

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 1861–1866; and 3 private bills, H.R. 1867–1869 were introduced. Page H3720

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H. Res. 165, waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 105–128); and

S. 768, a private bill (H. Rept. 105–129).

Pages H3719–20

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Rogers to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H3665

Foreign Relations Authorization Act: The House passed H.R. 1757, to consolidate international affairs agencies and to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1998 and 1999. The House considered amendments to the bill on Wednesday, June 4 and Thursday, June 5 and Tuesday, June 10, and Wednesday June 11. Pages H3670–H3706

On a demand for a separate vote on certain amendments agreed to in the Committee of the Whole:

By a yea-and-nay vote of 420 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 180, agreed to the Gilman en bloc amendment that establishes the “Foreign Affairs Agencies Consolidation and Reinvention Act of 1997,” (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 11);

Pages H3680–87

By a recorded vote of 422 yeas with none voting “no”, Roll No. 181, agreed to the Gilman en bloc amendment that strikes fee account provisions for passport information services and visas to conform to existing procedure; (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4);

Pages H3687–88

By a recorded vote of 354 yeas to 72 noes, Roll No. 182, agreed to the Smith of New Jersey amendment that increases funding for Radio Free Asia; (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4);

Page H3688

By a recorded vote of 279 yeas to 149 noes, Roll No. 183 agreed to the Skaggs amendment as amended that prohibits funding for television broadcasting to Cuba after October 1, 1997 if the President certifies that continued funding is not in the national interest of the United States (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4);

Pages H3688–89

By a recorded vote of 386 yeas to 42 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 184 agreed to the

Hefley amendment that requires that the State Department maintain records on criminal incidents of individuals with immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the United States under the Vienna Convention (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4);

Pages H3689–90

By a recorded vote of 283 yeas to 146 noes, Roll No. 185, agreed to the Bachus amendment that requires an annual report to Congress listing overseas United States surplus properties for sale and specifies that amounts received from these sales be used for deficit reduction (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4 by a recorded vote of 277 yeas to 146 noes, Roll No. 161);

Pages H3690–91

By a recorded vote of 428 yeas with none voting “no”, Roll No. 186, agreed to the Gilman en bloc amendment that authorizes certain U.S. citizen employees to perform designated consular officer duties; clarifies that the Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security is responsible for diplomatic security and management; increases the authorized strength of the Foreign Service; establishes the policy that the United States shall not expel, extradite, or otherwise effect the involuntary return of any person to a country in which there is a substantial danger of torture; expresses the sense of Congress that the Government of Turkey recognize the Ecumenical Patriarch and its nonpolitical, religious mission and reopen the Halki Patriarchal School of Theology; and requires a report dealing with the repatriation of unresolved POW/MIA remains from Viet Nam (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4);

Pages H3691–92

By a recorded vote of 226 yeas to 201 noes, Roll No. 187, agreed to the Goss amendment that strikes the section relating to the Office of the Inspector General procedures for instances where an employee is the likely subject or target of a criminal investigation (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4 by a recorded vote of 214 yeas to 211 noes Roll No. 162);

Pages H3692–93

By a recorded vote of 222 yeas to 202 noes, Roll No. 188, agreed to the Coburn amendment that prohibits funding for the Man and Biosphere Program or the World Heritage Program administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4);

Page H3693

By a recorded vote of 292 yeas to 135 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 189 agreed to the Gilman en bloc amendment that urges Peru to respect the rights of prisoners and expedite legal procedures; directs the State Department to monitor human

rights in Ethiopia; establishes special envoys to promote mutual disarmament talks throughout the world; expresses the sense of Congress that Taiwan should reconsider the transfer of nuclear waste to North Korea; expresses support for Prime Minister Gujral of India; supports the sovereignty of Belarus; supports the accession of Taiwan to the World Trade Organization; requires a report concerning human rights violations of the Hmong and Laotian refugees who have returned to Laos; withholds assistance to countries that provide nuclear fuel to Cuba; makes funds available for the Cuban liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act of 1996 and the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992; urges the President to achieve an international arms sales code of conduct with all Wassenaar Arrangement countries; and requires compliance with the Buy American Act (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4); **Pages H3693-97**

By a recorded vote of 425 ayes with none voting "no" and 1 voting "present", Roll No. 190, agreed to the Smith of New Jersey amendment that requires the President to report on any border closure or economic or commercial blockade by any newly independent states that impede the delivery of U.S. humanitarian aid (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4); **Pages H3696-97**

By a recorded vote of 141 ayes to 287 noes, Roll No. 191, rejected the Serrano amendment that requires reports to Congress on official complaints by the government of Cuba to the departments or agencies of the U.S. government (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4); **Page H3697**

By a recorded vote of 415 ayes to 12 noes, Roll No. 192, agreed to the Fox of Pennsylvania amendment that expresses the sense of Congress commending the government of Ukraine for their decision to relinquish nuclear weapons (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4); **Pages H3697-98**

By a recorded vote of 387 ayes to 38 noes, Roll No. 193, agreed to the Lazio amendment that expresses the sense of Congress regarding the compliance with child and spousal support obligations by United Nations Personnel (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 4); **Page H3698-99**

By a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 194, agreed to the Smith of New Jersey amendment that prohibits population planning assistance to any foreign organization until the organization certifies that it will not perform abortions in any foreign country except where the life of the mother would be endangered or in cases of rape or incest and certifies that it will not engage in any activity to alter the laws or policies of any foreign country concerning the circumstances under which abortion is permitted, regulated, or prohibited; and prohibits any funds to the United Nations Population Fund

