

Wednesday, March 19, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed the Working Families Flexibility Act of 1997

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2491–S2574

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 471–481, and S. Con. Res. 13.

Pages S2552–53

Measures Passed:

Independent Counsel: By 55 yeas to 44 nays (1 responding present) (Vote No. 32), Senate passed S.J. Res. 22, to express the sense of the Congress concerning the application by the Attorney General for the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate allegations of illegal fundraising in the 1996 Presidential election campaign. Pages S2491–99

Victim Allocution Clarification: Senate passed H.R. 924, to amend title 18, United States Code, to give further assurance to the right of victims of crime to attend and observe the trials of those accused of the crime, clearing the bill for the President. Pages S2507–09

Measure Rejected:

Independent Counsel: By 58 yeas to 41 nays (1 responding present) (Vote No. 33), Senate tabled S.J. Res. 23, expressing the sense of the Congress that the Attorney General should exercise her best professional judgment, without regard to political pressures, on whether to invoke the independent counsel process to investigate alleged criminal misconduct relating to any election campaign.

Pages S2499–S2501

Appointments:

National Civil Aviation Review Commission: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 104–264, appointed the following individuals to the National Civil Aviation Review Commission: Linda Barker, of South Dakota, and William Bacon, of South Dakota. Page S2573

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the report of a proposed rescission of budgetary resources; which was referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, to the Committee on Appropriations, to the Committee on the Budget, and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (PM–23). Page S2552

Transmitting the report on environmental quality; referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (PM–24). Page S2552

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations: By 76 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. 34 EX), Merrick B. Garland, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Pages S2536, S2574

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James H. Atkins, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board for a term expiring September 25, 2000.

Kathryn O’Leary Higgins, of South Dakota, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

Kevin Emanuel Marchman, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Richard Thomas White, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States for a term expiring September 30, 1999.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Pages S2573–74

Messages From the President: Page S2552

Messages From the House: Page S2552

Measures Referred: Page S2552

Statements on Introduced Bills: Pages S2553–69

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S2569–70

Amendments Submitted: Pages S2570–71

Authority for Committees: Page S2571

Additional Statements: Pages S2571–73

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—34) Pages S2499, S2501, S2536

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:20 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 20, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2573.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—SEC

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Securities and Exchange Commission, receiving testimony from Arthur Levitt, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission.

Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held closed hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for defense intelligence programs, receiving testimony from George J. Tenet, Acting Director, and Nora Slakin, Executive Director, both of the Central Intelligence Agency; and Gen. Patrick M. Hughes, USA, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Gen. Kenneth A. Minihan, USAF, Director, National Security Agency, and Keith R. Hall, Acting Director, National Reconnaissance Office, all of the Department of Defense.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, April 9.

DEFENSE ACQUISITION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Acquisition and Technology held hearings to examine the status of acquisition reform in the Department of Defense, receiving testimony from Paul G. Kaminski, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology; John W. Douglass, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; Lt. Gen. George Muellner, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition; Kenneth Oscar, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Procurement; Thomas J. Madden, Venable, Baetjer, Howard, and Civiletti, and Karen L. Wilson, Allied Signal, Inc., both of Washington, D.C.; John Delane, DELJEN, Inc., Rolling Hills Es-

tates, California; and Bert M. Concklin, Professional Services Council, Vienna, Virginia.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—MILITARY READINESS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on military readiness accounts, receiving testimony from Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Braaten, USMC, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs and Resources, Headquarters Marine Corps; Rear Adm. James S. Amerault, USN, Director, Office of Budget/Fiscal Management Division; Maj. Gen. Roger G. Thompson, Jr., USA, Director of Army Budget, Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management; and Maj. Gen. George T. Stringer, USAF, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Office of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force/Financial Management Comptroller.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, receiving testimony from John W. Douglass, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; and Gen. Charles C. Krulak, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces resumed hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on Department of Energy weapons programs, receiving testimony from Victor H. Reis, Assistant Secretary, Defense Program, Department of Defense; Gen. Eugene E. Habiger, USAF, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strategic Command; Sigfried S. Hecker, Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory, C. Paul Robinson, President, Sandia National Laboratories, and Bruce Tarter, Director, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, all of the Department of Energy; Ambrose Schwallie, Westinghouse/Savannah River Corporation, Aiken, South Carolina; Karen K. Clegg, Allied Signal, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri; F.P. Gustavson, Lockheed Martin Energy Systems, Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and William Weinreich, Mason Hanger/Pantex Plant, Amarillo, Texas.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

1998 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee met to discuss certain functions of the proposed fiscal year 1998 budget resolution.

