey (to rank immediately after Representative Gene Green of Texas).

Page H3339

Water Quality Investment Act of 2009: The House passed H.R. 1262, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for State water pollution control revolving funds, by a recorded vote of 317 ayes to 101 noes, Roll No. 123.

Pages H3345–76

Agreed by unanimous consent that the Chair may reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any question that otherwise could be subjected to 5-minute voting under clause 8 or 9 of rule 20 or under clause 6 of rule 18.

Page H3345

Pursuant to the rule, 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 under the 5-minute rule.

Page H3354

Accepted:

Oberstar amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that authorizes tribal governments to be eligible for technical and management assistance for small publicly-owned sewerage agencies; amends an existing Clean Water Act authority for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to carry out pilot projects by ensuring that certain “green technology” activities are eligible for controlling stormwater runoff, and increase the authorization of appropriations for this authority to \$100 million for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014; clarifies the eligibility for construction of energy-efficient or renewable-energy generation technologies at publicly-owned sewerage agencies under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund; provides additional criteria for States to determine “affordability criteria” for waste-water infrastructure projects and activities, including factors related to per capita income and local unemployment rates; provides additional transparency and accountability for expenditures from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund by requiring EPA to conduct, and make publicly available, an annual performance review of expenditures from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, including a review of the types and categories of projects and activities carried out using the fund, and an estimate of the number of jobs created from proceeds of the fund; strikes a provision related to the collection of tonnage duties that was unnecessary; authorizes additional studies on the water-related infrastructure needs along the United States-Mexican border region, and the condition of

wastewater infrastructure on the Great Lakes; requires States to set aside 20 percent of combined sewer and sanitary sewer grants to communities that implement green infrastructure or other water and energy efficient improvements; and requires the EPA Administrator to conduct a study on the presence of pharmaceuticals and personal care products in the waters of the United States;

Pages H3359–61

Markey (CO) amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that requires states to use at least 15 percent (instead of 10 percent as required in the bill) of each capitalization grant for water pollution control to provide assistance to municipalities of less than 10,000 people to the extent that there are sufficient applications for assistance;

Pages H3365–66

Miller (MI) amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that directs the EPA to convene a task force (EPA, FDA, and others appointed by the Administrator of the EPA) to develop recommendations on the proper disposal of unused pharmaceuticals and a strategy to educate the public on those recommendations. Also permits, at the request of the head of the task force, any federal agency or department to detail personnel to the task force;

Pages H3366–67

Flake amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that prohibits earmarking of funds appropriated as a result of the reauthorization of the Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Funds included in the bill;

Pages H3367–68

Oberstar amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that requires that States, in the development of their priority methodology, give priority to projects that construct bioswales that filter and naturally store stormwater runoff and floodwaters for future water supply and recharge of natural aquifers;

Pages H3368–69

Roskam amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that requires the Director of OMB to study programs authorized by the Act under the Program Assessment Rating Tool or a successor performance assessment tool developed by OMB;

Page H3369

Dahlkemper amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that requires certification by a system operator that both water and energy conservation are components of their fiscal sustainability plan;

Pages H3369–70

Wittman amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that requires the OMB Director to submit to Congress a financial report containing an inter-agency crosscut budget for restoration activities that protect, conserve, or restore water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Also, the EPA Administrator will have to develop and update an adaptive management plan for Chesapeake Bay restoration activities; and

Pages H3370–72

Driehaus amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 111–36), as modified, that increases from \$1.8 billion to \$2.5 billion the authorization level for the grant program that makes funds available for combined sewer overflows and sanitary sewer overflows.

Pages H3372–74

Rejected:

Mack amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 111–36) that sought to remove all Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions from the bill (by a recorded vote of 140 ayes to 284 noes, Roll No. 122).

Pages H3361–65, H3374–75

H. Res. 235, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote after agreeing to order the previous question without objection.