(UNFPA) unless the President certifies that UNFPA has terminated all activities in the People's Republic of China or during the 12 months preceding such certification there have been no coerced abortions associated with the family planning policies of the People's Republic of China (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 5 by a recorded vote of 232 ayes to 189 noes Roll No. 168);

Pages H3699-H3700

By a voice vote, agreed to the Gilman amendment that removes the prohibition against foreign assistance for narcotics related purposes to countries that have been decertified for funding (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10);

Pages H3700-01

By a recorded vote of 410 ayes to 12 noes, Roll No. 195, agreed to the Scarborough amendment that applies to Sudan the provisions of the Anti-terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act that restricts financial transactions until the President certifies that Sudan is no longer sponsoring or supporting terrorism and provides that this restriction shall not apply to humanitarian assistance (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10 by a recorded vote of 415 ayes to 9 noes Roll No. 171); **Page H3701**

By a recorded vote of 423 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 196, agreed to the Nethercutt amendment that expresses the sense of Congress that Al-Faran, a militant organization that seeks to merge Kashmir with Pakistan should release immediately Donald Hutchings of the State of Washington and 3 Western Europeans from captivity and cease and desist from all acts of hostage-taking and other violent acts within the state of Jammu and Kashmir (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10 by a recorded vote of 425 ayes with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 173); **Pages H3701-02**

By a recorded vote of 366 ayes to 59 noes, Roll No. 197, agreed to the Miller amendment as amended that expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should allow the import of Cuban cigars at such time as the government of Cuba has freed all political prisoners, legalized all political activity, and agreed to hold free and fair elections (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10 by a recorded vote of 375 ayes to 49 noes Roll No. 175); **Pages H3702-03**

By a recorded vote of 417 ayes to 10 noes, Roll No. 198, agreed to the Fox of Pennsylvania amendment that expresses the sense of Congress regarding the designation of Romania as eligible for assistance under the NATO Participation Act of 1994 (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10);

Pages H3703-04

By a recorded vote of 427 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 199, agreed to the Ney amendment

that prohibits assistance to any government that assists the Government of Libya in violating sanctions imposed by the United Nations and provides an exception for national security interests of the United States (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10 by a recorded vote of 426 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 174);

Pages H3704–05

By a recorded vote of 244 ayes to 184 noes, Roll No. 200, agreed to the Rohrabacher amendment that restricts funding to the Russian Federation if the federation transfers an SS-N-22 missile system to the People’s Republic of China (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 11 by a recorded vote of 225 ayes to 190 noes, Roll No. 178); and

Page H3705

By a recorded vote of 425 ayes with none voting “no” and 3 voting “present”, Roll No. 201, agreed to the Paxon amendment that condemns the Palestinian Authority policy and practice of imposing the death penalty on anyone who sells land to a Jew (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole on June 10).

Pages H3705–06

Earlier, agreed to amendments in the Committee of the Whole:

The Rohrabacher amendment, debated on June 10, that restricts funding to the Russian Federation if the federation transfers an SS-N-22 missile system to the People’s Republic of China (agreed to by a recorded vote of 225 ayes to 190 noes, Roll No. 178); and

Pages H3670–71

The Gilman en bloc amendment that establishes the “Foreign Affairs Agencies Consolidation and Re-invention Act of 1997,” requires a reorganization plan from the President not later than 60 days after enactment; mandates the abolition of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and transfers its functions to the Secretary of State by October 1, 1998; mandates the abolition of the United States Information Agency and transfers its functions to the Secretary of State by October 1, 1999; mandates the abolition of the International Development Cooperation Agency and transfers its functions to another agency or agencies by October 1, 1998; and reorganizes the functions of the Agency of International Development and consolidates various of its functions with the Department of State by October 1, 1999.

Pages H3680–86

Rejected in the Committee of the Whole:

The Sanford amendment that sought to limit the aggregate funding authorized to the amount appropriated in fiscal year 1997 resulting in a reduction of \$265 million for both fiscal years 1998 and 1999 (rejected by a recorded vote of 163 ayes to 261 noes, Roll No. 179);

Pages H3671–80

The Clerk was authorized in the engrossment of H.R. 1757 to correct section numbers, punctuation,

and cross references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill.

Page H3717

On June 4, the House agreed to H. Res. 159, the rule that provided for consideration of H.R. 1757 and H.R. 1758.

Page H3291

European Security Act: The House passed H.R. 1758, to ensure that the enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) proceeds in a manner consistent with United States interests, to strengthen relations between the United States and Russia, and to preserve the prerogatives of the Congress with respect to certain arms control agreements. Pursuant to section 3 of H. Res. 159, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill, the text of H.R. 1758 was appended to the engrossment of H.R. 1757, and H.R. 1758 was laid on the table.

Pages H3706–16

Agreed to the Frank motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on International Relations with instructions to report H.R. 1758 back forthwith with an amendment that adds a new section on Burdensharing that expresses the sense of the Congress that the United States already pays more than a proportionate share of the costs of the common defense of Europe and that the European members of NATO should pay the bulk of the costs of NATO expansion which are incurred by existing NATO members.

Pages H3716–17

Subsequently, the bill was reported back and the amendment on Burdensharing was agreed to.

Page H3717

On June 4, the House agreed to H. Res. 159, the rule that provided for consideration of both H.R. 1757 and H.R. 1758.

Pages H3291

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and twenty-three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3670–71, H3680, H3686–87, H3687–88, H3688, H3688–89, H3689–90, H3690–91, H3691–92, H3692–93, H3693, H3695–96, H3696–97, H3697, H3698, H3699, H3700, H3701, H3702, H3702–03, H3703–04, H3704–05, H3705, and H3706. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research held a hearing to review the 1997 Conservation Reserve Program contract announcement. Testimony was heard from