

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4527–S4601

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 848–870, S. Res. 108–110, and S. Con. Res. 18.

Pages S4573–74

Measures Passed:

Commending Captain Richard Phillips, The “Maersk Alabama” Crew, and U.S. Armed Forces: Senate agreed to S. Res. 108, commending Captain Richard Phillips, the crew of the “Maersk Alabama”, and the U.S. Armed Forces, recognizing the growing problem of piracy off Somalia’s coast, and urging the development of a comprehensive strategy to address piracy and its root causes.

Pages S4596–97

Congratulating University of North Carolina Tar Heels Men’s Basketball Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 110, congratulating the University of North Carolina Tar Heels basketball team for winning the 2008–2009 NCAA men’s basketball championship.

Pages S4597–98

World Malaria Day: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 18, supporting the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day, and reaffirming U.S. leadership and support for efforts to combat malaria.

Pages S4598–99

Measures Considered:

Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 386, to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to Federal assistance and relief programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Page S4531

Adopted:

Leahy/Grassley Modified Amendment No. 993, to clarify the amendments relating to major fraud.

Pages S4540–43

By 94 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 160), Kyl Amendment No. 985, to modify the definition of the term “obligation”.

Pages S4539–40, S4543

By 92 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 161), Isakson Amendment No. 995, to establish the Financial Markets Commission.

Pages S4543–52

Dorgan/McCain Amendment No. 999, to establish a select committee of the Senate to make a thorough and complete study and investigation of the facts and circumstances giving rise to the economic crisis facing the United States and to make recommendations to prevent a future recurrence of such a crisis.

Pages S4552–54, S4561

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 984, to increase funding for certain HUD programs to assist individuals to better withstand the current mortgage crisis.

Pages S4538–39

Inhofe Amendment No. 996 (to Amendment No. 984), to amend title 4, U.S. Code, to declare English as the national language of the Government of the United States.

Pages S4554–55

Vitter Amendment No. 991, to authorize and remove impediments to the repayment of funds received under the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

Pages S4555–56

Boxer Amendment No. 1000, to authorize monies for the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program to audit and investigate recipients of non-recourse Federal loans under the Public Private Investment Program and the Term Asset Loan Facility.

Pages S4556–58

Kyl Amendment No. 986, to limit the amount that may be deducted from proceeds due to the United States under the False Claims Act for purposes of compensating private intervenors to the greater of \$50,000,000 or 300 percent of the expenses and cost of the intervenor.

Pages S4558–59

Coburn Amendment No. 982, to authorize the use of TARP funds to cover the costs of the bill.

Pages S4559–61

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 23, 2009.

Pages S4599–S4600

Appointments:

The following appointment was made on Monday, April 20, 2009:

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, and after consultation with the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appointed the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Senators Baucus, Levin, Feinstein, Dorgan (Chairman), and Brown.

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Ladda Tammy Duckworth, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Public and Intergovernmental Affairs). **Pages S4599, S4600, S4601**

Messages From the House: **Pages S4571–72**

Measures Referred: **Page S4572**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S4572, S4599**

Executive Communications: **Page S4572**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S4573**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4574–75**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S4575–88**

Additional Statements: **Page S4569**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4588–95**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S4595**

Authorities for Committees To Meet: **Page S4596**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—161) **Pages S4543, S4552**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:42 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4601.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine environmental management stimulus funding, after receiving testimony from Ines R. Triay, Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management.

READINESS OF U.S. GROUND FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine the current readiness of U.S. ground forces, after receiving testimony from General Peter W. Chiarelli, USA, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, and General James F. Amos, USMC, Assistant Com-

mandant, U.S. Marine Corps, both of the Department of Defense.

SAVE AMERICAN ENERGY ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 548, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal energy efficiency resource standard for retail electricity and natural gas distributors, after receiving testimony from Senator Schumer; Patricia Hoffman, Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability; Paul A. Centolella, Ohio Public Utilities Commission, Columbus; David J. Manning, National Grid, Brooklyn, NY; Steven Nadel, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, Washington, DC; Thomas E. Skains, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Charlotte, NC, on behalf of the American Gas Association; and Rich Wells, The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, MI.

GSA AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the General Services Administration and energy efficiency in public buildings, after receiving testimony from Paul F. Prouty, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration; Doug Gatlin, U.S. Green Building Council, and Lane Burt, Natural Resources Defense Council, both of Washington, DC; and Harvey Bryan, Arizona State University School of Sustainability, Tempe.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine global climate change, focusing on U.S. leadership for a new global agreement, after receiving testimony from Todd Stern, Special Envoy for Climate Change, Department of State; Helene D. Gayle, CARE USA, Atlanta, GA; Ned Helme, Center for Clean Air Policy, Washington, DC; and Paul Camuti, Siemens Corporate Research, Princeton, NJ.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Susan Flood Burk, of Virginia, to be Special Representative of the President, with the rank of Ambassador, and Ivo H. Daalder, of Virginia, to be U.S. Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of William Craig Fugate, of Florida, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Bill Nelson and Martinez, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of John Morton, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID FRAUD

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine eliminating waste and fraud in Medicare and Medicaid, after receiving testimony from Kay L.

Daly, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office; Deborah Taylor, Acting Director and Chief Financial Officer, Office of Financial Management, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Lewis Morris, Chief Counsel, Office of Inspector General, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; and James G. Sheehan, Medicaid Inspector General, New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General, Albany.

VA HEALTH RELATED LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine pending health related legislation, after receiving testimony from Adrian Atizado, Disabled American Veterans, Cold Spring, KY; Ammie Hilsabeck, Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center, Department of Veterans Affairs, Iron Mountain, MI, on behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO; and Hilda R. Heady, West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center, Ralph Ibson, Wounded Warrior Project, and Blake C. Ortner, Paralyzed Veterans of America, all of Washington, DC.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 38 public bills, H.R. 2020–2057; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 43; H. Con. Res. 104; and H. Res. 351, 353–355 were introduced. **Pages H4685–87**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4687–88**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 352, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1145) to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative (H. Rept. 111–82). **Page H4677**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Holden to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H4587**

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

Expressing the sense of the U.S. House of Representatives regarding the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama: H. Res. 339, to express the sense of the U.S. House of Representatives regarding the hijacking of the Maersk Alabama, the kidnapping of Captain Richard Phillips by Somali pirates, and the rescue of Captain Phillips by U.S. Navy SEALs and the

crews of the USS Bainbridge, USS Boxer, USS Halyburton and Patrol Squadron (VP) 8;

Pages H4590–94

Amending the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate: H.R. 749, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate; **Pages H4594–95**

House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act of 2009: H.R. 1679, to provide for the replacement of lost income for employees of the House of Representatives who are members of a reserve component of the armed forces who are on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 196;

Pages H4595–97, H4653–54

Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009: H.R. 586, to direct the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out a joint project at the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 422 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 197; **Pages H4597–H4601, H4654–55**

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a bust of Sojourner Truth: H. Con. Res. 86, to authorize the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a bust of Sojourner Truth; **Pages H4601–02**

Providing for the appointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: S.J. Res. 8, to provide for the appointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; **Pages H4602–03**

Providing for the acceptance of a statue of Ronald Wilson Reagan from the people of California for placement in the U.S. Capitol: H. Con. Res. 101, to provide for the acceptance of a statue of Ronald Wilson Reagan from the people of California for placement in the U.S. Capitol; **Pages H4603–06**

Electronic Waste Research and Development Act: H.R. 1580, amended, to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants for electronic waste reduction research, development, and demonstration projects; **Pages H4606–10**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants for electronic device recycling research, development, and demonstration projects, and for other purposes.” **Page H4610**

Green Energy Education Act of 2009: H.R. 957, to authorize higher education curriculum development and graduate training in advanced energy and green building technologies, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 411 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 199; **Pages H4610–12, H4656**

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week: H. Res. 336, to support the goals and ideals of National Library Week; **Pages H4613–15**

Best Buddies Empowerment for People with Intellectual Disabilities Act of 2009: H.R. 1824, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs; and **Pages H4615–18**

Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act of 2009: H.R. 1626, to make technical amendments to laws containing time periods affecting judicial proceedings. **Pages H4665–66**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Expressing support for designation of March 22, 2009, as “National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day”: H. Res. 247, to express support for designation of March 22, 2009, as “National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day” and **Page H4612**

COPS Improvements Act of 2009: H.R. 1139, amended, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program. **Pages H4656–65**

Budget resolution for FY2010: Pursuant to H. Res. 316, the House agreed to take from the Speaker’s Table S. Con. Res. 13, setting forth the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014; strike all after the resolving clause of S. Con. Res. 13 and insert in lieu thereof the provisions of H. Con. Res. 85 as agreed to by the House; agree to S. Con. Res. 13, as amended; and insist on its amendment and request a conference with the Senate thereon. **Pages H4618–53**

Rejected the Ryan (WI) motion to instruct conferees on the resolution by a recorded vote of 196 ayes to 227 noes, Roll No. 198. **Pages H4655–56**

