

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8221–S8328

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3460–3468, S. Res. 653–654, and S. Con. Res. 97. **Page S8275**

Measures Reported:

S. 3052, to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients. (S. Rept. No. 110–451) **Page S8275**

Measures Passed:

Highway Trust Fund: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6532, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8256–64**

Boxer (for Baucus) Amendment No. 5427, to change the date of restoration. **Page S8257**

Honoring Anne Legendre Armstrong: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 645, honoring the life of Anne Legendre Armstrong, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S8326**

Honoring Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones: Senate agreed to S. Res. 654, honoring the life and recognizing the accomplishments of the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Member of the House of Representatives for the 11th Congressional District of Ohio. **Page S8326**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 3001, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Adopted:

Kyl Amendment No. 5414, to make available from Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Defense-wide activities, \$89,000,000 from the acti-

vation and deployment of the AN/TPY–2 forward-based X-band radar. **Pages S8250–51**

Levin (for Leahy/Byrd) Amendment No. 5323, to provide for a suspension of certain statutes of limitations when Congress has authorized the use of military force. **Pages S8229–31, S8251**

By 94 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 199), Nelson (FL) Amendment No. 4979, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation. **Pages S8240–42, S8244–50, S8264–66**

Rejected:

By 39 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 198), Vitter Amendment No. 5280, to authorize, with an offset, an additional \$100,000,000 for Procurement, Defense-wide, and an additional \$171,000,000 for Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Defense-wide, for near-term missile defense programs and activities. **Pages S8231–40, S8242–44, S8251–56, S8264**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 5290, to change the enactment date. **Page S8228**

Reid Amendment No. 5291 (to Amendment No. 5290), of a perfecting nature. **Page S8228**

Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions to report back forthwith, with Reid Amendment No. 5292 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date. **Page S8228**

Reid Amendment No. 5293 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit to the bill), of a perfecting nature. **Page S8229**

Reid Amendment No. 5294 (to Amendment No. 5293), of a perfecting nature. **Page S8229**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 11, 2008. **Page S8326**

Moment of Silence—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 11, 2008, Senate observe a moment of silence to honor the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. **Page S8326**

Messages from the House: **Page S8274**

Measures Referred: **Page S8274**

Executive Communications:	Pages S8274–75
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S8275–77
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S8277–80
Additional Statements:	Pages S8270–74
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S8280–S8325
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Page S8325
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S8326
Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—199)	Pages S8264, S8264–65

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:46 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 11, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8326.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense approved for full Committee consideration an original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009.

PREPAID CALLING CARD MARKET

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways to improve consumer protection in the prepaid calling card market, including S. 2998, to require accurate and reasonable disclosure of the terms and conditions of prepaid telephone calling cards and services, after receiving testimony from Representative Engel; William Kovacic, Chairman, Federal Trade Commission; Sally Greenberg, National Consumers League, and Gus West, Hispanic Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; and Patricia L. Acampora, New York State Public Service Commission, on behalf of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and Rosemary O'Brien, Military Marketing, both of New York, New York.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE PROGRAM

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improving the Federal Highway Bridge Program, focusing on an assessment of S. 3338, to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, and H.R. 3999, to

amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, after receiving testimony from Thomas J. Madison, Jr., Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation; Katherine Siggerud, Managing Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; Gary M. Ridley, Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Oklahoma City, on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; Andrew Herrmann, Hardesty and Hanover, LLP, New York, New York, on behalf of the American Society of Civil Engineers; and John Krieger, United States Public Interest Research Group, Washington, D.C.

BOTTLED WATER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality concluded a hearing to examine the quality and environmental impacts of bottled water, after receiving testimony from Emily Lloyd, New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Flushing, New York; Mae Wu, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Wenonah Hauter, Food and Water Watch, both of Washington, D.C.; Stephen C. Edberg, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut; and Joseph K. Doss, International Bottled Water Association, Alexandria, Virginia.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 3038, to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend the adoption incentives program, to authorize States to establish a relative guardianship program, to promote the adoption of children with special needs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1070, to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 1577, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require screening, including national criminal history background checks, of direct patient access employees of skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and other long-term care facilities and providers, and to provide for nationwide expansion of the pilot program for national and

