

# THE DAILY WHIP

Wednesday, May 21, 2003 | Floor News from Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer

HOUSE MEETS AT...	LAST VOTE PREDICTED...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business	5:30-6:30 p.m.
Number of "One-Minutes" Today: 10 per side	

**\*\*\* THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE HOUSE WILL BE IN SESSION ON FRIDAY AND THAT MEMBERS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO STAY LATE INTO THE EVENING, IF NECESSARY, IN ORDER TO COMPLETE ACTION ON A VARIETY OF PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.**

## FLOOR SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE

The House will convene at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business.

**Senate Amendments to H.R. 1298** - United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (*Hyde - International Relations*) (*Unanimous Consent Agreement with One Hour of Debate*)

### Suspensions (1 bill):

- 1) **H.R. 1170** - Child Medication Safety Act of 2003 (Burns - Ed & Work).

### Rolled Suspension Votes (3 bills):

- 1) **H.R. 1911** - To amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance cooperation and the sharing of resources between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense (*Boozman - Veterans Affairs*).
- 2) **H.R. 1683** - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2003 (*C. Smith - Veterans Affairs*).
- 3) **H.R. 1257** - Selected Reserve Home Loan Equity Act (*Evans - Veterans Affairs*)

**H.R. 1588** - National Defense Authorization for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Hunter - Armed Services*) (*Subject to a Rule*)

**Motions to go to Conference should they become available (A motion to go to Conference on the Tax Bill is expected).**

## BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

**Senate Amendments to H.R. 1298 - United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (Hyde - International Relations) (Under Unanimous Consent Agreement with one hour of debate).** This bill authorizes \$15 billion over the next five years for the overseas care, treatment, and prevention of AIDS. In addition, it authorizes funds for certain programs to fight tuberculosis and malaria. The bill endorses three approaches to combat the spread of AIDS: abstinence, monogamy, and condom use. The House passed this bill on May 1<sup>st</sup> and it was amended and passed by the Senate on May 16<sup>th</sup> (the Senate amended it by requiring the Treasury Department to consider working with international lending institutions to provide debt relief for AIDS-stricken nations).

**H.R. 1588 - National Defense Authorization for Fiscal Year 2004 (Hunter - Armed Services) (Subject to a Rule).** This bill authorizes \$400.5 billion for FY04, which is \$7.6 billion more than the current authorization level. The bill allocates \$74.9 billion for procurement; \$62.7 billion for research and development; \$114.5 billion for operation and maintenance; \$17.8 billion for programs such as drug interdiction, defense health, and chemical agents and munitions destruction; \$2.7 billion for revolving management funds; \$98.9 billion for military personnel; \$5.7 billion for military construction; \$3.9 billion for family housing; \$17.3 billion for atomic energy defense activities; and \$2.7 billion for other defense related activities. This bill was reported out of committee with a 58-2 vote.

The \$400.5 billion authorization includes \$9.1 billion for missile defense and funds for research on two new types of nuclear weapons (small, low-yield nuclear weapons, and earth-penetrating nuclear bombs to destroy underground facilities). This bill also contains a number of controversial provisions, including changes to

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the Pentagon's civilian personnel system and the elimination of environmental protections for wildlife and marine habitats. The bill would allow the Secretary of Defense to strip from DoD civilian employees their most basic workers rights, including collective bargaining, due process and appeal rights, and the congressionally passed annual pay raise. Additionally, the bill exempts the Department from compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act, although each of these laws currently allows for case-by-case exemptions if required for national security (and the Pentagon has never requested such a waiver).

The Rules Committee has recommended a structured rule that provides for two hours of general debate; waives all points of order against consideration of the bill; makes in order nine amendments to be considered in the order specified in the report; and provides that, after disposition of the amendments printed in 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. The nine amendments made in order by the rule are:

- **Hunter Amendment (10 minutes)** - Makes technical changes and includes clarification that no employee of DoD Inspector General who was transferred to a Special Court of the United Nations shall be subject to Hatch Act enforcement. Also makes a change regarding sole source contracts. Strikes Section 317(a), and would leave the section of the Endangered Species Act in its present form (i.e., "prudent and determinable"). Strikes Section 318(a), and would confine the new definition of "harassment" to "military readiness activity."
- **Goode Amendment (20 minutes)** - Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to assign members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, under certain circumstances and subject to certain conditions, to assist the Department of Homeland Security in the performance of border protections functions.
- **Sanchez, Loretta (CA) Amendment (30 minutes)** - Permits Department of Defense facilities, not located in the United States, to perform abortions.
- **Tauscher Amendment (20 minutes)** - Transfers \$15 million for the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator and the \$6 million for additional and exploratory studies under the Advanced Concepts Initiative to conventional programs to defeat hardened and deeply buried targets.
- **Hoefel Amendment (10 minutes)** - Requires the President to submit an annual report (upon completion of the Moscow Treaty) on the number of strategic nuclear warheads that have been dismantled in the previous calendar year and that will be dismantled in the coming year.
- **Goss Amendment (20 minutes)** - Requires the Defense Secretary to report on appropriate steps that could be taken by the Defense Department in response to nations that attempt to commence legal proceedings against any current or former official or employee of the U.S. relating to the performance of official duties.
- **Goss Amendment (20 minutes)** - Requires a study by the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment of U.S. costs associated with the location of the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, and the costs and benefits of relocating the headquarters to a suitable location in another NATO member country.
- **Saxton Amendment (10 minutes)** - Repeals the statutory requirement that an officer serving as defense attache to France must hold, or be on the promotion list, the grade of brigadier general or rear admiral, lower half.
- **Hunter Amendment (20 minutes)** - Sense of Congress regarding changes within NATO (i.e., the expansion to include former Soviet-bloc member states). It asks the President to reevaluate U.S. defense posture in Europe in order to take maximum advantage of basing and training ops in the territory of new NATO members.

## DAILY QUOTE...

"If 'growth' be the mantra, then Congress will not find a stronger and more immediate stimulus for the economy than an extension of [unemployment] benefits to job-hungry Americans, eager to spend on basic needs."

-The New York Times today

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