Later, the Chair appointed the following conferees: Representatives Spratt, Boyd, DeLauro, Ryan (WI), and Hensarling. **Page H4656**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the tragedy at Columbine High School in April 1999 and their families. **Page H4654**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the shooting at the American Civic Association in Binghamton, NY. **Page H4655**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4653–54, H4654–55, H4655–56, H4656. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review producers' views on the effectiveness and operations of the Federal crop insurance program. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies met on Member Requests. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense met in executive session to hold a hearing on Supplemental Request. Testimony was heard from GEN David Petraeus, USA, Commander, U.S. Central Command, Department of Defense.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies met on Members Requests. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on U.S. Coast Guard: Measuring Mission Needs. Testimony was heard from ADM Thad Allen, USCG, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; and John Hutton, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, GAO.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, held a hearing on Bureau of Indian Affairs: Law Enforcement and Violence. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: George Skibine, Acting Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs; and Jerry Gidner, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Subcommittee also met on Member Requests. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on the U.S. Capitol Police, and on the Government Printing Office. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Capitol Police: Phillip Morse, Chief; and Daniel Nichols, Assistant Chief; and Robert Tapella, Public Printer, GPO.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Base Realignment and Closure. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Wayne Arne, Deputy Under Secretary, Installations and Environment; Keith Eastin, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations and Environment; B. J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Installations and Environment; and Kevin W. Billings, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Installations, Environment and Logistics.

AIR SOVEREIGNTY ALERT OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on Air Sovereignty Alert Operations. Testimony was heard from Davi M. D'Agostino, Director, Homeland Defense and Emerging Threats and Warfare, Defense Capabilities and Management Team, GAO; and the following officials of the Department of Defense: Peter F. Verga, Deputy Under Secretary, Policy Integration and Chief of Staff; LTG Daniel J. Darnell, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements, U.S. Air Force; and LTG Harry M. Wyatt, III, USAF, Director, U.S. Air National Guard.

RETIREMENT SECURITY/401(k)

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions held a hearing on the 401(k) Fair Disclosure for Retirement Security Act of 2009. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2009

Committee on Energy and Commerce: and the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment continued joint hearings on The American Clean Energy Security Act of 2009. Testimony was heard from Lisa Jackson, Administrator, EPA; Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy; Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation; John Fetterman, Mayor, Braddock, PA; and public witnesses.

9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT OF 2009

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on H.R. 847, James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009. Testimony was heard from Representatives Nadler, and King of New York; and public witnesses.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 627, Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on New Beginnings: Foreign Policy Priorities in the Obama Administration. Testimony was heard from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2009

Committee on the Judiciary: Began markup of H.R. 1913, Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009.

Will continue tomorrow.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 31, Lumbee Recognition Act; H.R. 1385, Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2009; and H.R. 860, Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2009.

FEDERAL WORKFORCE STATE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia held a hearing entitled "Public Service in the 21st Century: An Examination of the State of the Federal Workforce." Testimony was heard from John Berry, Director, OPM; Yvonne D. Jones, Director, Strategic Issues Team, GAO; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ACT OF 2009

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a non-record vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1145, the "National Water Research and Development Initiative Act of 2009." The rule provides for one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science and Technology. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment

in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of further amendment. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment are waived except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed, may be offered only by a Member designated, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment or demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against such amendments except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Gordon, Representatives Cardoza, Arcuri, Pingree, Stupak, Blumenauer, McCollum, Connolly, Teague, Quigley, Linder, Kirk and Miller of Michigan.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS MONITORING

Committee on Science and Technology: Held a hearing on Monitoring, Measurement and Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions II: The Role of Federal and Academic Research and Monitoring Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Commerce: Alexander MacDonald, Director, Earth Systems Research Laboratory, NOAA; and Patrick D. Gallagher, Deputy Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Dina Kruger, Director, Climate Change Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, EPA; Michael Freilich, Director, Earth Science Division, NASA; Richard Birdsey, Project Leader, Climate, Fire, and Carbon Cycle Science, Forest Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled "The Importance of Technology in an Economic Recovery." Testimony was heard from Edsel M. Brown, Jr., Assistant Administrator, Office of Technology, SBA; Michael Caccuitto, Assistant Director, Office of Small Business Programs, SBIR and STTR Program Administrator, Department of Defense; Jo Anne Goodnight, NIH SBIR/STTR Program Coordinator, Office of Extramural Research, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; Larry James, Acting SBIR/STTR Program Manager, Office of Science, Department of Energy; Kesh S. Narayanan, Division Director, Industrial Innovations and Partnerships,

Directorate for Engineering, NSF; and public witnesses.

HELICOPTER MEDICAL SERVICES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on Oversight of Helicopter Medical Services. Testimony was heard from Representative Salazar; the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Christa Fornarotto, Acting Assistant Secretary, Aviation and International Affairs; and John Allen, Director, Flight Standards Service, FAA; Robert L. Sumwalt, III, Board Member, National Transportation Safety Board; Gerald Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

RAILROAD REHAB/IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program. Testimony was heard from Mark Yachmetz, Associate Administrator, Railroad Development, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation; Patrick Simmons, Rail Director, Department of Transportation, State of North Carolina; and public witnesses.