State background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

ALBANIA AND CROATIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Croatia adopted at Brussels on July 9, 2008, and signed that day on behalf of the United States and the other Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty (Treaty Doc. 110–20), after receiving testimony from Daniel Fried, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; and Daniel P. Fata, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Policy, Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Sung Y. Kim, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks, C. Steven McGann, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Kiribati, and Carol Ann Rodley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine audits at the Defense Contract Audit Agency, after receiving testimony from Diem Thi Le, Senior Auditor, Paul Hackler, Supervisory Auditor, and April G. Stephenson, Director, all of the Defense Contract

Audit Agency, and Gordon S. Heddell, Acting Inspector General, all of the Department of Defense; and Gregory D. Kutz, Managing Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations, and Gayle L. Fischer, Assistant Director, Financial Management and Assurance Team, both of the Government Accountability Office.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TRANSITION

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 managing the challenges of the Federal government transition, focusing on assessing the readiness and planning for the transition and identifying critical needs for the next Administration to address, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; Clay Johnson, III, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Robert I. Cusick, Director, United States Office of Government Ethics; and Gail T. Lovelace, Chief Human Capital Officer, General Services Administration.

COMBATING VIOLENT CRIME

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine new strategies for combating violent crime, focusing on drawing lessons from recent experience, after receiving testimony from Dean M. Esserman, Providence Police Department, Providence, Rhode Island; Alfred Blumstein, Carnegie Mellon University H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Jeremy Travis, City University of New York John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York; James A. Summey, English Road Baptist Church, High Point, North Carolina; and George L. Kelling, Rutgers University Manhattan Institute, Newark, New Jersey.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 6854–6868; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 1423–1424 were introduced. **Pages H8018–19**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8019–20**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Dr. David O. Dykes, Pastor, Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Texas. **Page H7959**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12:20 p.m. **Pages H7962–63**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched

against the United States on September 11, 2001: The House agreed by unanimous consent that the Speaker be authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules relating to H. Res. 1420, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, on the legislative day of Thursday, September 11, 2008. **Page H7967**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, September 9th:

Rural Veterans Access to Care Act: H.R. 1527, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow highly rural veterans enrolled in the health system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive covered health services through providers other than those of the Department, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 578; **Pages H7968–69**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a pilot program to permit certain highly rural veterans enrolled in the health system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive covered health services through providers other than those of the Department.”. **Page H7969**

Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2008: S. 2617, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify increases in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans that were effective as of December 1, 2007 and to provide for an increase in the rates of such compensation effective December 1, 2008, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 579—clearing the measure for the President; and **Pages H7969–70**

Prevent All Cigarette Trafficking Act of 2008: H.R. 4081, amended, to prevent tobacco smuggling and to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 379 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 584. **Pages H7987–88**

Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2008: The House passed H.R. 3667, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in the State of Vermont for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, by a recorded vote of 299 yeas to 118 noes, Roll No. 583. **Pages H7970–84**

Agreed to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair on a point of order sustained against the Sali motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 582. **Pages H7982–83**

Boehner motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House promptly with an amendment was withdrawn. **Pages H7983–84**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill pursuant to part II of H. Rept. 110–668 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Page H7977**

Agreed to the Grijalva motion that the Committee rise by a recorded vote of 221 yeas to 193 noes, Roll No. 580. **Page H7980**

Accepted:

Bishop amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–834) that adds to the proposed study an assessment of any impact a wild and scenic designation in the study area is likely to have on energy production, transmission or conveyance; **Pages H7978–79**

Flake amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110–834) that provides that nothing in it may be construed as authorizing appropriations for a new designation within the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; and **Pages H7979–80**

Grijalva amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–834) that requires that the proposed study analyze any potential impacts on the possession or use of a weapon, trap, or net, including a concealed weapon (by a recorded vote of 418 yeas with none voting “no”, Roll No. 581). **Pages H7977–78, H7981**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H7988**

H. Res. 1419, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 577, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 576. **Pages H7963–68**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:53 p.m. and reconvened at 5:27 p.m. **Page H7980**

Point of Personal Privilege: Representative Rangel rose to a point of personal privilege and was recognized. **Pages H7984–87**

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 To Restore the Highway Trust Fund Balance: The House agreed by unanimous consent that the