Committee recessed subject to call.

PRO-CODE ACT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee held hearings on S. 377, to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption, receiving testimony from Louis J. Freeh, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; William P. Crowell, Deputy Director, National Security Agency, Department of Defense; William A. Reinsch, Under Secretary, Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce; David L. Aaron, United States Permanent Representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; James Barksdale, Netscape Communications, Inc., Mountain View, California; Edward J. Black, Computer Communications Industry Association, Washington, D.C.; and Joseph R. Kretz, FMC Corporation, Chicago, Illinois.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

UNIVERSAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications held hearings to examine the Federal Communications Commission implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, focusing on efforts to implement universal telephone service reform and FCC proposals to assess new per-minute fees on Internet service providers, receiving testimony from Gene Kimmelman, Consumers Union, Washington, D.C.; Jay Kitchen, Personal Communications Industry Association, Alexandria, Virginia; Joan Mandeville, Montana Telephone Association, Great Falls; and Donn Wonnell, Pacific Telcom, Inc., Vancouver, Washington.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure resumed hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, focusing on environmental programs and statewide and metropolitan planning, receiving testimony from Jane F. Garvey, Acting Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation; David M. Gardiner, Assistant Administrator for Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency; Thomas Walker, Wisconsin Road Builders Association, Madison, on behalf of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association; Hal Hiemstra,

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, Meg Maguire, Scenic America, and Hank Dittmar, Surface Transportation Policy Project, all of Washington, D.C.; Leon S. Kenison, New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Concord; Lawrence D. Dahms, Oakland Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Oakland, California; M. Michael Cooke, Board of Douglas County Commissioners, Castle Rock, Colorado; Guillermo V. Vidal, Colorado Department of Transportation, Denver; and Timothy S. Stowe, Anderson and Associates, Blacksburg, Virginia, on behalf of the American Consulting Engineers Council.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

MEDICARE CHOICES

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings to examine proposals to improve choices under the Medicare program, receiving testimony from Bruce C. Vladeck, Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Michael J. Thompson, Price Waterhouse, on behalf of the American Academy of Actuaries, and Diane Archer, Medicare Rights Center, both of New York, New York; and Mary Lou Martin, Blue Cross of California, Long Beach, on behalf of the Health Insurance Association of America and the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Association.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services: Senators Cochran (Chair), Stevens, Collins, Domenici, Nickles, Specter, Levin, Akaka, Durbin, Torricelli, and Cleland.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia: Senators Brownback (Chair), Roth, Specter, Lieberman, and Cleland.

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations: Senators Collins (Chair), Roth, Stevens, Brownback, Domenici, Cochran, Nickles, Specter, Glenn, Levin, Lieberman, Akaka, Durbin, Torricelli, and Cleland.

JUVENILE CRIME

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings to examine efforts by private individuals, community organizations, and religious groups to prevent juvenile crime, after receiving testimony from Steve Young, San Francisco, California, on behalf of the Sport, Education & Values Foundation; Kery Oldroyd and Amador Guzman, both of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, Utah; Rev. Jeffrey L. Brown, Union Baptist Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts, on behalf of the

Ten Point Coalition of Boston; Mary Lyman Jackson, Exodus Youth Services, Inc., Gaithersburg, Maryland; and Father Joseph Del Vecchio, Archdiocese of Washington, Washington, D.C.

INTERNET CRIMES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information concluded hearings to examine the scope of Internet crimes affecting consumers and the Federal response, after receiving testimony from Senator Leahy; Robert S. Litt, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, and Charles L. Owens, Chief, Financial Crimes Section, Federal Bureau of Investigation, both of the Department of Justice; Michael C. Stenger, Special Agent in Charge, Financial Crimes Division, U.S. Secret Service, Department of the Treasury; and Wisconsin Attorney General James E. Doyle, Madison.

FDA REFORM

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee held hearings on proposals to reform the performance, efficiency, and use of resources of the Food and Drug Administration, receiving testimony from Michael A. Friedman, Lead Deputy Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner for Operations, D. Bruce Burlington, Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Fred R. Shank, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Stephen F. Sundlof, Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and Kathryn C. Zoon, Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, all of the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 1119–1135; 1 private bill, H.R. 1136; and 1 resolution, H.J. Res. 64, were introduced. **Pages H1185–86**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H. Res. 100, providing for consideration of H.R. 1122, to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions (H. Rept. 105–32); and

H. Res. 101, providing for consideration of H. Res. 91, providing amounts for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fifth Congress (H. Rept. 105–33).

