

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### AGRICULTURAL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the importance of alternative fuels in addressing future national security concerns, focusing on agriculture's vulnerability to energy price volatility, the contribution of home-grown renewable alternative fuels, and the role of new technologies in making agriculture more energy efficient while increasing yields, after receiving testimony from Roger K. Conway, Director, Office of Energy and New Uses, Economic Research Service, Department of Agriculture; Joseph J. Romm, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy; Henry C. Kelly, Acting Associate Director for Technology, Office of Science and Technology Policy; and John B. Campbell, Ag Processing Inc., Omaha, Nebraska.

Also, committee received a briefing on the international energy security situation from officials of the Central Intelligence Agency.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on the District of Columbia resumed hearing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the government of the District of Columbia, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Margaret A. Moore, Director, Department of Corrections, and Larry D. Soulsby, Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, both of the District of Columbia.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, July 23.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Jamie Rappaport Clark, of Maryland, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

### DRUG VIOLENCE

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, Narcotics and Terrorism concluded hearings to examine new drug smuggling methods and the number and violence of certain incidents involving drug cartels targeting United States officials in retaliation for U.S. counterdrug efforts, after receiving testimony from

Richard Hoglund, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Office of Investigations, United States Customs Service, Department of the Treasury; Michael T. Horn, Chief of International Operations, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice; Cochise County Sheriff Larry A. Dever, Bisbee, Arizona; Samuel C. Scott, Fontana Police Department, Fontana, California; and a certain protected witness.

### CAMPAIGN FINANCING INVESTIGATION

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* Committee resumed hearings, in open and closed sessions, to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing, receiving testimony from Paul A. Buskirk, Acting Director, Office of Security, Robert P. Gallagher, Director, Office of Intelligence Liaison, and Jeffrey Garten, former Under Secretary for International Trade, all of the Department of Commerce; Gary A. Christopherson, former Associate Director of White House Personnel; William H. McNair, Information Officer/Director of Operations, Central Intelligence Agency; and John H. Dickerson, a protected witness.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

### GLOBAL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee held hearings to examine the terms and parameters of the proposed Global Tobacco Settlement which will mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed and distributed in America, focusing on its long-term impact on children and the public health, and its legal and constitutional ramifications, receiving testimony from Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, Hartford; Minnesota Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey III, St. Paul; Colorado Attorney General Gale A. Norton, Denver; Richard F. Scruggs, Scruggs, Millette, Lawson, Bozeman & Dent, Pascagoula, Mississippi; Stanley M. Chesley, Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley, Cincinnati, Ohio; Laurence H. Tribe, Harvard University Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Robert A. Levy, Cato Institute, Washington, D.C.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

### TELEVISION IMPROVEMENT ACT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition concluded hearings on S. 539, to exempt agreements relating to voluntary guidelines governing telecast material from the applicability of the antitrust laws, after receiving testimony from Senators Lieberman and Brownback; Reed E. Hundt, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr., Baltimore; and Cass

R. Sunstein, University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Bills Introduced:** 10 public bills, H.R. 2170–2179 were introduced. **Pages H5400–01**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

Report on the Revised Subdivision of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 1998 (H. Rept. 105–185);

H.R. 1362, to establish a demonstration project to provide for Medicare reimbursement for health care services provided to certain Medicare-eligible veterans in selected facilities of Department of Veterans Affairs, amended (H. Rept. 105–186 Part I);

H. Res. 187, providing for consideration of H.R. 1853, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (H. Rept. 105–187); and

H.R. 2169, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–188). **Page H5400**

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative LaHood to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5303**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, the Rev. Joe Clark of Annandale, Virginia. **Page H5303**

**Presidential Message—Fisheries Agreement:** Read a message from the President wherein he transmits his agreement between the United States and the People's Republic of China concerning fisheries off the coasts of the United States—referred to the Committee on Resources and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–106). **Page H5309**

**VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act:** By a yea and nay vote of 397 yeas to 31 nays, Roll No. 280, the House passed H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. The House completed

debate and considered amendments on Tuesday, July 15. **Pages H5309–71**

By a yea-and-nay vote of 193 yeas to 235 nays, Roll No. 279, rejected the Kennedy of Massachusetts motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report it back to the House forthwith with amendments that increase the funding for Public Housing Agency Grants, Economic Development Grants, Youthbuild Program Activities, and Homeless Assistance Grants. **Pages H5369–70**

**Agreed To:**

The Lewis of California en bloc amendment that increases funding for National Cemetery construction by \$5.5 million and decreases Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities funding accordingly. **Pages H5309–10**

The Solomon amendment that, upon enactment of legislation establishing the Medical Collection Fund, provides assurances of an additional \$579 million for veteran medical care if third party receipts fall short, and reduces EPA Science and Technology Funding by \$27 million to fund these assurances; **Pages H5310–18**

The Lewis of California amendment that decreases National Science Foundation research funding by \$174,000; **Pages H5322–36**

The Obey amendment that increases veteran medical care funding by \$48 million and decreases Emergency Management Planning and Assistance funding for a windstorm simulation center by \$60 million (agreed to by a recorded vote of 322 yeas to 110 noes, Roll No. 276); **Pages H5339–40**

The Stokes amendment that strikes language earmarking \$60 million of Emergency Management Planning and Assistance funding for a windstorm simulation center (agreed to by a recorded vote of 244 yeas to 187 noes, Roll No. 277); **Pages H5318–19, H5340**

The Bentsen amendment that prohibits any funding to be used for the import of PCB's and PCB items into the United States; and **Pages H5343–45**

The Solomon amendment that prohibits the use of funds for grants or contracts to any institution of higher learning that bars ROTC or military recruiters access to the general student population. **Page H5345**