Speaker be authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules relating to H.R. 6532, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, on the legislative day of Thursday, September 11, 2008. **Page H7988**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7959, H7984.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7967–68, H7968, H7968–69, H7969–70, H7980, H7981, H7983, H7984, H7988. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AFGHANISTAN—IRAQ SECURITY AND STABILITY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on Security and Stability in Afghanistan and Iraq: Developments in U.S. Strategy and Operations and the Way Ahead. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Robert M. Gates, Secretary; ADM Michael G. Mullen, USN, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Ambassador Eric S. Edelman, Under Secretary, Policy; and VADM James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

MILITARY FOREIGN LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on transforming the U.S. military's foreign language, cultural awareness, and regional expertise capabilities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Gail H. McGinn, Deputy Under Secretary (Plans), Office of the Under Secretary, (Personnel and Readiness); BG Gary Patton, USA, Senior Language Authority, Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff/J–1; BG; R. M. Lake, USMC, Director of Intelligence, U.S. Marine Corps; RADM Daniel P. Holloway, USN, Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy Division (OPNAV N13), U.S. Navy; Joseph M. McDade, Jr., Director, Force Development (HAF/AID), Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel, U.S. Air Force; and BG Richard Longo, USA, Director, Training, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7, U.S. Army.

SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUNDS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology held a hearing entitled “Sovereign

Wealth Funds: New Challenges from a Changing Landscape.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

VIRTUAL FENCE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Homeland Security: Held a hearing entitled “Mismanagement, Missteps and Missed Benchmarks: Why the Virtual Fence Has Not Become A Reality.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; W. Ralph Bashman, Commissioner; and Jayson P. Ahern, Deputy Commissioner; and the following officials of the GAO: Richard Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice; and Randolph C. Hite, Director, IT Architecture and Systems Issues.

TASK FORCE ON ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION

Committee on the Judiciary: Approved a resolution establishing the Task Force on Antitrust and Competition.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY RIDGE COMPLEX ESTABLISHMENT ACT

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held a hearing and an oversight hearing on H.R. 6479, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Establishment Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Stark; Eric Alvarez, Realty Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Peyton Robertson, Director, Chesapeake Bay Office, NOAA, Department of Commerce; COL Dionysios Anninos, District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, Department of the Army; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Ordered reported the following: H.R. 6842, amended, National Capital Security and Safety Act; H. Con. Res. 223, Honoring professional surveyors and recognizing their contributions to society; H. Con. Res. 351, Honoring the 225th anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting in Nassau Hall, Princeton, New Jersey in 1783; H. Con. Res. 376, Congratulating the 2007–2008 National Basketball Association World Champions, the Boston Celtics, on an outstanding and historic season; H. Con. Res. 386, Recognizing and celebrating the 232nd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; H. Res. 1000, To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the naming of Pittsburgh as the culmination of the Forbes Campaign across Pennsylvania and the significance this event played in the making of America, in the settlement of the Continent, and in

spreading the ideals of freedom and democracy throughout the world; H.R. 1356, Celebrating the 221st anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America, and for other purposes; H. Res. 1418, Congratulating Michael Phelps, 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic champion swimmer, on winning eight gold medals in the 2008 Beijing Olympics and becoming one of the most decorated athletes in Olympic history; H.R. 6199, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 245 North Main Street in New City, New York as the “Kenneth Peter Zebrowski Post Office Building;” H.R. 6681, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Vine Street in New Lenox, Illinois, as the “Jacob M. Lowell Post Office Building;” and H.R. 6772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building.”

MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULTS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held an oversight hearing on Sexual Assault in the Military—Part 2. Testimony was heard from Kaye Whitley, Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Department of Defense; and Brenda S. Farrell, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, GAO.

DEVELOPING NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on the Foundation for Developing New Energy Technologies: Basic Energy Research in the DOE Office of Science. Testimony was heard from Patricia Dehmer, Deputy Director, Science, Office of Science, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

COAST GUARD PERSONNEL DIVERSITY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Diversity in the Coast Guard, including Recruitment, Promotion, and Retention of Minority Personnel. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security: ADM Jody A. Breckinridge, USCG, Director, Strategic Transportation Team and Assistant Commandant for Human Resources; and Commander Master Chief Kevin D. Isherwood, Command Master Chief for Chief of Staff.