Pages H3341–45

Pursuant to the rule, H. Res. 218, H. Res. 219, and H. Res. 229 are laid on the table.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on Wednesday, March 11th:

Supporting the designation of Pi Day: H. Res. 224, to support the designation of Pi Day, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 391 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 124.

Page H3376

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, March 16th for morning hour debate.

Page H3378

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H3350.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One ye-a-and-nay vote and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3374, H3375, and H3376. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMITTEE BUDGET VIEWS AND ESTIMATES FY 2010

Committee on Agriculture: Approved the Budget Views and Estimates Letter of the Committee on Agriculture for submission to the Committee on the Budget.

DOMESTIC NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture held a hearing on Domestic Nutrition Programs. Testimony was heard from Thomas O'Connor, Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutri-

tion, and Consumer Services, USDA; and public witnesses.

WHAT WORKS FOR SUCCESSFUL PRISONER REENTRY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies held a hearing on what Works for Successful Prisoner Reentry. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Army and Marine Corps Force Protection. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department Army: GEN Ross Thompson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisitions, Logistics, and Technology); GEN James D. Thurman, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, (G–3/5/7) of the Army; and GEN James Amos, USMC, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Securing the Nation's Rail and Transit Systems. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: John Sammon, Assistant Administrator, Transportation Sector Network Management, Transportation Security Administration; and W. Ross Ashley, Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs, FEMA; Bill Morange, Deputy Executive Director and Director of Security, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, New York; Jack Eckles, Deputy Executive Officer, System Safety and Security, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Review of VA Challenges. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Randall B. Williamson, Director, Health Care; and Valerie C. Melvin, Director, Information Management and Human Capital Issues; and the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: John D. Daigh, Jr., M.D., CPA, Assistant Inspector General, Healthcare Inspections; Belinda J. Finn, Assistant Inspector General, Auditing; and Maureen T. Regan, Counselor to the Inspector General.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related

Agencies held a hearing Family and Troop Housing. Testimony was heard from Wayne Army, Deputy Undersecretary, Installations and Environment, Department of Defense; Keith Eastin, Assistant Secretary, Installations and Environment, Department of the Army; B. J. Penn, Assistant Secretary, Installations and Environment, Department of the Navy; and Kevin Billings, Acting Assistant Secretary, Installations, Environment, and Logistics, Department of the Air Force.

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on Africa: Great Lakes, Sudan and the Horn. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRANSPORTATION, HUD APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Transportation Challenges of Rural America. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DOD AT HIGH RISK RECOMMENDATIONS—IMPROVING DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Department of Defense at High Risk: Recommendations of the Comptroller General for Improving Department Management. Testimony was heard from Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, GAO.

MILITARY RESALE, AND MORALE, WELFARE AND RECREATION OVERVIEW

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on military resale and morale, welfare and recreation overview. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Arthur Myers, Principal Director, Military Community and Family Policy, Office of the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; RADM. Robert J. Bianchi, USN, Commander, Navy Exchange Service Command; MG. Keith L. Thurgood, USAR, Commander, Army and Air Force Exchange Service; Timothy R. Larsen, Director, Personal and Family Readiness Division, Manpower and Reserve Affairs Department Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; Philip E. Sakowitz, Jr., Director and CEO, Defense Commissary Agency; Richard Gorman, Chief Operating Officer, U.S. Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command; John B. Baker, Director, Fleet and Family Readiness, Commander, Navy Installations Command; and

Charles E. Milam, Director, Air Force Services, Headquarters U.S. Air Force.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FISCAL YEAR 2010 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on Department of Education Fiscal Year 2010 Budget. Testimony was heard from Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education.

LOST EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, and the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security of the Committee on the Judiciary held a joint hearing on Lost Educational Opportunities in Alternative Settings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE: REFORMING THE HIGH-COST FUND

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet held a hearing on Universal Service: Reforming the High-Cost Fund. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CONSUMER PROTECTION POLICIES FOR CLIMATE LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on Consumer Protection Policies for Climate Legislation. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUDGET VIEWS AND ESTIMATES FY 2010; SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM ACT OF 2009

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported the following: S. 383, Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program Act of 2009; and a Committee Print, as amended, entitled "Views and Estimates of the Committee on Financial Services on Matters to be Set Forth in the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010."

