

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary held a hearing on the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the U.S. Trade Representative, and the International Trade Administration. Testimony was heard from Doris Meissner, Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice; Charlene Barshefsky, U.S. Trade Representative; and David Aaron, Ambassador, Under Secretary, International Trade, Department of Commerce.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on the National Park Service and the National Forest Service. Testimony was heard from Robert Stanton, Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and Michael Dombeck, Chief, Forest Service, USDA.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Vocational and Adult Education, Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Educational Research and Improvements and the Office of Inspector General. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Education: Patricia W. McNeil, Assistant Secretary, Vocational and Adult Education; Judith E. Heumann, Assistant Secretary, Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Ricky T. Takai, Acting Assistant Secretary, Educational Research and Improvement; and Steven A. McNamara, Acting Inspector General.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA-HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on NASA. Testimony was heard from Daniel S. Goldin, Administrator, NASA.

COUNTERFEITING INCREASE—PERSONAL COMPUTERS

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy held a hearing to examine the increase in counterfeiting using personal computers. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Thomas Ferguson, Deputy Director, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; and Dennis F. Lynch, Special Agent in Charge, Counterfeit Division, U.S. Secret Service.

JOINT BUDGET RESOLUTION

Committee on the Budget: Task Force on Budget Process held a hearing on Joint Budget Resolution (Should the Budget be a Law?). Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FCC REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on reauthorization of the FCC. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FCC: William E. Kennard, Chairman, Susan Ness, Harold W. Furchtgott-Roth, Michael K. Powell and Gloria Tristani, all Commissioners; Robert P. Murphy, General Counsel, GAO; and a public witness.

WORKPLACE COMPETITIVE ISSUES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on American Work Project: Workplace Competitive Issues. