

Edmund Kelso and Drew Richardson, both FBI Lab Unit Chiefs, William Tobin, FBI Chief Metallurgist, and James E. Corby, former FBI Lab Unit Chief, all of the Department of Justice; Barry A.J. Fisher, Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, Los Angeles,

California; Gerald B. Lefcourt, New York, New York, on behalf of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; Stephen M. Kohn, National Whistleblower Center, Washington, D.C.; and Frederic Whitehurst, La Plata, Maryland.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 8 public bills, H.R. 2570–2577; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 249–252, were introduced. Page H8160

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 5);

H.R. 512, to prohibit the expenditure of funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the creation of new National Wildlife Refuges without specific authorization from Congress pursuant to a recommendation from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to create the refuge (H. Rept. 105–276);

H.R. 2233, to assist in the conservation of coral reefs, amended (H. Rept. 105–277);

H.R. 1476, to settle certain Miccosukee Indian land takings claims within the State of Florida (H. Rept. 105–278);

H.R. 2007, to amend the Act that authorized the Canadian River reclamation project, Texas, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow use of the project distribution system to transport water from sources other than the project amended (H. Rept. 105–279);

H. Res. 253, providing for consideration of H. Res. 244, demanding that the Office of the United States Attorney for the Central District of California file criminal charges against Hermandad Mexicana Nacional for failure to comply with a valid subpoena under the Federal Contested Elections Act (H. Rept. 105–280);

H. Res. 254, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 2203, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–281);

H. Res. 255, providing for consideration of H.R. 1370, to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States (H. Rept. 105–282);

H. Res. 256, providing for consideration of H.R. 1127, to amend the Antiquities Act to require an

Act of Congress and the concurrence of the Governor and State legislature for the establishment by the President of national monuments in excess of 5,000 acres (H. Rept. 105–283); and

Conference report on H.R. 2378, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–284). Pages H8137–58, H8160

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Nethercutt to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H8057

Recess: The House recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 12:00 noon. Page H8058

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

Au Pair Programs: S. 1211, to provide permanent authority for the administration of au pair programs (passed by a recorded vote of 377 ayes to 33 noes, Roll No. 462). Pages H8062, H8101–02

Small Business Programs: H.R. 2261, amended, to reauthorize and amend the programs of the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act (passed by a recorded vote of 397 ayes to 17 noes, Roll No. 463). Subsequently, the House passed S. 1139, a similar Senate-passed bill, after it was amended to contain the text of H.R. 2261 as passed the House; H.R. 2261 was then laid on the table; and the title of S. 1139 was amended. Pages H8070–81, H8102–13

Energy Policy and Conservation Act: H.R. 2472, to extend certain programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (passed by a recorded vote of 405 ayes to 8 noes, Roll No. 454). Pages H8086–87, H8113–14

Suspensions—Votes Postponed: Further proceedings on motions to suspend the rules and pass the following measures were postponed until a subsequent legislative day:

Religious Workers Act: S. 1198, amended, to amend the Immigration and Nationality act to provide permanent authority for entry into the United States of certain religious workers; **Pages H8060–61**

Refugee and Entrant Assistance: S. 1161, To Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize appropriations for refugee and entrant assistance for fiscal years 1998 and 1999; **Pages H8061–62**

Clint and Fabens, Texas Independent School Districts Conveyance: H.R. 1116, to provide for the conveyance of the reversionary interest of the United States in certain lands to the Clint Independent School District and the Fabens Independent School District; **Pages H8062–63**

Sense of Congress Regarding the Ocean: H. Con. Res. 131, amended, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the ocean; **Pages H8063–66**

Coral Reef Conservation Act: H.R. 2233, amended, to assist in the conservation of coral reefs; **Pages H8066–67**

Canadian River Reclamation Project, Texas: H.R. 2007, amended, to amend the Act that authorized the Canadian River reclamation project, Texas, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow use of the project distribution system to transport water from sources other than the project; **Pages H8067–69**

Micosukee Settlement Act: H.R. 1476, to settle certain Micosukee Indian land takings claims within the State of Florida; **Pages H8069–70**

Child Support Incentive Act: H.R. 2487, amended, to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the child support enforcement program and thereby increase the financial stability of single parent families including those attempting to leave welfare; **Pages H8081–84**

Securities and Exchange Commission Authorization Act: H.R. 1262, to authorize appropriations for the Securities and Exchange Commission for fiscal years 1998 and 1999; **Pages H8084–86**

FERC Project in Iowa: 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; **Pages H8087–88**