Page H1185

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Taylor of North Carolina to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1113

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Ehrlich wherein he requested a leave of absence from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. Subsequently, and without objection, the Chair accepted the committee resignation.

Page H1115

Working Families Flexibility Act: By a recorded vote of 222 ayes to 210 noes, Roll No. 59, the House passed H.R. 1, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

Pages H1124–56

Agreed to the Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Page H1155

Agreed to:

Goodling en bloc amendment that requires continuous employment of at least 1,000 hours within the last year before an employee may agree to or receive compensatory time and reduces the maximum hours of compensatory time accrued by the employee from 240 to 160 hours (agreed to by a recorded vote of 408 ayes to 19 noes, Roll No. 55); and

Pages H1138–40

Boyd amendment that sunsets the private sector compensatory time provision after five years (agreed to by a recorded vote of 390 ayes to 36 noes, Roll No. 56);

Pages H1140–41

Rejected:

Owens amendment that sought to exempt employees who earn less than 2.5 times the minimum wage (rejected by a recorded vote of 182 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 57); and

Pages H1141–44

Miller of California amendment in the nature of a substitute, as modified, that sought to prohibit employers from soliciting employees to take compen-

satory time; require the Secretary of Labor to define what constitutes an employee decision to accept it; prohibit employers from offering compensatory time unless the employer offers all employees 24 hours of leave that may be used for family educational activities or medical care; prohibit compensatory time to employees who work less than 35 hours per week, work less than 12 months, are seasonal, or are employed in the construction, agricultural, garment, or any industry designated by the Secretary of Labor; provide that an employer may not deny compensatory time where the leave is protected by the Family and Medical Leave Act; limit the maximum hours accrued to 80 hours annually, specifies that employers may not condition benefits or availability of overtime upon an employee's decision to accept, reject, or use compensatory time; and create a commission on workplace flexibility (rejected by a recorded vote of 193 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 58).

Pages H1144–45

Earlier, agreed by unanimous consent, to modify the Miller of California amendment, as specified in House Report 105–31 accompanying the rule, by making technical changes to Sections 2 and 3.

Page H1146

H. Res. 99, the rule under which the bill was considered, was agreed to earlier by a yea-and-nay vote of 229 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 54.

Pages H1115–24

Presidential Messages: Read the following messages from the President:

Budgetary Rescission—Department of Energy: Message wherein he transmits his report concerning a proposed rescission affecting the Department of Energy—referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–57); and

Page H1156

Environmental Quality: Message wherein he transmits the Twenty-fifth Annual Report on Environmental Quality—referred to the Committee on Resources.

Pages H1156–57

Referral: One Senate-passed joint resolution, S.J. Res. 22, was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Page H1184

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1131.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1123–24, H1139–40, H1141, H1144, H1154–55, and H1155–56. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Committee Meetings

TREATMENT OF MINORITY AND LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCERS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Department Operations, Nutrition, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to review treatment of minority and limited resource producers by the United States Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from Robert Robinson, Director, Food and Agriculture Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Federal Drug Administration, and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Natural Resources Conservation Service. Testimony was heard from James R. Lyons, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, USDA.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary held a hearing on Drug Enforcement and on International Organizations and Peacekeeping. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Thomas A. Constantine, Administrator, DEA; Carol DiBattiste, Director, Executive Office, U.S. Attorney; and Mary Lee Warren, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Interagency Crime, Drug Enforcement and Task Forces; and the following officials of the Department of State: Ambassador Bill Richardson, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations; and Princeton N. Lyman, Acting Assistant Secretary, International Organization Affairs.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on the Secretary of Energy. Testimony was heard from Federico Peña, Secretary of Energy.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs held a hearing on AID Administrator. Testimony was heard from Brian Atwood, Administrator, AID, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on Smithsonian Institution. Testimony was heard from I. Michael Heyman, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on the Railroad Retirement Board; the U.S. Institute of Peace; the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and the National Labor Relations Board. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Railroad Retirement Board: Martin J. Dickman, Inspector General, Glen L. Bower, Chairman, V.M. Speakman, Jr., Labor Member, and Jerome F. Keever, Management Member, Richard H. Solomon, President, U.S. Institute of Peace; Ambassador Richard W. Carlson, President and CEO, The Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and Fred Feinstein, General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing on Military Quality of Life and on Department of Defense Medical Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: MCPO John Hagen, USN, Master Chief Petty Officer, Navy; Sgt. Maj. L.G. Lee, USMC; CMS Eric W. Benken, USAF, Chief Master Sgt., Air Force; Stephen Joseph, Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs; Lt. Gen. Ronald Blanck, USA, Surgeon General, Army; Vice Adm. Harold M. Hoenig, USN, Surgeon General, Navy; and Lt. Gen. Charles H. Roadman, Jr., USAF, Surgeon General, Air Force.

