

GUNS IN SCHOOLS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Youth Violence held hearings on S. 890, to revise certain provisions of the Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990 to enable the Federal Government to assist States in their efforts to ensure the safe environment of American schools, receiving testimony from Walter Dellinger, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice; Virginia Secretary of Public Safety Jerry Kilgore, Richmond; Charles E. Shoffner, Union County School District, Tazwell, Tennessee; Robert M.A. Johnson, Anoka, Minnesota, on behalf of the National District Attorneys Association; Henry E. Hudson, Mays and Valentine, Alexandria, Virginia; Bob Wortham, Reaud, Morgan, and Quinn, Beaumont, Texas; Robert Nelson, Washington High School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Don Cahill, Fraternal Order of Police, Washington, D.C.; Barry Friedman, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee; Larry Kramer, New York University School of Law, New York, New York; and David Strauss, University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM ACT

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee held hearings on S. 1028, to provide increased access to health care benefits, to provide increased port-

ability of health care benefits, to provide increased security of health care benefits, and to increase the purchasing power of individuals and small employers, receiving testimony from Mark V. Nadel, Associate Director for National and Public Health Issues, Health, Education, and Human Services Division, General Accounting Office; Kevin Haugh, Institute for Health Policy Solutions, and Mary Nell Lehnhard, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, both of Washington, D.C.; Gary Kushner, National Small Business United, Kalamazoo, Michigan; David R. Astar, EMPHESYS-Employers Health Insurance, Green Bay, Wisconsin; Josephine W. Musser, Madison, Wisconsin, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Susan M. Rogan, Herndon, Virginia; and Tom Hall, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

WHITEWATER MATTERS

Special Committee to Investigate the Whitewater Development Corporation and Related Matters: Committee held hearings to examine issues relative to the President's involvement with the Whitewater Development Corporation, focusing on certain events following the death of Deputy White House Counsel Vincent Foster, receiving testimony from Webster Hubbell, former Associate Attorney General.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: Eight public bills, H.R. 2049–2056; and two resolutions, H.J. Res. 102 and H. Res. 192 were introduced. **Pages H7178–79**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 714, to establish the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie in the State of Illinois, amended (H. Rept. 104–191, Part 1);

H.R. 1943, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to deem certain municipal wastewater treatment facilities discharging into ocean waters as the equivalent of secondary treatment facilities (H. Rept. 104–192); and

H.R. 1858, to reduce paperwork and additional regulatory burdens for depository institutions, amended (H. Rept. 104–193). **Page H7178**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designates Representative Shaw to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7073**

Recess: House recessed at 9:49 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H7079**

Committees to Sit: The following committees and their subcommittees received permission to sit today during the proceedings of the House under the 5-minute rule: Committees on Agriculture, Commerce, Government Reform and Oversight, House Oversight, International Relations, Judiciary, Resources, and Small Business. **Page H7099**

Presidential Message—National Security: Read a message from the President wherein he reports the Administration's actions and expenses directly related to the exercise of powers and authorities conferred by the declaration of a national emergency and expanded sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 104–101). **Pages H7100–02**

Interior Appropriations: By a yea-and-nay vote of 244 yeas to 181 nays, Roll No. 523, the House passed H.R. 1977, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996.

Pages H7102-35

Rejected the Yates motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations. Page H7135

Agreed To:

The Gutknecht amendment that prohibits the use of funds for the Mississippi River Corridor Heritage Commission;

Pages H7107-09

The Parker amendment that bars the use of funds for the Energy Department to plan, propose, issue, or prescribe any new or amended energy efficiency standard under the Codes and Standards Program and makes a reduction of \$12.8 million to DOE's energy conservation account (agreed to by a recorded vote of 261 yeas to 165 noes, with 1 voting "present," Roll No. 519);

Pages H7109-13

The Olver amendment that prohibits the use of funds for the Energy Department to plan, propose, issue, or prescribe any new or amended energy efficiency standard through the Codes and Standards Program if the Attorney General determines that the standard is likely to cause significant anti-competitive effects;

Pages H7104-05, H7113-15

The Zimmer amendment that prohibits the use of funds from being used to demolish the bridge between Jersey City, New Jersey, and Ellis Island or to prevent pedestrian use of such bridge so long as it meets generally accepted safety standards for foot traffic (agreed to by a recorded vote of 230 yeas to 196 noes, Roll No. 520);

Pages H7115-18

The Klug amendment that prohibits the use of funds to be obligated or expended to accept or process applications for a patent for any mining or mill site claim or issuance of a patent for any such claim (agreed by a recorded vote of 271 yeas to 153 noes, Roll No. 521); and

Pages H7118-23

The Cremeans amendment that prohibits funds from being used to acquire land in Ohio's Lawrence, Monroe, or Washington counties for the Wayne National Forest.

