Friday, July 28, 2006

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 459, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate. The House agreed to the conference report on S. 250, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8403-S8416

Measures Introduced: Two bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3761–3762, and S. Res. 544. Page S8411

Measures Passed:

National Attention Deficit Disorder Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 544, designating September 20, 2006 as "National Attention Deficit Disorder Awareness Day." Pages S8408-09

National Airborne Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 405, designating August 16, 2006, as "National Airborne Day," and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: Page S8409

McConnell (for Hagel) Amendment No. 4739, to call on the people of the United States to observe "National Airborne Day" with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. Page S8409

Pension Reform—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that not withstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, that when it receives from the House a bill relating to pension reform and a bill relating to estate tax, the bills be considered as read a first time during today's session. Page S8415

Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of S. 3711, to enhance the energy independence and security of the United States by providing for exploration, development, and production activities for mineral resources in the Gulf of Mexico, at 3 p.m., on Monday, July 31, 2006, with the time until 5:30 p.m., equally divided between the two managers, or their designees, and at 5:30 p.m., Senate proceed to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill. **Page S8415**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Earl Anthony Wayne, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to Argentina.

Stephen S. McMillin, of Texas, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

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Messages From the House:	Page S8411
Enrolled Bills Presented:	Page S8411
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Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S8411-12
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	
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Additional Statements:	Pages S8410–11
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S8414–15

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S8415

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 4:29 p.m., until 2 p.m., on Monday, July 31, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8416.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CYBER SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine recovery and reconstitution of critical networks relating to cyber security, focusing on immediate steps that Department of Homeland Security and the private sector can take to formalize a partnership and to ensure effective response and recovery to major cyber network disruption, after receiving testimony from George Foresman, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Preparedness; Richard C. Schaeffer, Jr., Director of Information Assurance, National Security Agency; Karen Evans, Administrator for Electronic Government and Information Technology, Office of Management and Budget; Keith A. Rhodes, Chief Technologist, Director, Center for Technology and Engineering, Government Accountability Office; Thomas E. Noonan, Internet Security Systems, Atlanta, Georgia; Roberta A. Bienfait, AT&T's Global Network Operations, Atlanta, Georgia; Michael A. Aisenberg, VeriSign, Inc., Mountain View, California; and Karl Brondell, State Farm Insurance Companies, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Business Roundtable.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 74 public bills, H.R. 4, 5954–6026; and 24 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 459–466; and H. Res. 963–965, 967–979 were introduced. Pages H6230–35

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H6235-36

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5393, to provide for the Department of Housing and Urban Development to coordinate Federal housing assistance efforts in the case of disasters resulting in long-term housing needs (H. Rept. 109–607, Pt. 1);

H.R. 5810, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to authorize funding for brownfields revitalization activities and State response programs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–608, Pt. 1);

H.R. 4650, to direct the Secretary of the Army to carry out programs and activities to enhance the safety of levees in the United States, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–609);

H.R. 4653, to repeal a prohibition on the use of certain funds for tunneling in certain areas with respect to the Los Angeles to San Fernando Valley Metro Rail project, California (H. Rept. 109–610);

H.R. 5656, to provide for Federal energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–611);

H.R. 4957, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Tylersville division of the Lamar National Fish Hatchery and Fish Technology Center to the State of Pennsylvania, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–612);

H. Res. 966, providing for consideration of H.R. 5970, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against the estate tax to an exclusion equivalent of \$5,000,000, to repeal the sunset provision for the estate and generation-skipping taxes, and to extend expiring provisions; and consideration of H.R. 4, to provide economic security for all Americans (H. Rept. 109–613); and

H.R. 5681, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2007, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–614). Page H6230

Recess: The House recessed at 10:21 a.m. and reconvened at 5:05 p.m. Page H6023

Recess: The House recessed at 5:07 p.m. and reconvened at 6:10 p.m. Page H6023

Providing funding authority to facilitate the evacuation of persons from Lebanon: The House agreed by unanimous consent to the Wolf amendment to S. 3741, to provide funding authority to facilitate the evacuation of persons from Lebanon. Subsequently, the House passed S. 3741, amended, without objection. Pages H6029-30

Summer District Work Period: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 459, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, by a yea and nay vote of 219 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 420. Pages H6038-40 **Providing economic security for all Americans:** The House passed H.R. 4, to provide economic security for all Americans, by a recorded vote of 279 ayes to 131 noes with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 422, after ordering the previous question.