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation held a hearing on Federal Transit Administration and on Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Testimony was heard from Gordon Linton, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation; and Richard White, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

**TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND
GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government held a hearing on the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Testimony was heard from Barry McCaffrey, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy.

**VA, HUD, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS**

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies concluded hearings on the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Testimony was heard from Andrew M. Cuomo, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

FINANCIAL SERVICES MODERNIZATION

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises continued hearings on Financial Services Modernization. Testimony was heard from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

MEDICARE PROVIDER SERVICE NETWORKS

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment held a hearing on Medicare Provider Service Networks. Testimony was heard from Representatives Greenwood and Stenholm; and public witnesses.

WTO TELECOM AGREEMENT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on WTO Telecom Agreement: Results and Next Steps. Testimony was heard from Charlene Barshefsky, U.S. Trade Representative; Reed E. Hundt, Chairman, FCC; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on the Postal Service held an oversight hearing of the United States Postal Service: Inspector General U.S. Postal Service; Governors of the U.S. Postal Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Postal Service: Karla W. Corcoran, Inspector General; Tirso del Junco, Chairman; Susan E. Alvarado, Bert H. Mackie, Einar V. Dyhrkopp and S. David Fineman, all Governors.

OVERSIGHT—OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Committee on House Oversight: Held an oversight hearing on Office of Compliance. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Office of Compli-

ance: Glen Nager, Chairman; Ricky Silberman, Executive Director; and Lawrence Lorber, Board member.

AFRICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Africa held a hearing on Economic Development of Africa's Natural Resources. Testimony was heard from Representative Shaw; and public witnesses.

HELMS-BURTON CHALLENGES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, hearing on Interfering with U.S. National Security Interests: The World Trade Organization and the European Union Challenge to the Helms-Burton bill. Testimony was heard from Senator Torricelli; Representatives Diaz-Balart and Menendez; and public witnesses.

U.S. POLICY—WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held an overview hearing on U.S. Policy in the Western Hemisphere. Testimony was heard from Jeffrey Davidow, Assistant Secretary, Inter-American Affairs, Department of State; and Mark Schneider, Assistant Administrator, Latin American and Caribbean Affairs, AID, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

**CHURCH ARSON PREVENTION ACT
IMPLEMENTATION**

Committee on the Judiciary: Held an oversight hearing on the implementation of the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-155). Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Isabelle Katz Pinzler, Acting Assistant Attorney General; and Patricia Glenn, National Coordinator, Church Burning Response Team, Community Relations Service; James E. Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Enforcement, Department of the Treasury; Jacquie M. Lawing, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Economic Development Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and public witnesses.

DOD AUTHORIZATION

Committee on National Security: Continued hearings on the Administration's fiscal year 1998 Department of Defense authorization. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Gen. J. H. Binford Peay, III, USA, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Central Command; George A. Joulwan, USA, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. European Command; and Gen. Wesley K. Clark, USA, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Southern Command.

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION AUTHORIZATIONS

Committee on National Security: Merchant Marine Panel held a hearing on fiscal year 1998 Maritime Administration authorization request and related matters, and the fiscal year 1998 Panama Canal Commission authorization request and related matters. Testimony was heard from Albert J. Herberger, Administrator, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation; and the following officials of the Panama Canal Commission: Joe R. Reeder, Under Secretary of the Army and Chairman of the Board; and Alberto Aleman, Administrator.

DOD AUTHORIZATION—BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Procurement and Subcommittee on Military Research and Development held a joint hearing on fiscal year 1998 Department of Defense authorization request—Ballistic Missile Defense. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Brig. Gen. Curtis H. Emery, USA, Director, Theater Air and Missile Defenses; and J. David Martin, Deputy for Strategic Relations, both with the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization; and public witnesses.