Pages H7123-24

Rejected:

The Schaefer amendment that sought to strike language allowing DOE to sell up to seven million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and deposit the receipts in a fund for decommissioning the Weeks Island site and reduces the SPR appropriation by \$100 million (rejected by a recorded vote of 157 yeas to 267 noes, Roll No. 517). This amendment was debated on July 17;

Pages H7103-04

The Chabot amendment that sought to strike all funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (rejected by a recorded vote of 148 yeas to

277 noes, Roll No. 518). This amendment was debated on July 17; and

Page H7104

The Kennedy amendment that sought to prohibit the use of funds by the Forest Service for construction of roads or the preparation of timber sales in roadless areas comprising 3,000 acres or more (rejected by a recorded vote of 166 yeas to 255 noes, Roll No. 522). Earlier, a point of order was overruled by the Chair.

Pages H7125-31

A point of order was sustained against the Owens amendment that sought to require companies that extract minerals from Federal lands to pay an 8% royalty on the value of the minerals produced. Subsequently, rejected an appeal of the ruling of the Chair that sustained the point of order by voice vote.

Pages H7105-07

Agriculture Appropriations: House agreed to H. Res. 188, providing for consideration of H.R. 1976, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996. Agreed to order the previous question on the resolution by a yea-and-nay vote of 242 yeas and 145 nays, Roll No. 524, on which the vote was postponed from July 17.

Pages H7135-36

Treasury—Post Office Appropriations: House completed all general debate and began consideration of amendment on H.R. 2020, making appropriations for Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996; but came to no resolution thereon. Consideration of amendments will continue on Wednesday, July 19.

Pages H7083-99, H7136-49

Pending when the committee rose was the Hoyer amendment that seeks to strike the prohibition on the use of funds to pay for abortions under the Federal Employees Health Benefits program.

Pages H7145-49

Agreed to the Kelly amendment that reduces by \$3.6 million funding for the Internal Revenue Service information systems and increases by \$2.6 million funding for salaries and expenses for the United States Customs Service.

Page H7139

H. Res. 190, the rule under which the bill is being considered, was agreed to earlier by voice vote. Agreed to order the previous question on the resolution by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 516.

Pages H7083-92

House Financial Audit: By a yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas, the House agreed to H. Res. 192, providing for additional auditing by the House Inspector General.

Pages H7149-52, H7154-56

Amendments Ordered Printed: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H7179–80.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes, and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H7091–92, H7103–04, H7104, H7113, H7117–18, H7122–23, H7131, H7135, H7135–36, and H7152. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Agriculture: Ordered reported amended the following bills: H.R. 714, Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995; H.R. 701, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey lands to the city of Rolla, MO; and H.R. 1874, to modify the boundaries of the Talladega National Forest, AL.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the VA, HUD and Independent Agencies appropriations for fiscal year 1996.

SUPERFUND REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Hazardous Materials continued hearings on the reauthorization of the Superfund program, with emphasis on Financing and Liability Issues. Testimony was heard from Lois J. Schiffer, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice; and Steven A. Herman, Associate Administrator, Enforcement, EPA.

Hearings continue July 20.

MEDICARE PROGRAM FUTURE

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment continued hearings on the Future of the Medicare program. Testimony was heard from Judy Feder, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue July 25.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT; REGULATORY SUNSET AND REVIEW ACT

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 1655, Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996; and H.R. 994, amended, Regulatory Sunset and Review Act of 1995.

HOUSE AUDIT

Committee on House Oversight: Committee released a report entitled "The House Audit."

The Committee also held a hearing on the results of the financial and operational audit. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Office of Inspector General, House of Representatives: John Lainhart, Inspector General; and Craig W. Silverthorne, Director, Contract Audit Services; and Tom Craren, Engagement Partner, Price Waterhouse.

FUTURE OF ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade held a joint hearing on the Future of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). Testimony was heard from Charlene Barshefky, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; Sandra J. Kristoff, U.S. Coordinator for APEC Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

BEIJING CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights held a hearing on the Beijing Conference on Women. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PARTIAL-BIRTH BAN ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported amended H.R. 1833, Partial-Birth Ban Act of 1995.

IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims continued markup of H.R. 1915, Immigration in the National Interest Act of 1995.

Will continue tomorrow.

FEDERAL OIL AND GAS ROYALTY SIMPLIFICATION AND FAIRNESS ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 1975, Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act of 1995. Testimony was heard from Cynthia Quaterman, Director, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on establishment of a National Institute for the Environment. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.