Pages H6049-H6170

Rejected the Miller, George of California motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a yea and nay vote of 189 yeas to 222 nays, Roll No. 421, after ordering the previous question without objection. **Pages H6163-69**

H. Res. 958, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 418, after agreeing to order the previous question. **Pages H6023-29**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Wednesday, July 26th:

Congratulating the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative on ten years of significant achievement in the search for an HIV/AIDS vaccine: H. Res. 844, amended, to congratulate the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative on ten years of significant achievement in the search for an HIV/AIDS vaccine, by a $(^{2}/_{3})$ yea-and-nay vote of 407 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 423. Pages H6170-71

Estate Tax and Extension of Tax Relief Act of 2006: The House passed H.R. 5970, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against the estate tax to an exclusion equivalent of \$5,000,000, to repeal the sunset provision for the estate and generation-skipping taxes, and to extend expiring provisions, by a recorded vote of 230 ayes to 180 noes with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 425. **Pages H6029, H6171-H6221**

Rejected the Miller, George of California motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 190 ayes to 220 noes, Roll No. 424, after ordering the previous question without objection. **Pages H6201-20**

H. Res. 966, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 194 nays, Roll No. 419, after agreeing to order the previous question. **Pages H6030-39**

Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2005—Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report on S. 250, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act, which was debated on yesterday, Thursday, July 27th, by a recorded vote of 399 ayes to 1 noe, Roll No. 426—clearing the measure for the President.

Making technical corrections to the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005: The House passed by unanimous consent S. 3693, to make technical corrections to the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005.

Pages H6222-27

A concurrent resolution relating to correcting a clerical error in the enrollment of S. 3693: The House agreed by unanimous consent to S. Con. Res. 112, a concurrent resolution relating to correcting a clerical error in the enrollment of S. 3693.

Page H6227

Adjournment Resolution: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H. Con. Res. 459, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution. Page H6227

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, August 2, 2006. Page H6227

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, September 6. Page H6227

Agreed that the ordering of the yeas and nays on adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 454 be vacated, to the end that the concurrent resolution be laid upon the table. **Page H6227**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Wolf and Representative Tom Davis of Virginia to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through September 6, 2006. **Page H6227**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H6028–29, H6038–39, H6039–40, H6169, H6169–70, H6170–71, H6219–20, H6220–21, and H6221. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. Friday, July 28th and at 1:55 a.m. on Saturday, July 29th, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 459, the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of the concurrent resolution, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2006.

Committee Meetings ESTATE TAX AND EXTENSION OF TAX RELIEF ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5970. The rule provides one hour of debate on H.R. 5970, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against estate tax to an exclusion equivalent of \$5,000,000, to repeal the sunset provision for the estate and generation-skipping taxes, and to extend expiring provisions, and for other purposes, in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 5970. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 5970.

PENSION PROTECTION ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule on H.R. 4, to provide economic security for all Americans, and for other purposes, in the House equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 4. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 4. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kline, George Miller of California and Hoyer.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 849)

H.R. 9, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109–246)

H.R. 2872, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Louis Braille. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109–247)

H.R. 4472, to protect children from sexual exploitation and violent crime, to prevent child abuse and child pornography, to promote Internet safety, and to honor the memory of Adam Walsh and other child crime victims. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109–248)

H.R. 5117, to exempt persons with disabilities from the prohibition against providing section 8 rental assistance to college students. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109–249) H.R. 5865, to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to temporarily increase funding for the program of temporary assistance for United States citizens returned from foreign countries. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109–250)

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of July 31 through August 5, 2006

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 3 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of S. 3711, Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon to occur at 5:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate expects to continue consideration of S. 3711, Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, and any other cleared legislative and executive business, including appropriation bills and conference reports, when available.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: August 2, Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization, to hold hearings to examine H.R. 4200, to improve the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to promptly implement recovery treatments in response to catastrophic events affecting Federal lands under their jurisdiction, including the removal of dead and damaged trees and the implementation of reforestation treatments, to support the recovery of non-Federal lands damaged by catastrophic events, to revitalize Forest Service experimental forests, 9 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: August 2, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to continue hearings to examine progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: August 1, to receive a closed briefing from the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, 11 a.m., SR-222.

