

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 2477–2485; and 1 private bill, H.R. 2486, were introduced.

Page H7364

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 695, to amend title 18, United States Code, to affirm the rights of United States persons to use and sell encryption and to relax export controls on encryption, amended (H. Rept. 105–108 Part 4).

Page H7364

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

Page H7283

Recess: The House recessed at 10:53 and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H7285

Military Construction Conference Report: By a ye and nay vote of 413 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 394, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 2016, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

Pages H7316–20

The House agreed to H. Res. 228, the rule waiving points of order against the conference report. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by a ye and nay vote of 238 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 393.

Pages H7309–16

Foreign Operations Appropriations Act: The House disagreed with the Senate amendment to H.R. 2159, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and agreed to a conference. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Callahan, Porter, Wolf, Packard, Knollenberg, Forbes, Kingston, Frelinghuysen, Livingston, Pelosi, Yates, Lowey, Foglietta, Torres, and Obey.

Pages H7320–21

Agreed to the Pelosi motion to instruct conferees to insist on the provision of the House bill with respect to providing \$650 million for the Child Survival and Disease Programs Fund, including \$50 million for combating infectious diseases.

Pages H7320–21

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

John Griesemer U.S. Post Office Building: H.R. 1254, amended, to designate the United States Post Office building located at Bennett and Kansas Avenue in Springfield, Missouri, as the “John N.

Griesemer Post Office Building”. Agreed to amend the title;

Pages H7288–89, H7321

Airmen Held as Political Prisoners at the Buchenwald Concentration Camp: H. Con. Res. 95, recognizing and commending American airmen held as political prisoners at the Buchenwald concentration camp during World War II for their service, bravery, and fortitude;

Pages H7289–91, H7321

Honoring the Late Jimmy Stewart: H. Con. Res. 109, recognizing the many talents of the actor Jimmy Stewart and honoring the contributions he made to the Nation;

Pages H7291–93, H7321

Computer Security Enhancement Act: H.R. 1903, amended, to amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to enhance the ability of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to improve computer security;

Pages H7293–98, H7321

Earthquake Hazards Reductions Act: S. 910, to authorize appropriations for carrying out the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 (passed by a ye and nay vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 395)—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H7298–H7301, H7321–22

His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew: H. Con. Res. 134, amended, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol to allow members of Congress to greet and receive His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew (agreed to by a ye and nay vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 396); and

Pages H7301–02, H7322–23

Senior Citizen Home Equity Protection Act: S. 562, amended, to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to prevent the funding of unnecessary or excessive costs for obtaining a home equity conversion mortgage. Agreed to amend the title (passed by a ye and nay vote of 422 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 397)—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H7302–09, H7323–24

Recess: The House recessed at 4:13 p.m. and reconvened at 5:11 p.m.

Page H7321

Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Act: The House continued consideration of amendments to H.R. 2264, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. The House completed general debate and considered amendments to the bill on September 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Pages H7324–51

Agreed To:

The Goodling amendment that prohibits any funds to be used to develop, plan, implement, or administer any national testing program in reading or mathematics (agreed to by a recorded vote of 295 ayes to 125 noes, Roll No. 398); and

Pages H7324–47, H7349–50

The Hoekstra amendment that prohibits any funds to be used to pay the expenses of an election officer appointed by a court to oversee an election for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (agreed to by a recorded vote of 225 ayes to 195 noes, Roll No. 399).

Pages H7347–51

The bill is being considered pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, July 31. Pages H6667–69

Presidential Message—Export Expansion: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted his legislative proposal entitled the “Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997”—referred to the Committees on Ways and Means and Rules and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–130).

Pages H7351–52

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H7365.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H7315–16, H7319–20, H7322, H7322–23, H7323–24, H7349–50, and H7350–51. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 12 midnight.

Committee Meetings

EPA’S NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review EPA’s National Ambient Air Quality Standards and the potential effects on U.S. agriculture. Testimony was heard from Representatives Dingell and Klink; Carol M. Browner, Administrator, EPA; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL RESERVE’S PAYMENT SYSTEM

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy held a hearing on the Federal Reserve’s payment system. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Federal Reserve System: Alice M. Rivlin, Vice Chairwoman, Board of Governors; Thomas McFarland, Manager, Transportation Operations; Thomas Hunt, Senior Systems Analyst and Charles Fazio, Transportation Analyst, all with the

Interdistrict Transportation System, Federal Reserve of Boston; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 2472, to extend certain programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act; and H.R. 2165, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 3862 in the State of Iowa.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held a hearing on H.R. 2472. Testimony was heard from Elizabeth Anne Moler, Deputy Secretary, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families held a hearing on Charter Schools. Testimony was heard from Cornelia Blanchette, Associate Director, Education and Employment Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Committee on House Oversight: Approved the following: Committee on Science Reserve Fund Request; Information Security Policy; and Pension Forfeiture.

FAST TRACK LEGISLATION

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade held a hearing on Fast Track: On Course or Derailed? Necessary or Not? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2281, WIPO Copyright Treaties Implementation Act; and H.R. 2180, On-Line Copyright Liability Limitation Act. Testimony was heard from Bruce Lehman, Assistant Secretary and Commissioner, Patents and Trademarks, Department of Commerce; Marybeth Peters, Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

OVERSIGHT—FOREST SERVICE APPOINTMENT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held an oversight hearing on the implications to public domain national forests should a measure be enacted to require the appointment of the Chief of the Forest Service by the President, by