AMERICA'S ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHALLENGES

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming: Held a hearing entitled “Investing in the Future: R & D Needs To Meet America’s Energy and Climate Challenges.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

GEORGIA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Russia, Georgia, and the return of power politics, after receiving testimony from Matthew J. Bryza, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; David Bakradze, Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia and former Foreign Minister, Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia; Paul Saunders, Nixon Center, Washington, D.C.; and Paul A. Goble, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy in Baku, Baku, Azerbaijan.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 12 noon, SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold a briefing to examine the state of science and potential issues associated with Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Sewage Sludge Program, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brian H. Hook, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Organization Affairs), Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, Gregori Lebedev, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, and Matthew A. Reynolds, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), 9 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine dividend tax abuse, focusing on ways that offshore entities avoid taxes on United States stock dividends, 9 a.m., SD-106.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, and Thomas M. Beck, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 3128, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide a loan to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for use in planning, engineering, and designing a certain water system project, S. 3355, to authorize the Crow Tribe of Indians water rights settlement, and S. 3381, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to develop water infrastructure in the Rio Grande Basin, and to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Pueblos of Nambe, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Tesuque, and Taos, 10:30 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 2746, to amend section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act) to provide that statutory exemptions to the disclosure requirements of that Act shall specifically cite to the provision of that Act authorizing such exemptions, to ensure an open and deliberative process in Congress by providing for related legislative proposals to explicitly state such required citations, S. 2838, to amend chapter 1 of title 9 of United States Code with respect to arbitration, S. 3136, to encourage the entry of felony warrants into the NCIC database by States and provide additional resources for extradition, S. 1276, to establish a grant program to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic logbook systems, S. 3197, to amend title 11, United States Code, to exempt for a limited period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days, S. 3325, to enhance remedies for violations of intellectual property laws, S. 3296, to extend the authority of the United States Supreme Court Police to protect court officials off the Supreme Court Grounds and change the title of the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice, S. 2052, to allow for certiorari review of certain cases denied relief or review by the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, H.R. 5235, to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission, S. 3166, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to impose criminal penalties on individuals who assist aliens who have engaged in genocide, torture, or extrajudicial killings to enter the United States, and the nominations of Jeffrey Leigh Sedgwick, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Attorney General, J. Patrick Rowan, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and William B. Carr, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, 2 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine business start-up hurdles in underserved communities, access to venture capital and entrepreneurship training, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion, 9:30 a.m., 345 Cannon Building.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine 1-800-MEDICARE Information (1-800-633-4227), 10 a.m., SR-325.

House

Committee on Agriculture, hearing to review dramatic movements in agriculture and energy commodity markets, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, hearing on Examining the Role of Museums and Libraries in Strengthening Communities, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on the Economic and Security Concerns in Tourism and Commerce, including the following bills: H.R. 3232, Travel Promotion Act of 2007; and H.R. 1776, Call Center Consumer's Right to Know Act, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing entitled "Protecting the Electric Grid from Cyber-Security Threats," 11 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on the continuing investigation into the U.S. Attorneys Controversy and Related Matters, 12 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, hearing on H.R. 6845, Fair Copyright in Research Works Act, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on H.R. 4300, Juvenile Justice Accountability and Improvement Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3114, National Women's Rights History Project Act; H.R. 4162, San Bernardino Biomass Use Facilitation Act; H.R. 6156, Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act; H.R. 6233, To reinstate the Interim Management Strategy governing off-road vehicle use in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, North Carolina, pending the issuance of a final rule for off-road vehicle use by the National Park Service; H.R. 6290, Lewis and Clark Mount Hood Wilderness Act of 2008; H.R. 6291, Oregon Treasures Act of 2008; H.R. 6470, River Basin National Battlefield Act; H.R. 6553, To clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System lands subject to ski area permits; and H.R. 6628, Connell Lake Watershed Protection and Recreation Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia, hearing on H.R. 4272, To amend chapter 15 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for an additional, limited exception to the provision prohibiting a State or local officer or employee from being a candidate for elective office, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, hearing on the Next Generation Air Transportation System: Status and Issues, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, hearing on Examining Expiring Tax Incentives and the Needs of Small Businesses," 10 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, oversight hearing on GI Bill Implementation, 1 p.m., 340 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on reforming Medicare's physician payment system, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Challenges Facing American Workers, 12 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence, executive, briefing, on Hot Spots, 12:30 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion, 9:30 a.m., 345, Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Thursday, September 11

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Thursday, September 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of S. 3001, National Defense Authorization Act. Also, Senate will observe a moment of silence at 12:30 p.m. to honor the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: To be announced.

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