

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 13, Budget Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4831–S4906

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 922–931, S. Res. 117–120, and S. Con. Res. 21. **Page S4891**

Measures Reported:

S. 615, to provide additional personnel authorities for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction. (S. Rept. No. 111–15)

S. 414, to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to ban abusive credit practices, enhance consumer disclosures, protect underage consumers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4890**

Measures Passed:

Commending the University of Georgia Gymnastics Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 119, commending the University of Georgia gymnastics team for winning the 2009 NCAA national championship. **Pages S4904–05**

Congratulating the Trinity College Bantams Squash Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 120, congratulating the Trinity College Bantams for their 11th-straight College Squash Association Men's Team Championship. **Page S4905**

Conference Reports:

Budget Resolution: By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 173), Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 13, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014. **Pages S4840–81**

Appointments:

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino: The

Chair, announced on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to P.L. 110–229, the appointment of the following to be members of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino: Susan Gonzales of Washington, D.C., Moctezuma Esparza of California, Carlos Etzeta of Nevada, and Katherine Archuleta of Colorado (non-voting member). **Page S4905**

Helping Families Save Their Homes Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 30, 2009, Senate will begin consideration of S. 896, to prevent mortgage foreclosures and enhance mortgage credit availability, and that Senator Durbin be recognized to offer an amendment relating to “cramdown”, and that there be 4 hours for debate relative to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on or in relation to the amendment, and that adoption of the amendment require a 60-affirmative vote threshold, and if the amendment does not achieve that threshold, then it be withdrawn; provided that no amendment be in order to the amendment, and no further amendments on the subject of “cramdown” be in order during the pendency of the bill; provided further, that upon disposition of the Durbin amendment, Senator Dodd be recognized to offer a Dodd-Shelby amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4902**

Strickland Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that on Thursday, April 30, 2009, after Senator Dodd has called up an amendment to S. 896, as previously agreed to, Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Thomas L. Strickland, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, Department of the Interior, and that there be 3 hours of debate with respect to the nomination, with

1 hour under the control of the Majority, and 2 hours under the control of the Republicans, and 30 minutes of the Republican time under the control of Senator Bunning; provided further, that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Pages S4902–03**

Morton Nomination Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nomination of John Morton, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, reported by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on Monday, April 27, 2009, be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period of 30 calendar days; provided further, that at the end of the 30 days, if the Committee on the Judiciary has not reported the nomination, then it be automatically discharged and placed on the Executive Calendar. **Page S4905**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Sherburne B. Abbott, of Texas, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Dana G. Gresham, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Roy W. Kienitz, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.

Ronald H. Weich, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

April S. Boyd, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Joseph C. Szabo, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration.

Peter H. Appel, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation.

Robert S. Rivkin, of Illinois, to be General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.

4 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Coast Guard.

Pages S4903, S4905–06

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Andrew Charles Weber, of Virginia, to be Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs.

Peter M. Rogoff, of Virginia, to be Federal Transit Administrator.

Eric P. Goosby, of California, to be Ambassador at Large and Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally.

Martha J. Kanter, of California, to be Under Secretary of Education.

Kevin W. Concannon, of Maine, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.

Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census. **Page S4905**

Messages from the House: **Pages S4889–90**

Measures Referred: **Page S4890**

Executive Communications: **Page S4890**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S4890–91**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4891–92**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S4892–S4901

Additional Statements: **Pages S4888–89**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S4901**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S4901–02

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—173) **Page S4881**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:53 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4905.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

WOUNDED WARRIORS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the implementation of Wounded Warrior policies and programs, after receiving testimony from Randall B. Williamson, Director, Health Care, Valerie C. Melvin, Director, Human Capital and Management, Information Systems Issues, and Daniel Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, all of the Government Accountability Office; Gail H. McGinn, Deputy Under Secretary for Plans, Ellen P. Embrey, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Major General Keith W. Meurlin, USAF, Director, Office of Transition Policy and Care Coordination, and Rear Admiral Gregory A. Timberlake, USN, Director, Interagency Program Office, all of the Department of Defense; and Roger Dimsdale, Executive Director, Department of Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense Collaboration, Office of Policy and Planning, and Karen S. Guice, Executive Director of the Federal Recovery Coordination Program, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Lieutenant Colonel Gregory D. Gadson, USA, Lieutenant Colonel Raymond T.