August 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Boeing Company Global Settlement Agreement, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

August 2, Full Committee, to resume hearings to examine the future of military commissions in light of the Supreme Court decision in Hamdan v. Rumsfeld, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

August 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Iraq, Afghanistan and the global war on terrorism; to be followed by a closed session in SR-222, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: August 2, business meeting to consider an original bill to improve ratings quality for the protection of investors and in the public interest by fostering accountability, transparency, and competition in the credit rating agency industry, 10 a.m., SD–538.

August 2, Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation, to hold hearings to examine efforts to meet the housing needs of veterans, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: August 3, Subcommittee on National Ocean Policy Study, to hold hearings to examine state of the oceans in 2006, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: August 2, business meeting to consider the nominations of Drue Pearce, of Alaska, to be Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, and John Ray Correll, of Indiana, to be Director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, and Mark Myers, of Alaska, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, both of the Department of the Interior, and other pending calendar business, 11:30 a.m., SD–628.

August 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 2589, to enhance the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste, to ensure protection of public health and safety, to ensure the territorial integrity and security of the repository at Yucca Mountain, 10 a.m., SD–628.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: August 1, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water, to hold hearings to examine interpreting the effect of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in the joint cases of Rapanos v. United States and Carabell v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on "The Waters of the United States", 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold oversight hearings to examine the Toxic Substances Control Act and the chemicals management program at Environmental Protection Agency, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: August 2, to hold hearings to examine fake IDs relating to border security, 10 a.m., SD-215.

August 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine tax code reform issues, 10:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: July 31, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mark R. Dybul, of Florida, to be Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally, with the rank of Ambassador, 3 p.m., SD-419.

August 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 3722, to authorize the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, Treaty Between the United States and the Oriental Republic Of Uruguay Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annexes and Protocol, signed at Mar Del Plata, Argentina, on November 4, 2005 (Treaty Doc. 109-9), United Nations Convention Against Corruption (the "Corruption Convention"), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on October 31, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 109-6), and the nominations of Richard E. Hoagland, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Christina B. Rocca, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as U. S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, Philip S. Goldberg, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bolivia, John Robert Bolton, of Maryland, to be the U.S. Representative to the

United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the U.S. Representative in the Security Council of the United Nations, to which position he was appointed during the recess of the Senate from July 29, 2005, to September 1, 2005, and to be U.S. Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations, to which position he was appointed during the recess of the Senate from July 29, 2005, to September 1, 2005, Richard W. Graber, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Czech Republic, and Karen B. Stewart, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus, and a Foreign Service Officer Promotion list, 2:15 p.m., S–116, Capitol.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of John C. Rood, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Non-Proliferation, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: August 1, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrew von Eschenbach, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, and Paul DeCamp, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; to be followed by a business meeting to consider pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: August 1, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine the issue of tax havens and offshore abuses which are undermining the integrity of the Federal tax system, focusing on case histories on the use of offshore trusts and corporations to circumvent U.S. tax, securities and anti-money laundering laws, 9 a.m., SD-106.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the status of Iraq construction, focusing on contracting and procurement issues, 10 a.m., SD-342.

August 3, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine financial management at the Department of Defense, focusing on the components of Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness Plan to improve the overall financial management health of the Department of Defense, including an understanding of other plans involved in improving the financial management infrastructure at the Department, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: August 1, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter D. Keisler, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Valerie L. Baker and Philip S. Gutierrez, each to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Francisco Augusto Besosa, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, 2 p.m., SD–226.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the authority to prosecute terrorists under the war crime provisions of Title 18, 9:30 a.m., SD–226. August 2, Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights, to hold hearings to examine creating a fair standard for attorney's fee awards in establishment clause cases, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: July 31, business meeting to consider the nominations of Patrick W. Dunne, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, and Thomas E. Harvey, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Congressional Affairs, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Select Committee on Intelligence: August 2, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

August 3, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters, 10 a.m., SH-219.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, July 31

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 1 hour), Senate will resume consideration of S. 3711. Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon to occur at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Wednesday, September 6

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: To be announced.

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