

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