Rivas, USA (Ret.), Colleen O. Rivas, Kimberly R. Noss, and First Lieutenant Andrew K. Kinard, USMC (Ret.).

HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM

Committee on Finance: Committee met in closed session to discuss transforming the health care delivery system, focusing on proposals to improve patient care and reduce health care costs.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Johnnie Carson, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, who was introduced by Representatives Royce and Payne, and Luis C. de Baca, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, who was introduced by Senator Harkin and Representative Conyers, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

SWINE FLU

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine swine flu, focusing on coordinating the federal response, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security; and Anne Schuchat, Acting Deputy Director for Science and Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Assistant Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

INFORMED FINANCIAL DECISIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine the federal government's role in empowering Americans to make informed financial decisions, after receiving testimony from John Berry, Director, Office of Personnel Management; James H. Shelton III, Assistant Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education; Arthur J. Meyers, Acting Deputy Secretary for Military Community and Family Policy, Department of Defense; Sandra F. Braunstein, Director, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Richard J. Hillman, Managing Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; Robert F. Duvall, Council for Economic Education, New York, New York; and Dallas L. Salisbury, Employee Benefit Research Institute, Washington, D.C.

SWINE FLU EPIDEMIC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the swine flu epidemic, focusing on the public health and medical response, after receiving testimony from Richard E. Besser, Acting Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, both of the Department of Health and Human Services.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Russlynn Ali, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Carmel Martin, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, Charles P. Rose, of Illinois, to be General Counsel, Peter Cunningham, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Outreach, and Gabriella Cecilia Gomez, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, all of the Department of Education, Brian Kennedy, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, and T. Michael Kerr, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, both of the Department of Labor, and Thomasina Rogers, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

CRACK-POWDER COCAINE FEDERAL SENTENCING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs concluded a hearing to examine restoring fairness to federal sentencing, focusing on addressing the crack-powder disparity, after receiving testimony from Lanny Breuer, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Judge Reggie B. Walton, United States District Court for the District of Columbia, on behalf of the Judicial Conference of the United States; Ricardo H. Hinojosa, Acting Chair, United States Sentencing Commission; Asa Hutchinson, former Administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Rogers, Arkansas; John F. Timoney, Chief of Police, City of Miami Police Department, Miami, Florida; and Cedric Parker, Alton, Illinois.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Andre M. Davis, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Mikulski and former Senator Sarbanes, David

F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, and Thomas E. Perez, of Maryland, to be Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BENEFITS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine pending benefits legislation, after receiving testimony from Bradley G. Mayes, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; R. Chuck Mason, Legislative Attorney, American Law Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Robert Jackson, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and Ian DePlanque, American Legion, both of Washington, D.C.; Raymond Kelley, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland; and Rebecca Poynter, Annapolis, Maryland.

LIFE SETTLEMENT MARKET

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the life settlement market, focusing on what is at stake for seniors, after receiving testimony from Mary Beth Senkewicz, Florida Deputy Insurance Commissioner, Office of Insurance Regulation, Tallahassee; Michael T. McRaith, Illinois Director of Insurance, Chicago; Fred J. Joseph, Colorado Securities Commissioner, Denver, on behalf of the North American Securities Administrators Association, Inc., Stephan R. Leimberg, Leimberg Information Services, Inc., Havertown, Pennsylvania; James J. Avery, Individual Life Insurance, Prudential Financial, Newark, New Jersey, on behalf of the American Council of Life Insurers; Scott Peden, Life Partners, Inc., Waco, Texas; and Michael Freedman, Coventry First LLC, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 24 public bills, H.R. 2159–2182; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 44; H. Con. Res. 114; and H.Res. 377–378, 380, were introduced. **Pages H4998–99**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4999–H5000**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 379, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 627) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan (H. Rept. 111–92). **Page H4998**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Grzegorz “Greg” Brozonowicz, St. Mary’s Mother of the Redeemer Roman Catholic Church, Groton, Connecticut. **Page H4917**

Setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014—Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 13, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fis-

cal years 2011 through 2014, by a yea-and-nay vote of 233 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 216. Consideration of the conference report began on Tuesday, April 28th. **Pages H4920–28**

H. Res. 371, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report, was agreed to on Tuesday, April 28th.

Pursuant to the provisions of the conference report accompanying S. Con. Res. 13, H.J. Res. 45, increasing the statutory limit on the public debt, is considered agreed to in the House.

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, April 28th:

Supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month 2009: H. Res. 357, to support the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month 2009, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 419 ayes to 3 noes, Roll No. 217; **Page H4928**

Supporting the mission and goals of 2009 National Crime Victims’ Rights: H. Res. 109, to support the mission and goals of 2009 National Crime Victims’ Rights week to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States, and to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded

vote of 422 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 218; and **Pages H4928–29**

Family Self-Sufficiency Act of 2009: H.R. 46, to provide for payment of an administrative fee to public housing agencies to cover the costs of administering family self-sufficiency programs in connection with the housing choice voucher program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 397 ayes to 19 noes, Roll No. 221. **Page H4940**

Oath of Office—Twentieth Congressional District of New York: Representative-elect Scott Murphy presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a facsimile copy of a letter from Mr. Todd D. Valentine and Mr. Stanley L. Zalen, Co-Executive Directors of the New York State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held March 31, 2009, the Honorable Scott Murphy was elected Representative to Congress for the Twentieth Congressional District, State of New York. **Page H4939**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from New York, Mr. Murphy, the whole number of the House is adjusted to 434. **Pages H4939–40**

Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009: The House passed H.R. 1913, to provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes, by a recorded vote of 249 ayes to 175 noes, Roll No. 223. **Pages H4940–58**

Rejected the Gohmert motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a yea-and-nay vote of 185 yeas to 241 nays, Roll No. 222. **Pages H4956–58**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in H. Rept. 111–91, shall be considered as adopted. **Page H4940**

H. Res. 372, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 190 noes, Roll No. 220, after agreeing to order the previous question by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 181 noes, Roll No. 219. **Pages H4929–38**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on Monday, April 27th:

Supporting the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month: H. Res. 337, to support the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. **Pages H4958–59**

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

Protecting Incentives for the Adoption of Children with Special Needs Act of 2009: S. 735, to ensure States receive adoption incentive payments for fiscal year 2008 in accordance with the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. **Pages H4959–60**

Credit Cardholders’ Bill of Rights Act of 2009: The House began consideration of H.R. 627, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan. Further proceedings were postponed until tomorrow, April 30th. **Pages H4960–69**

Consideration of the measure was initiated pursuant to an order of the House agreed to on Tuesday, April 28th.

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Joseph Cooper of Baltimore, Maryland. **Page H4969**

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress—Reappointment: Read a letter from Representative Boehner, Minority Leader, in which he reappointed Mr. Jeffrey W. Thomas of Ohio to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress. **Page H4969**

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China: Representative Levin, Co-Chairman; Representatives Kaptur, Honda, Walz, Wu, Smith (NJ), Manzullo, Royce, and Pitts. **Page H4970**

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Boehner, Minority Leader, in which he appointed Mr. Danny Vargas of Herndon, Virginia as a voting member of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino. **Page H4970**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H4969.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4927–28, H4928, H4929, H4937–38, H4938, H4940, H4957–58, and H4958. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Committee Meetings

USDA'S CIVIL RIGHTS OFFICE

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry held a hearing on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. Testimony was heard from Joe Leonard, Jr., Assistant Secretary, Civil Rights, USDA; Lisa Shames, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Division, GAO.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on NASA. Testimony was heard from Christopher J. Scolese, Acting Administrator, NASA.