U.S.-PUERTO RICO POLITICAL STATUS ACT

Committee on Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 856, United States-Puerto Rico Political Status Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Burton of Indiana, Gutierrez, McCollum, Serrano, Deutsch, and Velazquez; Pedro Rossello, Governor, Puerto Rico; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; OVERSIGHT—FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans approved for full Committee action the following measures: H.R. 39, to reauthorize the African Elephant Conservation Act, and H. Con. Res. 8, amended, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the significance of maintaining the health and stability of coral reef ecosystems.

The Subcommittee also held an oversight hearing on the budget request for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services for Fiscal Year 1998. Testimony was heard from John Rogers, Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION BAN

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule on H.R. 1122, to amend title 18, United States

Code, to ban partial-birth abortions. The rule provides two hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. Finally the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hyde, Canady, Barr of Georgia, Greenwood, Conyers, Frank of Massachusetts, Scott, Jackson-Lee, Hoyer, and Obey.

COMMITTEE FUNDING

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 9 to 4, a modified closed rule on H. Res. 91, providing amounts for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fifth Congress, without the intervention of any point of order. The rule provides that the Committee on House Oversight amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the resolution shall be considered as adopted. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Oversight.

The rule provides that the further amendment specified in the report of the Committee on Rules, if offered by a member designated in the report, shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, and shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Thomas, Gejdenson, and Waxman.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on fiscal year 1998 Budget Authorization Request: Department of Energy, Fossil Energy R & D, Clean Coal Technology Program, and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and H.R. 363, to amend section 2118 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to extend the Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination Program. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Patricia Fry Godley, Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy, and Christine A. Ervin, Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Paul Gilman, Executive Director, Commission of Life Sciences, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences; and a public witness.

NASA AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on fiscal year 1998 NASA Authorization: Mission to Planet Earth. Testimony was heard from the following officials of NASA:

William F. Townsend, Associate Administrator, Office of Mission to Planet Earth; and Sam Venneri, Chief Technologist; Steven C. Wofsy; and public witnesses.

TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Technology held a hearing on funding needs for the Technology Administration and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Testimony was heard from Mary Good, Under Secretary, Technology, Department of Commerce.

BUDGET REQUEST—U.S. COAST GUARD AND FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on the Administration's fiscal year 1998 budget request for the U.S. Coast Guard and the Federal Maritime Commission. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Adm. Robert Kramek, Commandant; Master Chief Petty Officer Eric A. Trent, and Everette L. Tucker, Jr., USCG, Commodore, Auxiliary, all with the U.S. Coast Guard; and Harold J. Creel, Jr., Chairman, Maritime Commission; and public witnesses.

CALIFORNIA FLOODING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on recent flooding in California. Testimony was heard from Representatives Herger, Fazio, Pombo and Miller of California; from the following officials of FEMA: James Lee Witt, Director; and Lacy Suiter, Executive Associate Director, Response and Recovery Program; Maj. Gen. Russell L. Fuhrman, USA, Director, Civil Works, Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army; Warren M. Lee, Director, Watersheds and Wetlands, USDA; Gerry A. Jackson, Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

BUDGET VIEWS AND ESTIMATES; BUDGET PROPOSAL SAVING AND INVESTMENT PROVISIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Approved Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 1998 for transmission to the Committee on the Budget.

The Committee also held a hearing on savings and investment provisions in the Administration's fiscal year 1998 budget proposal. Testimony was heard from Representatives McCrery, Neal, Dunn, Christensen, Dreier, Cox of California, Peterson of

Minnesota, Deutsch, Pomeroy and McCarthy of Missouri; Jane G. Gravelle, Senior Specialist, Economic Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

BUDGET—OVERHEAD COLLECTION

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in an executive session to hold a hearing on the Budget—overhead collection. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

AUTO INSURANCE REFORM

Joint Economic Committee: Committee held hearings to examine the problems of the current automobile insurance system and the need for reform, focusing on more insurance options, better service, and reduced premiums and litigation costs, receiving testimony from New Jersey Governor Christine Whitman, Trenton; Michael Horowitz, Hudson Institute, J. Robert Hunter, Consumer Federation of America, and Stephen Carroll, RAND Institute for Civil Justice, all of Washington, D.C.; and Jeffrey O'Connell, University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans, after receiving testimony from Gregory C. Reed, Disabled American Veterans, Washington, D.C., who was accompanied by several of his associates.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1997 Senate