MARK-TO-MARKET ACCOUNTING

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing on Mark-to-Market Accounting: Practices and Implications. Testimony was heard from James Kroeker, Acting Chief Accountant, SEC; Robert Hertz, Chairman, Financing Accounting Standards Board; Kevin Bailey, Deputy Comptroller, Regulatory Policy, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

IRAN SANCTIONS ENABLING ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade held a hearing on H.R. 1327, Iran Sanctions Enabling Act of 2009. Testimony was heard from Ted Deutch, Senator, State of Florida; and public witnesses.

U.S. FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY IN THE GLOBAL CRISIS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade held a hearing on U.S. Foreign Economic Policy in the Global Crisis. Testimony was heard from C. Fred Bergsten, former Assistant Secretary, International Affairs, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

BORDER VIOLENCE—STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Border, Maritime and Global Counterterrorism held a hearing entitled “Border Violence: An Examination of DHS Strategies and Resources”. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: VADM Roger T. Rufe, Jr., (USCG Ret.), Director, Office of Operations Coordination; Alonzo Pena, Department of Homeland Security Attache, U.S. Embassy, Mexico City; John Leech, Acting Director, Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement; Salvador Nieto, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Intelligence and Operations Coordination, Customs and Border Protection; and Kumar Kibble, Deputy Director, Office of Investigations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

VIOLENCE ON THE U.S.-MEXICAN BORDER

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, and Foreign Affairs held a hearing on Money, Guns, and Drugs: Are U.S. Inputs Fueling Violence on the U.S.-Mexican Border? Testimony was heard from Jonathan Paton, Senator, State of Arizona; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUDGET VIEWS AND ESTIMATES FY 2010 BUDGET

Committee on Rules: On March 11, the Committee adopted its Budget Views and Estimates of the President’s Fiscal Year Budget for submission to the Committee on the Budget.

ATSDR: PROBLEMS IN THE PAST, POTENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing on ATSDR: Problems in the Past, Potential for the Future? Testimony was heard from Howard Frumkin, Director, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry,

Department of Health and Human Services; the following former officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Salvador Mier, former Director, Prevention, Center for Disease Control; and Ronnie Wilson, former Ombudsman, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; and public witnesses.

ENSURING STIMULUS CONTRACTS—SMALL AND VETERANS OWNED BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology held a hearing on Ensuring Stimulus Contracts for Small and Veteran-owned Businesses. Testimony was heard from Calvin Jenkins, Acting Associate Administrator, Government Contracting and Business Development, SBA; Joel Szabat, Assistant Secretary, Transportation Policy, Department of Transportation; Gail Wegner, Acting Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Department of Veterans Affairs; Brenda DeGraffenreid, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Department of Energy; Linda Oliver, Acting Director, Office of Small Business Programs, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION; PROTECTING LOWER-INCOME FAMILIES WHILE FIGHTING GLOBAL WARMING

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support met for organizational purposes.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Protecting Lower-Income Families While Fighting Global Warming. Testimony was heard from Terry Dinian, Senior Advisor, Climate Issues, CBO; and public witnesses.

INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Intelligence Activities. Testimony was heard from Leon Panetta, Director, CIA.

