

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Christopher Droney, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Katharine Sweeney Hayden, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, Anthony W. Ishii, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Henry Harold Kennedy Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and Clarence J. Sundram, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Mr. Droney was introduced by Senators Lieberman and Dodd, Ms. Hayden was introduced by Senator Lautenberg, Mr. Ishii was introduced by Senator Boxer and Representative Radanovich, Mr. Kennedy was introduced by Senator Thurmond and District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Mr. Sundram was introduced by Senator Moynihan.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee resumed hearings on campaign finance reform proposals, focusing on whether union political contributions are made with voluntarily-paid dues money, and S. 9, to protect individuals from having their money involuntarily collected and used for politics

by a corporation or labor organization, receiving testimony from Senators Nickles and Wellstone; Victoria L. Bor, Sherman, Dunn, Cohen, Leifer & Yellig, on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and James B. Coppess, on behalf of the Communications Workers of America, both of Washington, D.C.; Raymond J. LaJeunesse, Jr., National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, Springfield, Virginia, on behalf of the National Right to Work Committee; Bob Williams, Evergreen Freedom Foundation, Olympia, Washington; David Stewart, Transport Workers Union of America, Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Cindy Omlin, Mead, Washington.

Committee recessed subject to call.

GULF WAR ILLNESSES

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Committee resumed hearings to examine the United States Government's response with regard to the disclosure of information on the possible exposure of United States and allied troops to chemical and biological weapons during the Persian Gulf War and the handling of health care concerns of U.S. veterans, focusing on a related General Accounting Office report, receiving testimony from Donna Heivilin, Director of Planning and Reporting, National Security and International Affairs Division, General Accounting Office.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 38 public bills, H.R. 2034–2071; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 85–87, H. Con. Res. 106–107, and H. Res. 175, were introduced.

Pages H4645–46

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 1086, to codify without substantive change laws related to transportation and to improve the United States Code, amended (H. Rept. 105–153); and

H. Res. 176, providing for consideration of a concurrent resolution providing for adjournment of the House and Senate for the Independence Day district work period (H. Rept. 105–154). Page H4645

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

Page H4377

Department of Defense Authorization Act: By a recorded vote of 304 ayes to 120 noes, Roll No. 236, the House passed H.R. 1119, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999; and agreed to amend the title. The House completed general debate and considered amendments to the bill on June 19, 20, 23, and 24.

Pages H4381–84

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

Page H4383

On a demand for a separate vote on an amendment agreed to in the Committee of the Whole:

By a yea-and-nay vote of 204 yeas to 219 nays, Roll No. 235, rejected the Rohrabacher amendment that sought to prohibit any Cooperative Threat Reduction (Nunn-Lugar) funds to be expended when it becomes known to the Secretary of Defense that Russia has transferred to the People's Republic of China an SS-N-22 missile system (agreed to in the

Committee of the Whole on June 23 by a recorded vote of 215 ayes to 206 noes, Roll No. 230).

Pages H4382-83

Agreed to H. Res. 169, as amended, the rule providing for consideration of the bill on June 19.

Pages H3934-45

The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, cross references, and the table of contents and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill, H.R. 1119, and to make the following corrections: On page 492, line 19, of the printed bill, strike "2,000,000" and insert "2,000 millions" and in the section added by the amendment designated as amendment #25 in part 2 of House report 105-137, strike "63695N" and insert "63795N". Page H4384

Suspension—Cost of Government Day: By a yeand-nay vote of 386 yeas to 20 nays with 13 voting "present", Roll No. 237, the House voted to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 102, expressing the sense of the Congress that the cost of government spending and regulatory programs should be reduced so that American families will be able to keep more of what they earn. The concurrent resolution was debated on June 23. Pages H4384-85

Balanced Budget Act: By a recorded vote of 270 ayes to 162 noes Roll No. 241, the House passed H.R. 2015, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to subsections (b)(1) and (c) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998.

Pages H4416-H4606

By a yeand-nay vote of 207 yeas to 223 nays, Roll No. 240, rejected a Brown of Ohio motion that sought to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Budget with instructions to report it back to the House forthwith with an amendment that establishes the Child Health Insurance Initiative Act of 1997.

Pages H4593-H4601, H4602-05

Sustained a point of order against a Brown of Ohio motion that sought to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Budget with instructions to report it back to the House forthwith with an amendment that establishes the Child Health Insurance Initiative Act of 1997 and the Balanced Budget Assurance Act of 1997.

Pages H4601-02

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment printed in the June 24 Congressional Record and numbered 1 was considered as adopted. The amendment consisted of changes from reconciliation legislation reported to the Committee on the Budget.

Pages H4416-H4554

By a yeand-nay vote of 228 yeas to 200 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 239, the House agreed to H. Res. 174, the rule providing for consid-

eration of both H.R. 2015, Balanced Budget Act and H.R. 2014, Taxpayer Relief Act. Earlier agreed to order the previous question by a yeand-nay vote of 222 yeas to 204 nays, Roll No. 238.

Pages H4385-H4415

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H4647.

Senate Messages: Messages received today from the Senate appear on page H4377.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yeand-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H4382-83, H4383-84, H4384-85, H4414-15, H4415, H4604-05, and H4605-06. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:53 p.m.

Committee Meetings

U.S. AND ASIA—PROSPECTS OF LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY TRADE

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry held a hearing to review the current status and future prospects of livestock, dairy, and poultry trade between the United States and Asia. Testimony was heard from James V. Parker, Deputy Administrator, Commodity and Marketing Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies approved for full Committee action the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations for fiscal year 1998.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs approved for full Committee action the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs appropriations for fiscal year 1998.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies approved for full Committee action the VA, HUD and Independent Agencies appropriations for fiscal year 1998.