HEALTH INSURANCE MARKET REFORM

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on reforming the health insurance market. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BRIEFINGS—AFRICOM UPDATE AND FBI UPDATE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on AFRICOM Update. The Committee was briefed by Terry Ford, Director, Intelligence and Knowledge Development, U.S. Africa Command, Department of Defense.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on FBI Update. The Committee was briefed by Robert Mueller, Director, FBI, Department of Justice.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Climate Change. The Subcommittee was briefed by John Phillips, Chief Scientist, CIA; MG Rich Engel, USAF (ret.), Director, Climate Change and State Stability Program, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Darrell G. Herd, Chief Research Scientist, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense; and Ralph Cicerone, President, National Academy of Science.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 351)

H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws. Signed on April 21, 2009. (Public Law 111-13)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the funding of the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, and the Office of the U.S. Capitol Police, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ronald C. Sims, of Washington, to be Deputy Secretary, Peter A. Kovar, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, Helen R. Kanovsky, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, David H. Stevens, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commission, and John D. Trasvina, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, David S. Cohen, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorist Financing, and Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, 10:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kristina M. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary, Steven Elliot Koonin, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Ines R. Triay, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, and Scott Blake Harris, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of Energy, and Hilary Chandler Tompkins, of New Mexico, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, 2 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider the nomination of Regina McCarthy, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine technology neutrality in energy tax, focusing on issues and options, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine soldiers' stories from the Afghan war, 10:15 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine State and local stimulus funding, 9 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Yvette Roubideaux, of Arizona, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., HVC-304.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, hearing to review Federal food safety systems at the USDA, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, on Department of Justice, 2:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, on U.S. Supreme Court, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Member Requests, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on Public Witnesses, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on Architect of the Capitol, and CBO, 2 p.m., H-144 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Outside Witnesses, 10 a.m., and on Related Agencies, 2 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, on Fiscal Year 2009 Supplemental Appropriations Request, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on Effective Counterinsurgency: The Future of the U.S.-Pakistan Military Partnership, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, hearing on Army aircraft programs, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Defense Acquisition Reform Panel, on measuring value and risk in services contracts, 8 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions, hearing on Ways to Reduce the Cost of Health Insurance for Employers, Employees and Their Families, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet, hearing on Communications Networks and Consumer Privacy: Recent Development, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on The American Clean Energy Security Act of 2009, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, hearing on H.R. 1728, Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, hearing on U.S. Assistance to Africa:

A Call for Foreign Aid Reform, 11:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, to continue mark up of H.R. 1913, Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009; and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1748, Fight Fraud Act of 2009; H.R. 1788, False Claims Act Correction Act of 2009; H.R. 1676, PACT Act; H.R. 1667, War Profiteering Prevention Act of 2009; and H.R. 1741, Witness Security and Protection Grant Program Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 669, Non-native Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1121, Blue Ridge Parkway and Town of Blowing Rock Land Exchange Act of 2009; and H.R. 1376, Waco Mammoth National Monument Establishment Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to mark up the following measures: H. Res. 298, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009, and throughout the year; H. Res. 340, Expressing sympathy to the victims, families, and friends of the tragic act of violence at the American Civic Association in Binghamton, NY; H. Res. 341, Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims and families of the shootings in Geneva and Coffee Counties in Alabama, on March 10, 2009; H. Res. 342, Expressing support for designation of May 2, 2009, as "Vietnamese Refugees Day;" and H.R. 1271, To designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 2351 West Atlantic Boulevard in Pompano Beach, FL, as the "Elijah Pat Larkins Post Office Building," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing entitled "The H-2B Guestworker Program and Improving the Department of Labor's Enforcement of the Rights of Guestworkers," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, to continue hearings on Oversight of NOAA's Geostationary Weather Satellite System, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on the Role of the SBIR and STTR Programs in Stimulating Innovation at Small High-Tech Businesses, 1 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, hearing on An Independent FEMA: Restoring the Nation's Capabilities for Effective Emergency Management and Disaster Response, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on H.R. 952, COMBAT PTSD Act, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on VA Non-competitive Contracts, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing to review the implementation and impact of the unemployment insurance

provisions included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Intelligence Community Diversity Report, 1 p.m., 304-HVC.

Joint Meetings

Joint Committee on the Library: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures for committee operations, and committee's

rules of procedure for the 111th Congress, 11:30 a.m., SC-4, Capitol.

Joint Committee on Printing: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures for committee operations, and committee's rules of procedure for the 111th Congress, 11:45 a.m., SC-4, Capitol.

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine a quarterly report by the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), 9:30 a.m., 210, Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 23

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, April 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 386, Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 1145—National Water Research and Development Initiative Act (Subject to a Rule).

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