

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 1428–1462; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 73, H. Con. Res. 66–67, and H. Res. 129–132, were introduced.

Pages H1890–92

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 408, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to support the International Dolphin Conservation Program in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, amended (H. Rept. 105–74 Part I); and

H.R. 478, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to improve the ability of individuals and local, State, and Federal agencies to comply with that Act in building, operating, maintaining, or repairing flood control projects, facilities, or structures, amended (H. Rept. 105–75).

Pages H1889–90

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

Page H1797

National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act: The House passed H.R. 1274, to authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for fiscal years 1998 and 1999.

Pages H1804–08

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

Page H1808

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 127, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill.

Pages H1801–02

National Science Foundation Authorization Act: The House passed H.R. 1273, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the National Science Foundation.

Pages H1808–19

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

Page H1819

Agreed to:

The Coburn amendment that provides that no funds appropriated pursuant to the Act shall be used for the United States Man and Biosphere Program; and

Pages H1814–18

The Jackson-Lee amendment that expresses the sense of Congress that NSF donate surplus computers and other research equipment to elementary and secondary education schools to enhance their science and mathematics programs and requires an annual report to Congress on these donations.

Page H1818

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 126, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill.

Page H1802

Civilian Space Authorization Act: The House passed H.R. 1275, to authorize appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 1998 and 1999.

Pages H1819–49

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

Page H1849

Agreed to:

The Rohrabacher amendment as amended by the Cramer amendment to increase funding for aeronautical research that strikes the limitation to the transfer of space station program responsibilities; expands the definition of space science data that may be acquired from commercial providers to include asteroids, moons of planets, and comets; and amends the Unitary Wind Tunnel Plan Act of 1949 to include hypersonic speeds;

Pages H1833–34

The Cramer amendment to the Rohrabacher amendment that increases funding for Aeronautical Research by \$5 million and reduces Commercial Technology funding accordingly; and

Page H1834

The Jackson-Lee amendment that permits NASA to pay the tuition expenses of any employee attending programs of the International Space University held in the United States.

Pages H1845–46

Rejected:

The Roemer amendment that sought to terminate the space station program and retain \$500 million for termination costs (rejected by a recorded vote of 112 ayes to 305 noes, Roll No.90); and

Pages H1835–43

The Jackson-Lee amendment that sought to increase funding for NASA minority university research and education programs by \$8.1 million (rejected by a recorded vote of 186 ayes to 226 noes, Roll No. 91).

Pages H1847–49

Withdrawn:

The Roemer amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to remove the Russian Government as a partner in the International Space Station Program; and

Pages H1843–45

The Jackson-Lee amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to designate all NASA employees as essential in case of a lapse of appropriations.

Pages H1846–47

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 128 the rule that provided for consideration of the bill.

Pages H1802–03

Re-Referral: Agreed by unanimous consent that the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 892, and that the bill be re-referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 892 would designate the Federal building located at 223

Sharkey Street in Clarksdale, Mississippi, as the "Aaron Henry United States Post Office". Page H1849

Corrections Calendar Office: The House agreed to H. Res. 130, providing for a lump sum allowance for the Corrections Calendar Office. Page H1849

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 28; and agreed that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29 for morning hour debate.

Page H1849

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, April 30. Page H1849

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1843 and H1848–49. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURAL EXPORT PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and the Subcommittee on Risk Management and Specialty Crops held a joint hearing on the effectiveness of Agricultural Export Programs. Testimony was heard from Chris Goldthwait, General Sales Manager, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported an Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND THE JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on Reauthorization of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Commerce: Shirl G. Kinney, Deputy Assistant Secretary, National Telecommunications and Information Administration; and Larry Irving, Assistant Secretary, Communications and Information; and public witnesses.

EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND LITERACY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training and Life-Long Learning approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 1385, Employment, Training and Literacy Enhancement Act of 1997.

FEDERAL HIRING FROM WELFARE ROLLS

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Civil Service held a hearing on Federal Hiring from the Welfare Rolls. Testimony was heard from Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas; John A. Koskinen, Deputy Director, Management, OMB; James B. King, Director, OPM; Diane Disney, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Civilian Personnel), Department of Defense; Eugene A. Brickhouse, Assistant Secretary, Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—STATUS OF EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY GULF WAR SYNDROME

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations continued oversight hearings on Status of Efforts to Identify Gulf War Syndrome, Part II. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Bernard Rostker, Special Assistant, Gulf War Illnesses; and Donald Mancuso, Deputy Inspector General; Robert Walpole, Special Assistant, Gulf War Illnesses, CIA; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Postal Service held an oversight hearing of the U.S. Postal Service. Testimony was heard