Coastal Pollution Reduction Act: H.R. 2207, amended, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act concerning a proposal to construct a deep ocean outfall off the coast of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico; **Pages H8088–90**

Martin V. B. Bostetter, Jr. U.S. Courthouse: S. 819, to designate the United States courthouse at 200 South Washington Street in Alexandria, Virginia, as the “Martin V. B. Bostetter, Jr. United

States Courthouse”—clearing the measure for the President; **Page H8090**

Howard M. Metzenbaum U.S. Courthouse: S. 833, to designate the Federal building courthouse at Public Square and Superior Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio, as the “Howard M. Metzenbaum United States Courthouse”—clearing the measure for the President; **Page H8091**

Ted Weiss U.S. Courthouse: H.R. 548, to designate the United States courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, as the “Ted Weiss United States Courthouse”; **Pages H8091–92**

Aviation Insurance Reauthorization Act: H.R. 2036, amended, to amend chapter 443 of title 49, United States Code, to extend the authorization of the aviation insurance program; and **Pages H8092–94**

William Augustus Bootle Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse: H.R. 595, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 475 Mulberry Street in Macon, Georgia, as the “William Augustus Bootle Federal Building and United States Courthouse”. **Pages H8095–96**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:32 p.m. and reconvened at 5:00 p.m. **Page H8096**

Late Report: Conferees received permission to have until midnight tonight to file a conference report on H.R. 2378, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. **Page H8096**

Order of Business—Treasury, Postal Service Conference Report: It was made in order that on Tuesday, September 30 or on any day thereafter, to consider the conference report to accompany H.R. 2378; that all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration be waived; and that the conference report be considered as read when called up. **Page H8096**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Miller of California motion to adjourn by a ye and nay vote of 55 yeas to 339 nays, Roll No. 460. **Pages H8096–97**

Continuing Resolution for FY 1998: The House passed H.J. Res. 94, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1998, by a ye and nay vote of 355 yeas to 57 nays, Roll No. 461. **Pages H8097–H8101**

Committee Election—Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: The House agreed to H. Res. 249, electing Representatives Smith of Texas, Hefley of Colorado, Goodlatte, and Knollenberg to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct; and

the House agreed to H. Res. 250 electing Representatives Sabo, Pastor, Fattah, and Lofgren to the same committee.

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Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H8057.

Amendments: Amendment ordered printed pursuant to the rule appears on page H8161.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H8096–97, H8101, H8101–02, H8102–03, and H8113–14. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the District of Columbia appropriations for fiscal year 1998.

MEDICARE WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Medicare Waste, Fraud, and Abuse. Testimony was heard from Joel Willemsen, Director, Accounting and Information Management Division, GAO; and the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: George M. Reeb, Assistant Inspector General, Health Care Financing Audits, Office of the Inspector General; and Bruce Fried, Director, Center for Health Plans and Providers, Health Care Financing Administration.

FREEDOM FROM GOVERNMENT COMPETITION ACT

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology held a hearing on H.R. 716, Freedom from Government Competition Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Senator Thomas; Ed DeSeve, Acting Deputy Director, Management, OMB; L. Nye Stevens, Director, Federal Management and Workforce Issues, GAO; Steve Goldsmith, Mayor, Indianapolis, Indiana; Shirley Ybarra, Deputy Secretary, Transportation, State of Virginia; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on International Relations: Ordered reported amended the following bills: H.R. 2232, Radio Free Asia Act of 1997; and H.R. 2358, Political Freedom in China Act of 1997.

The Committee failed to approve H.R. 967, to prohibit the use of United States funds to provide

for the participation of certain Chinese officials in international conferences, programs, and activities and to provide that certain Chinese officials shall be ineligible to receive visas and be excluded from admission to the United States.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Rules: Granted by voice vote, a modified closed rule on H.R. 1370, to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, providing one hour of general debate equally divided between the Chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. The rule provides for consideration of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute now printed in the bill as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and waives points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with clause 7 of Rule XVI (relating to germaneness). The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules. The rule provides that each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule grants authority to the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone recorded votes and reduce voting time to 5 minutes provided that the first vote in a series is not less than 15 minutes. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Leach and Representatives Castle, LaFalce, and Vento.

NATIONAL MONUMENT FAIRNESS ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a modified closed rule on H.R. 1127, National Monument Fairness Act of 1997, providing one hour of general debate to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources. The rule makes in order the Committee on Resources amendment in the nature of a substitute as an original bill for purpose of amendment, which shall be considered as read. The rule provides for the consideration of the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules, which shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent,