

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3199, USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005.

The House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3010, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S13517–S13597

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2096–2104, S. Res. 331–333, and S. Con. Res. 69. **Page S13570**

Measures Passed:

Honoring Former Governor Carroll A. Campbell: Senate agreed to S. Res. 332, honoring the life of former Governor Carroll A. Campbell and expressing the deepest condolences of the Senate to his family. **Page S13593**

Recognizing the Philippines: Senate agreed to S. Res. 333, recognizing the centennial of sustained immigration from the Philippines to the United States and acknowledging the contributions of our Filipino-American community to our country over the last century. **Pages S13593–94**

Settlement Common Stock: Senate passed S. 449, to facilitate shareholder consideration of proposals to make Settlement Common Stock under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act available to missed enrollees, eligible elders, and eligible persons born after December 18, 1971. **Page S13594**

Indian Land Contracts: Senate passed H.R. 327, to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S13594**

Deficit Reduction Act—Motions to Instruct Conferees: Senate began consideration of the message from the House of Representatives to accompany S. 1932, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(a) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006 (H. Con. Res. 95), disagreeing to the amendment of the House, requesting a conference with the House thereon, and taking action on the following motions to instruct Conferees proposed thereto: **Pages S13521–31**

Adopted:

By 64 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 351), Senate agreed to Carper Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report shall not include the provision in the House amendment relating to the reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, and insist that Congress enact free standing legislation that builds on the bipartisan Senate Committee on Finance's reported version of the Personal Responsibility and Individual Development for Everyone Act (the PRIDE Act, S. 667) to reauthorize the Nation's welfare-to-work laws. **Pages S13528–29**

By 75 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 352), Senate agreed to Baucus Motion to Instruct Conferees not report a conference report that would impair access to, undermine eligibility for, make unaffordable by increasing beneficiary cost-sharing, adversely affect Medicaid services, or in any way undermine Medicaid's Federal guarantee of health insurance coverage. **Pages S13527–28, S13529–30**

By 66 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 353), Senate agreed to Harkin Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report does not contain any cuts to Federal food assistance programs, including the food stamp program established under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.). **Pages S13527, S13530–31**

Pending:

DeWine Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report shall not include the provisions contained in section 8701 of the House amendment relating to the repeal of section 754 of the Tariff Act of 1930. **Pages S13522–23**

Kohl Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that any conference report shall not include any of the provisions in the House amendment that reduce funding for the child support program established under part D of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 651 et seq.), and to insist that the conference report shall not include any restrictions on

the ability of States to use Federal child support incentive payments for child support program expenditures that are eligible for Federal matching payments. **Pages S13523–24**

Kennedy Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the Senate provisions increasing need based financial aid in the bill S. 1932, which were fully offset by savings in the bill S. 1932, be included in the final conference report and that the House provisions in the bill H.R. 4241 that impose new fees and costs on students in school and in repayment be rejected in the final conference report. **Pages S13536–37**

Reed Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist on a provision that makes available \$2,920,000,000 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.), in addition to the \$2,183,000,000 made available for such Act in the Departments of Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006. **Pages S13544–46**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the message from the House to accompany S. 1932 (listed above) at 3:30 p.m., on Thursday, December 15, 2005, with a series of votes to occur on the pending motions to instruct Conferees. **Page S13594**

USA PATRIOT Act—Conference Report: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3199, to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism. **Pages S13546–61**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, December 16, 2005. **Page S13546**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the conference report on Thursday, December 15, 2005, with 2 hours equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees. **Page S13594**

Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany 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, at 9 a.m., on Thursday, December 15, 2005; that following all debate time, the conference report be set aside with the vote on adoption to occur at a time to be determined. **Page S13593**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Patrick Joseph Schiltz, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

Jack Zouhary, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy.

Pages S13595–97

Nominations Discharged: The following nominations were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Stephanie Johnson Monroe, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education, which was sent to the Senate on June 23, 2005, from the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Donald A. Gambatesa, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development, which was sent to the Senate on September 13, 2005, from the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Marilyn Ware, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Finland, which was sent to the Senate on October 26, 2005, from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. **Pages S13569–70, S13593**

Messages From the House: **Pages S13567–68**

Measures Referred: **Page S13568**

Executive Communications: **Pages S13568–69**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S13570–72**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S13572–92**

Additional Statements: **Pages S13566–67**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S13592**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S13592–93**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—353) **Pages S13529, S13530, S13531**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:45 a.m., and adjourned at 7:59 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Thursday, December 15, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13594–95.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's spill prevention control and countermeasure program, focusing on methods and equipment requirements for non-transportation-related onshore and offshore facilities with a specified aboveground storage capacity, after receiving testimony from Thomas M. Sullivan, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration; Thomas P. Dunne, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency; Brent Cummings, Cummings Oil Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; James Coyne, National Air Transportation Association, Alexandria, Virginia; Richard G. Owen, Geraldine, Montana, on behalf of the Agriculture

Coalition on Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure, and CHS, Inc.; Riki Ott, Cordova, Alaska; and James J. Corbett, University of Delaware Graduate College of Marine Studies, Newark.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Antonio Fratto, of Pennsylvania, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Public Affairs, David M. Spooner, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Im-

port Administration, Vincent J. Ventimiglia, Jr., of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Legislation, who was introduced by Senator Gregg, Richard T. Crowder, of Virginia, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Jeffrey Robert Brown, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 25 public bills, H.R. 4524–4548; and 13 resolutions, H.J. Res. 74; H. Con. Res. 315–316; and H. Res. 598–601, 603–609 were introduced. **Pages H11652–54**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H11654–55**

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 602, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2830) to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the pension funding rules (H. Rept. 109–346); and

H. Res. 610, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4437) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws, to enhance border security, (H. Rept. 109–347). **Pages H11629 H11651, H11652**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foley to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H11507**

Discharge Petitions: Representative Marshall moved to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of H. Res. 568, providing for the consideration of H.R. 3936, to protect consumers from price-gouging of gasoline and other fuels during energy emergencies (Discharge Petition No. 7); and

Representative Waxman moved to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of H. Res. 570, providing for the consideration of H.R. 3925, to provide that a Federal public safety position may not be held by any political appointee who does not meet certain minimum requirements (Discharge Petition No. 8).

USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005—Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 3199, to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, after agreeing to order the previous question,

by a yea-and-nay vote of 251 yeas to 174 nays, Roll No. 627. **Pages H11523–44**

Rejected the Conyers motion to recommit the conference report on the bill to the Committee of Conference with instructions to recede from disagreement with the Senate amendment, by a recorded vote of 202 yeas to 224 noes, Roll No. 626. **Pages H11542–43**

H. Res. 595, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report, was agreed to by voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question. **Pages H11515–23**

Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006—Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 3010, to make appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, by a yea-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 628. **Pages H11544–52**

H. Res. 596, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report, was agreed to by voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question. **Pages H11512–15**

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

CFTC Reauthorization Act of 2005: H.R. 4473, to reauthorize and amend the Commodity Exchange Act to promote legal certainty, enhance competition, and reduce systemic risk in markets for futures and over-the-counter derivatives; **Pages H11553–61**

Commending the outstanding efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina by members and employees of the Coast Guard, to provide temporary relief to certain persons affected by such hurricane with respect to certain laws administered by the Coast Guard: H.R. 4508, to commend the outstanding efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina by members

and employees of the Coast Guard, to provide temporary relief to certain persons affected by such hurricane with respect to certain laws administered by the Coast Guard; **Pages H11567–69**

Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005: H.R. 972, amended, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 426 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 632; **Pages H11570–79, H11585–86**

Reverse Mortgages to Help America's Seniors Act: H.R. 2892, to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to remove the limitation on the number of reverse mortgages that may be insured under the FHA mortgage insurance program for such mortgages; **Pages H11586–88**

2005 District of Columbia Omnibus Authorization Act: H.R. 3508, amended, to authorize improvements in the operation of the government of the District of Columbia; **Pages H11588–96**

Congratulating Tony Stewart on winning the 2005 NASCAR Nextel Cup Championship: H. Res. 587, to congratulate Tony Stewart on winning the 2005 NASCAR Nextel Cup Championship; **Pages H11602–05**

Recognizing Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy: H.J. Res. 38, to recognize Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy; **Pages H11605–06**

Reauthorizing the Congressional Award Act: S. 335, to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11606–07**

Providing certain authorities for the Department of State: H.R. 4436, amended, to provide certain authorities for the Department of State; **Pages H11607–09**

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the United States should actively support the aspirations of the democratic political and social forces in the Republic of Nicaragua toward an immediate and full restoration of functioning democracy in that country: H. Con. Res. 252, amended, to express the sense of Congress that the Government of the United States should actively support the aspirations of the democratic political and social forces in the Republic of Nicaragua toward an immediate and full restoration of functioning democracy in that country; **Pages H11609–12**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read “Expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the United States should support democracy, the rule of law, and human rights in the Republic of Nicaragua and work cooperatively with regional and international organizations to bolster Nicaraguan efforts to establish the requisite conditions for free, fair, transparent, and inclusive presidential and legislative elections in 2006.”.

Remembering and commemorating the lives and work of Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan, who were executed by members of the armed forces of El Salvador on December 2, 1980: H.R. 458, amended, to remember and commemorate the lives and work of Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Cleveland Lay Mission Team Member Jean Donovan, who were executed by members of the armed forces of El Salvador on December 2, 1980; **Pages H11612–18**

Recommending the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization: H. Res. 529, amended, to recommend the integration of the Republic of Croatia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; **Pages H11618–21**

Honoring the victims of the Cambodian genocide that took place from April 1975 to January 1979: H. Con. Res. 238, amended, to honor the victims of the Cambodian genocide that took place from April 1975 to January 1979 **Pages H11629–30**

Suspensions—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Establishing the Task Force on Ocean Policy: H. Res. 599, to establish the Task Force on Ocean Policy, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 103 yeas to 327 nays, Roll No. 631. **Pages H11561–67, H11585**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House completed debate on the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further consideration will continue at a later date on the measures:

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the symbols and traditions of Christmas should be protected: H. Res. 579, amended, to express the sense of the House of Representatives that the symbols and traditions of Christmas should be protected; **Pages H11596–H11600**

Urging the President to issue a proclamation for the observance of an American Jewish History Month: H. Con. Res. 315, to urge the President to issue a proclamation for the observance of an American Jewish History Month; **Pages H11600–02**

Urging the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw or modify proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation: H. Con. Res. 312, amended, to urge the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw or modify proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation; **Pages H11621–24**

Calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool

for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government: H. Con. Res. 294, amended, to call on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government; **Pages H11624–29**

Condemning the Government of Zimbabwe's "Operation Murambatsvina" under which homes, businesses, religious structures, and other buildings and facilities were demolished in an effort characterized by the Government of Zimbabwe as an operation to "restore order" to the country: H. Res. 409, amended, condemning the Government of Zimbabwe's "Operation Murambatsvina" under which homes, businesses, religious structures, and other buildings and facilities were demolished in an effort characterized by the Government of Zimbabwe as an operation to "restore order" to the country;

Pages H11630–37

Providing that Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not participate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority: H.R. 575, amended, providing that Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not participate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority;

Pages H11637–42

Recognizing the importance and credibility of an independent Iraqi judiciary in the formation of a new and democratic Iraq: H. Res. 534, to recognize the importance and credibility of an independent Iraqi judiciary in the formation of a new and democratic Iraq; and

Pages H11642–44

Condemning actions by the Government of Syria that have hindered the investigation of the assassination of former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri conducted by the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC), expressing support for extending the UNIIC's investigative mandate, and stating concern about similar assassination attempts apparently aimed at destabilizing Lebanon's security and undermining Lebanon's sovereignty: H. Res. 598, to condemn actions by the Government of Syria that have hindered the investigation of the assassination of former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri conducted by the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC), expressing support for extending the UNIIC's investigative mandate, and stating concern about similar assassination attempts apparently aimed at destabilizing Lebanon's security and undermining Lebanon's sovereignty.