FINANCIAL SERVICES, GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services, General Government and Related Agencies held a hearing on the FCC. Testimony was heard from Michael J. Copps, Acting Chairman, FCC.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on the Library of Congress and Open World Leadership Center. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Library of Congress: James Billington, Librarian of Congress; and Jo Ann Jenkins, Chief Operating Officer; and Ambassador John O'Keefe, Executive Director, Open World Leadership Center.

EFFECTIVE COUNTERINSURGENCY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on Effective Counterinsurgency: The Administration's Perspective on the Future of the U.S.-Pakistan Military Partnership. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Michele Flourney, Under Secretary, Policy; and VADM James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Ambassador Richard A. Boucher, Assistant Secretary, South and Central Asian Affairs; Department of State.

MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on Military Health System: Health Affairs/TRICARE Management Activity Organization. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Gail H. McGinn, Acting Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; Ellen P. Embrey, Acting Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs; and MG Elder Granger, USA, Deputy Director, TRICARE Management Activity; LTG Eric Schoomaker, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Command, Surgeon General, U.S. Army; VADM Adam Robinson, USN, Surgeon General, U.S. Navy; and LTG James G. Roudebush, USAF, Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force.

STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S COMPETITIVENESS

Committee on Education and Labor: Held a hearing on Strengthening America's Competitiveness through Common Academic Standards. Testimony was heard from Ken James, Commissioner, Department of Education, Arkansas; former Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., of North Carolina; and public witnesses.

MORTGAGE REFORM AND ANTI- PREDATORY LENDING ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported, as amended., H.R. 1728, Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act.

TRANSPORTATION WORKER ID CARD

Committee on Homeland Security: Held a Member briefing on Transportation Worker Identification Card. The Committee was briefed by the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Maurine Fanguy, Director, Maritime and Surface Credentialing, Transportation Security Administration; and ADM James Watson, USCG, Director, Prevention Policy for Marine Safety, Security and Stewardship, U.S. Coast Guard.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS IT STRATEGIC PLANNING

Committee on House Administration: Held a hearing on Library of Congress IT Strategic Planning. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Library of Congress: Laura Campbell, Chief Information Officer; James Billington, Librarian of Congress; Jo Ann Jenkins, Chief Operating Officer; and Karl Schornagel, Inspector General.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 1018, To amend the Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act to improve the management and long-term health of

wild and free-roaming horses and burros, and for other purposes; and H.R. 689, To interchange the administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes.

OVERSIGHT—WMATA

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia held an oversight hearing on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority: Jim Graham, Chairman, Board of Directors; John B. Catoe, General Manager; and Helen Lew, Inspector General; Matthew Welbes, Executive Director and Acting Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD CUBA-NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “National Security Implications of U.S. Policy Toward Cuba.” Testimony was heard from GEN Barry McCaffrey, USA, (ret.), former SOUTHCOM Commander, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

CREDIT CARD HOLDERS’ BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009.

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a non-record vote, a structured rule providing for further consideration of H.R. 627, the “Credit Cardholders’ Bill of Rights Act of 2009.” The resolution provides that no general debate shall be in order pursuant to the resolution. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute except for clause 10 of rule XXI.

The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules. The amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments except for clauses 9 and 10

of rule XXI are waived. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Gutierrez, Maloney, Minnick, Pingree, Polis, Price (NC), Hinchey, Jackson-Lee (TX), Carney, Cohen, Welch, Boccieri, Shuster, Jones, and Sessions.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science and Technology: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 2020, amended, Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2009; H.R. 1736, International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2009; and H.R. 1709, amended, STEM Education Coordination Act of 2009.

CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND FAMILY FARMERS

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled “Climate Change Solutions for Small Businesses and Family Farmers.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RECOVERY ACT TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on Recovery Act: 10-Week Progress Report for Transportation and Infrastructure Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Ray H. LaHood; and Calvin L. Scovel III, Inspector General; the following officials of the EPA: Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator; and Melissa Heist, Assistant Inspector General, Audit; Terrence C. Salt, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Army (Civil Works), Corps of Engineers; Department of Defense; Paul F. Prouty, Acting Administrator, GSA; Donald A. Stadler, Jr., Chief Financial Officer, AMTRAK; Dennis Alvord, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Economic Development, Department of Commerce; Katherine A. Siggerud, Managing Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

FUNDING THE VA OF THE FUTURE

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Held a hearing on Funding the VA of the Future. Testimony was heard from Jessica Banthin, Director, Modeling and Simulation, Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Department of Health and Human Services; Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Randall Williamson, Director, Healthcare Team, VA/DOD Health Care Issues, GAO; Sidath Viranga Panangala, Analyst in Veterans Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

HEALTH REFORM

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on Health Reform in the 21st Century: Employer Sponsored Insurance. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**HUMINT/HUMINT-ENABLING BRIEFING;
OVERHEAD BRIEFING**

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on HUMINT/HUMINT-Enabling. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on Overhead. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY,
APRIL 30, 2009**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Transportation's implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), 9:15 a.m., SD-138.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the War Supplemental, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the Secretary of Defense's 2010 budget recommendations, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine the current and future roles, missions, and capabilities of United States military air power, 2 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider the nominations of Kristina M. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary, Steven Elliot Koonin, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Ines R. Triay, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, and Scott Blake Harris, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of Energy, Hilary Chandler Tompkins, of New Mexico, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, and pending legislation on Renewable Electricity Standard and Sitting of Interstate Electric Transmission Facilities, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of William V. Corr, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Alan B. Krueger, of New Jersey, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine confronting piracy off the coast of Somalia, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine primary health care access reform, focusing on community health centers and the national health service corps, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ivan K. Fong, of Ohio, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Timothy W. Manning, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine national security reform, focusing on implementing a national security service workforce, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 151, to protect Indian arts and crafts through the improvement of applicable criminal proceedings, S. 443, to transfer certain land to the United States to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, to place land into trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, and the nomination of Yvette Roubideaux, of Arizona, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and Border Security, to hold hearings to examine comprehensive immigration reform in 2009, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

House

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on reform of major weapons system acquisition and related legislative proposals, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on space system acquisitions and the industrial base, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing on Improving OSHA's Enhanced Enforcement Programs, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Swine Flu Outbreak and the U.S. Federal Response," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, hearing on International Efforts to Combat Maritime Piracy, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism, Member briefing to provide an update on the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to combat violence in the U.S.-Mexico border region, 10 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, Member briefing on the Department of Homeland Security's progress on the issue of interoperable emergency communications, 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, hearing on H.R. 1260, Patent Reform Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing on the Role of Science in the Regulatory Reform, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Entrepreneurship and Trade, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1803, Veterans Business Center Act of 2009; H.R. 1807, Educating Entrepreneurs through Today's Technology Act; H.R. 1834, Native American Business Development Enhancement Act of 2009; H.R. 1838, To amend the Small Business Act to modify certain provisions relating to women's business centers; H.R. 1839, To amend the Small Business Act to

improve SCORE, and for other purposes; H.R. 1842, Expanding Entrepreneurship Act of 2009; and H.R. 1845, Small Business Development Centers Modernization Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on Coal Combustion Waste Storage and Water Quality, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Charting the VA's Progress on meeting the Mental Health Needs of our Veterans: Discussion of Funding, Mental Health Strategic Plan, and the Uniform Mental Health Services Handbook, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Afghanistan, 10 a.m., 304-HVC.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook, 10 a.m., 210-CHOB.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 30

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, April 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will begin consideration of S. 896, Helping Families Save Their Homes Act, and after a period of debate, vote on an amendment offered by Senator Durbin; following which, Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Thomas L. Strickland, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, and after a period of debate, vote on confirmation thereon.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 627—Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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