Joint Meetings**VETERANS’ SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

Joint Hearing: Committee on Veterans’ Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine legislative presentations of veterans’ service organizations, after receiving testimony from John Chad Hapner, American Veterans (AMVETS), Lanham, MD; Robert H. Price, Air Force Sergeants Association, Suitland, MD; Joseph L. Barnes, USN (Ret.), Fleet Reserve Association, and Robert F. Norton, USA (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America, both of Alexandria, VA; Gene

Overstreet, Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America (NCOA), San Antonio, TX; Jeff Roy, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Annandale, VA; Charlie L. Flowers, USAF (Ret.), The Retired Enlisted Association, Aurora, CO; Charlie F. Smith, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Charlotte, NC; and John Rowan, Vietnam Veterans of America, Cold Creek, NY.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 242)

H.R. 1105, making omnibus appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. Signed on March 11, 2009. (Public Law 111-8)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 16 through March 21, 2009

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at approximately 3 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 146, Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

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 Armed Services: March 17, to hold hearings to examine United States Southern Command, United States Northern Command, United States Africa Command, and United States Transportation Command, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

March 18, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the incidence of suicides of United States Servicemembers and initiatives within the Department of Defense to prevent military suicides, 2:45 p.m., SR-232A.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine United States Pacific Command, United States Strategic Command, and United States Forces Korea, with

the possibility of a closed session following in SR-222, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 17, to hold hearings to examine perspectives on modernizing insurance regulation, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine risk management oversight at Federal financial regulations, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine bank supervision and regulators, 10:30 a.m., SD-538.

March 19, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions, to hold hearings to examine current issues in deposit insurance, 2 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 19, to hold hearings to examine cybersecurity, focusing on assessing our vulnerabilities and developing an effective defense, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 17, to hold oversight hearings to examine energy development on public lands and the outer Continental Shelf, 10 a.m., SD-366.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine nuclear energy development; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider the nomination of David J. Hayes, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Appliance Standards Improvement Act of 2009, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: March 17, to hold hearings to examine tax issues related to fraud schemes and an update on offshore tax evasion legislation, 10 a.m., SD-215.

March 18, Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine what is health care quality and who decides, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 16, to hold closed hearings to receive a briefing on global counterterrorism efforts, 10 a.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 18, business meeting to consider S. 277, to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to expand and improve opportunities for service, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 17, Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, with the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, to hold joint hearings to examine law enforcement responses to Mexican drug cartels, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the National Academy of Science's report Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward, 10 a.m., SD-226.

March 19, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 515, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, and the nomination of Dawn Elizabeth Johnsen, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: March 19, to hold hearings to examine perspectives from main street on small business lending, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: March 18, to hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 9:30 a.m., 334, Cannon Building.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 17, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: March 17, with the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold joint hearings to examine law enforcement responses to Mexican drug cartels, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, March 16, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, Select Intelligence Oversight Panel: Afghanistan, 5 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 17, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, on Status of Climate Change Science, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

March 17, Subcommittee on Defense, on Military Personnel-Air Force, 10 a.m., H-104 Capitol.

March 17, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Nuclear Weapons Complex, 1 p.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

March 17, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Interoperable Communications, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 17, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on Kickoff Meeting, 3 p.m., H-144 Capitol.

March 18, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, on Critical On-going Satellite Climate Change Datasets, 10 a.m., and 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

March 18, Subcommittee on Defense, on Military Personnel-Army, 10 a.m., and on NORTHCOM, 1:30 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 18, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Public Witnesses, 10 a.m., and 2 p.m., 2358C Rayburn.

March 18, and 19, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on Livable Communities, Transit Oriented Development & Incorporating Green Building Practices into Federal Housing and Transportation Policy, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn on March 18, and 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn on March 19.

March 19, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies, on Climate Satellite Requirements and NASA and NOAA Programs, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

March 19, Subcommittee on Defense, on AFRICOM, 10 a.m., and on Military Personnel-Navy/Marine Corps, 1:30 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 19, Subcommittee on Financial Services, and General Government, on The Judiciary Fiscal Year 2010 Budget, 10 a.m., 2220 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Biometric Identification, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on Council on Environment, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Pacific Command, 1:30 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, March 17, Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, hearing on the status of the future combat systems program, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 17, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on the status of U.S. strategic programs, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 18, full Committee, hearing on security developments in the areas of responsibility of the U.S. Southern Command, Northern Command, Africa Command, and Joint Forces Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Military Personnel and the Subcommittee on Readiness, joint hearing on Medical Infrastructure: Are Health Affairs/TRICARE Management Activity Priorities Aligned with Service Requirements? 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on the Project on National Security Reform: Commentary and Alternative Views, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, March 17, hearing on Budgeting for Transportation: Financing Investments in Highways and Mass Transit, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