Pages H11644–49

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006—Motion to go to Conference: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2863, to make appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and agreed to a conference.

Page H11580

Agreed to the Murtha motion to instruct conferees on the bill by a ye and nay vote of 308 yeas to 122

nays, Roll No. 630, after ordering the previous question.

Pages H11580–83, H11584–85

Agreed to close portions of the conference when classified national security material is being discussed by a ye and nay vote of 415 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 629.

Pages H11583–84

Later, the Chair appointed as conferees: Messrs. Young of Florida, Hobson, Bonilla, Frelinghuysen, Tiahrt, Wicker, Kingston, Ms. Granger, Messrs. Walsh, Aderholt, Lewis of California, Murtha, Dicks, Sabo, Visclosky, Moran of Virginia, Ms. Kaptur, Messrs. Edwards, and Obey.

Page H11586

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H11606.

Senate Referrals: S. 1231 was referred to the Committees on Resources and Energy and Commerce and S. 449 was referred to the Committee on Resources.

Page H11651

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six ye and nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H11542–43, H11543, H11552, H11583–84, H11584–85, H11585, and H11585–86. There were no quorum calls.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:02 a.m. and reconvened at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, December 15th.

Pages H11649, H11651

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:16 a.m. on Thursday, December 15th

Committee Meetings

USDA POSTED COUNTY PRICES

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review Technical Procedures of USDA's Establishment of Posted County Prices. Testimony was heard from Floyd Gaibler, Deputy Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA; and public witnesses.

POST-HURRICANES HOUSING OPTIONS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, continued hearings entitled "Housing Options in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: Brian D. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary, Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner; and Orlando J. Cabrera, Assistant Secretary, Public and Indian Housing.

SECURE HANDLING OF AMMONIUM NITRATE ACT OF 2005

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3197, Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held a hearing on H.R. 3197. Testimony was heard from

James W. McMahon, Director, Office of Homeland Security, State of New York; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ORGANIC ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks held an oversight hearing on The National Park Service Organic Act and its Implementation through Daily Park Management. Testimony was heard from Steve Martin, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; the following former officials of the Department of the Interior: William Horn, Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks; and Denis Galvin, Deputy Director, National Park Service; and public witnesses.

BORDER PROTECTION, ANTITERRORISM, AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION CONTROL ACT OF 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing 2 hours of general debate on H.R. 4437, Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005, equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security. 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 the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. The rule provides that the amendments printed in part B of the report 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 division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against amendments printed in part B of the report. Finally, the rule provides that, after disposition of the amendments printed in part B of the report, the Committee of the Whole shall rise without motion and no further consideration of the bill shall be in order except by a subsequent order of the House. Testimony was heard from Chairmen King and Sensenbrenner; and Representatives Chabot, King of Iowa, Flake, Gohmert, Kolbe, Rohrabacher, Deal of Georgia, Weldon of Florida, Sullivan, Gingrey, Garrett, Blackburn, McHenry, Poe, Campbell, Thompson of Mississippi, Loretta Sanchez of California,

Markey, Meek of Florida, Jackson-Lee of Texas, Nadler, Berman, Linda T. Sanchez of California, Slaughter, Stupak, Reyes, Gonzalez, Davis of Tennessee and Ruppertsberger.

PENSION PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing 90 minutes of debate in the House on the bill H.R. 2830, Pension Protection Act of 2005, as amended, equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and 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. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce and Ways of the amendments recommended by the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Ways and Means now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying the resolution shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Boehner and Representatives Gutknecht and Vislosky.