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research, 9 a.m., SR-332.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for atomic energy defense activities of the Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold hearings on the implications of the proposed acquisition of Conrail by CSX Corporation, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for international narcotics, crime and law enforcement, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates

for fiscal year 1998 for the United Nations, 2 p.m., S-146, Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on Department of Energy national security programs and to review environmental management activities, 10 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Regulatory Relief, to hold hearings to examine the Federal Reserve System's proposal to modify firewalls that separate commercial banks and securities affiliates, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine, to hold hearings on S. 414, to amend the Shipping Act of 1984 to encourage competition in international shipping and growth of United States imports and exports, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to resume hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation, to resume hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss the needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure the Park Service will continue to meet its responsibilities well into the next century, 2 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works, Business meeting, to consider pending nominations, time to be announced, S-216, Capitol.

Committee on Finance, to continue hearings on improving Medicare choices, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine the role of the Department of Commerce in United States trade policy, promotion and regulation, and opportunities for reform and consolidation, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary, business meeting, to consider pending calendar business, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Labor and Human Resources, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold oversight hearings to review the operations and budget of the Congressional Research Service and the Library of Congress, 9:30 a.m., SR-301.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Veterans of World War I, and the Vietnam Veterans of America, 9:30 a.m., 345 Cannon Building.

Notice

For a listing of Senate committee meetings scheduled ahead, see pages E525-26 in today's Record.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Federal Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on public witnesses, 10:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on Department of Commerce, Science and Technology Programs, 10 a.m., and on Department of States Administration of Foreign Affairs, 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, on Secretary of Agriculture, 10 a.m., and on Forest Service Chief, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, on Office of AIDS Research; Office of the Director; and Building and Facilities, 10 a.m., and on National Commission on Libraries; National Council on Disability; Physician Payment Review Commission; and on Prospective Payment Assessment Commission, 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, executive, on readiness, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Transportation, on Federal Railroad Administration, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, on GSA, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, to mark up H.R. 607, Homeowners Insurance Protection Act; and to consider the Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 1998 for transmission to the Committee on the Budget, 1:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, hearing on International Monetary Fund, 11 a.m., 2128 Rayburn

Committee on Commerce, to mark up H.R. 1003, Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials, hearing and mark up of H.R. 688, Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Amendments Act of 1997, 1 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, to continue oversight hearings on the Department of Education: Mission, Management, and Performance, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice, hearing on Improving Defense Inventory Management, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, hearing on the Administration's Security Assistance Request for fiscal year 1998, 10:15 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, hearing on H.R. 695, Security and Freedom Through Encryption (SAFE) Act, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, hearing on reforming juvenile justice in America and related legislative proposals, 9:30 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on National Security, Morale Welfare and Recreation Panel, hearing on military resale system, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Procurement and Subcommittee on Military Research and Development, joint hearing on fiscal year 1998 Department of Defense authorization request—Information Warfare, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on Bureau of Land Management final rulemaking on bonding of hardrock mining operations: Why was there no meaningful public comment solicited? 12:30 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 799, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Hells Canyon Wilderness in the States of Oregon and Idaho to exclude an established Forest Service road inadvertently included in the wilderness, and H.R. 838, to require adoption of a management plan for Hells Canyon National Recreation Area that allows appropriate use of motorized and nonmotorized river craft in the recreation area, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, oversight hearing on Central Valley Project Operations and Administration Reform Process, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on fiscal year 1998 Budget Authorization Request: Department of Energy, Nuclear Energy; Environment, Safety and Health; and Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (Non-Defense), 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Tech-

nology of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, joint hearing on Year 2000: Implications for the Commercial Sector, 1 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on review of Coopers and Lybrand Independent Financial Assessment of the FAA, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to consider the Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 1998 for transmission to the Committee on the Budget; and to mark up the following: a measure to allow revision of veterans benefits decisions based on clear and unmistakable error; and a measure to authorize VA's authority to enter into enhanced-use leases, 2:30 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on recommendations regarding Medicare Hospital and Physician Payment Policies, 1 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on the Administration's Child support Enforcement Incentive Payment Proposal, 11 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee, to hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook and monetary policy, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn Building.

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Veterans of World War I, and the Vietnam Veterans of America, 9:30 a.m., 345 Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 20

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Thursday, March 20

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate's program is uncertain.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 1122, Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act (closed rule, 2 hours of debate); and

Consideration of H. Res. 91, Providing Amounts for Expenses of Certain Committees (modified closed rule, 1 hour of debate).

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