March 18, hearing on Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2010 Budget, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

March 18, to continue Members' Day—Part Two, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, March 17, hearing on The Importance of Early Childhood Development, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, hearing on Improving Early Childhood Development Policies and Practices, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 17, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Making Health Care Work for American Families: Ensuring Affordable Coverage, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 17, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on Stimulating the Economy through Trade: Examining the Role of Export Promotion, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on Competitiveness and Climate Policy: Avoiding Leakage of Jobs and Emissions, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The Salmonella Outbreak: The Role of Industry in Protecting the Nation's Food Supply," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, March 17, hearing entitled "Perspectives on Regulation of Systemic Risk in the Financial Services Industry," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "American International Group's Impact on the

Global Economy: During and After Federal Intervention,” 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 627, Credit Cardholders’ Bill of Rights Act of 2009; and H.R. 1456, Consumer Overdraft Protection Fair Practice Act of 2009, 2:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled “Examining the Home Affordable Program,” 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, March 18, hearing on Striking the Appropriate Balance: The Defense Department’s Expanding Role in Foreign Assistance, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing on Guns, Drugs and Violence: The Merida Initiative and the Challenge in Mexico, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Asia, The Pacific and the Global Environment, hearing on H. Con. Res. 55, Recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, March 17, Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, hearing on PKEMRA Implementation: An Examination of FEMA’s Preparedness and Response Mission, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

March 18, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing on Homeland Security Intelligence: Its Relevance and Limitations, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

March 18, Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection, hearing entitled “100% Air Cargo Screening: Can We Secure America’s Skies?” 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

March 19, Subcommittee on Border, Maritime and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled “Human Trafficking: Recent Trends,” 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, March 19, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, hearing on the Treatment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent, European Americans, and Jewish Refugees During World War II, 12 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, March 17, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing entitled “Leasing and Development of Oil and Gas Resources on the Outer Continental Shelf,” 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

March 18, full Committee, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 31, Lumbee Recognition Act; and H.R. 1385, Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

March 19, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 1080, Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

March 19, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, oversight hearing on Restoring the Federal Public Lands Workforce, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science and Technology, March 17, hearing on New Directions for Energy Research and Development at the U.S. Department of Energy, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing on Follow the Money: Accountability and Transparency in Recovery Act Science Funding, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, March 18, hearing entitled “The Administration’s FY Year 2010 Budget and Medicare: How Will Small Providers be Impacted?” 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 18, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on ATC Modernization and NextGen: Near-Term Achievable Goals, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on the Efforts to Address Urban Stormwater Runoff, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, March 19, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up H.R. 1377, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand veterans eligibility for reimbursement by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for emergency treatment furnished in a non-Department facility, followed by a hearing on Closing the Health Gap of Veterans in Rural Areas: Discussion of Funding and Resources Coordination, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

March 19, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 228, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a scholarship program for students seeking a degree or certificate in the areas of visual impairment and orientation and mobility; H.R. 466, Wounded Veteran Job Security Act; H.R. 1088, Mandatory Veteran Specialist Training Act of 2009; H.R. 1089, Veterans Employment Rights Realignment Act of 2009; and H.R. 1171, Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, 1 p.m., 340 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 17, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on MedPAC’s Annual March Report to the Congress on Medicare Payment Policy, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

March 19, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing on Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and Oversight of Federal Borrowing and the Use of Federal Monies, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: March 18, Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, to hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 9:30 a.m., 334, Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, March 16

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12:30 p.m., Monday, March 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 3 p.m.), Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 146, Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act, and after a period of debate, vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

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