HURRICANE KATRINA: PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE BY STATE OF LOUISIANA

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 Louisiana." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the State of Louisiana: Katherleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor; Jeff Smith, Deputy Director, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness; C. Ray Nagin, Mayor, and Terry Ebbert, Director, Homeland Security; both with the City of New Orleans; William M. Lokey, Federal Coordinating Officer, Baton Rouge, and Phillip Barr, Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer, Advance Team in New Orleans, both with FEMA, Department of Homeland Security.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of George W. Foresman, to be Under Secretary for Preparedness,

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Mary M. Rose, to be a Member, Merit Systems Protection Board, S. 1445, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Colorado Avenue in Arriba, Colorado, as the “William H. Emery Post Office”, S. 1792 and H.R. 3770, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 205 West Washington Street in Knox, Indiana, as the “Grant W. Green Post Office Building”, S. 1820, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6110 East 51st Place in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the “Dewey F. Bartlett Post Office”, S. 2036, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 High Street in Clinton, Massachusetts, as the “Raymond J. Salmon Post Office”, S. 2064, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 South Bill Street in Francesville, Indiana, as the Malcolm Melville “Mac” Lawrence Post Office, S. 2089, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1271 North King Street in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii, as the “Hiram L. Fong Post Office Building”, H.R. 2113, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 McDonough Street in Joliet, Illinois, as the “John F. Whiteside Joliet Post Office Building”, H.R. 2346, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 105 NW Railroad Avenue in Hammond, Louisiana, as the “John J. Hainkel, Jr. Post Office Building”, H.R. 2413, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1202 1st Street in Humble, Texas, as the “Lillian McKay Post Office Building”, H.R. 2630, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1927 Sangamon Avenue in Springfield, Illinois, as the “J.M. Dietrich Northeast Annex”, H.R. 2894, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 102 South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, as the “Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building”, H.R. 3256, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3038 West Liberty Avenue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the “Congressman James Grove Fulton Memorial Post Office Building”, H.R. 3368, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6483 Lincoln Street in Gagetown, Michigan, as the “Gagetown Veterans Memorial Post Office”, H.R. 3439, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 North 3rd Street in Smithfield, North Carolina, as the “Ava Gardner Post Office”, H.R. 3548, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located on Franklin Avenue in Pearl River, New York, as the “Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building”, H.R. 3703, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8501 Philatelic Drive in Spring Hill, Florida, as the “Staff Sergeant Michael Schafer Post Office Building”, H.R. 3825, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Trumbull Drive in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the “Clayton J.

Smith Memorial Post Office Building”, H.R. 3830, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 130 East Marion Avenue in Punta Gorda, Florida, as the “U.S. Cleveland Post Office Building”, and H.R. 4053, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 545 North Rimsdale Avenue in Covina, California, as the “Lillian Kinkella Keil Post Office”, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine New Orleans levees relating to Hurricane Katrina, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, to consider the following bills: H.R. 4167, National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005; H.R. 4127, Data Accountability and Trust Act; and H.R. 3699, Federal and District of Columbia Government Real Property Act of 2005, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Oversight and Administration of the 340B Drug Discount Program: Improving Efficiency and Transparency,” 1 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to mark up H.R. 4100, Louisiana Recovery Corporation Act, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, to consider the following: an Investigative Report entitled “Bringing Communities into the 21st Century: A Report on Improving the Community Development Block Grant Program;” and other pending Committee business, 10:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, to continue mark up of 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, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans, oversight hearing on the Effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on Fishing Resources, the Fishing Industry and Fishing Communities in the Gulf of Mexico, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee Oversight and Investigations, oversight hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs' flu vaccination program, and preparations for a possible Avian Flu Pandemic, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Global Updates/Hotspots, 9 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy, executive, hearing entitled “Radical Islam in the United States,” 10:30 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9 a.m., Thursday, December 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will begin consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3010, Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations. Also, Senate will continue consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3199, US PATRIOT Reauthorization Act, and at 3:30 p.m., continue consideration of the pending motions to instruct conferees with respect to S. 1932, Deficit Reduction Act, with votes to occur thereon.

(Senate will recess following consideration of the US PATRIOT Reauthorization Act Conference Report (listed above), until 2:15 p.m. for the Democratic party conference.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, December 15

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: H.R. 4437—Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005 (Subject to a Rule).



Congressional Record

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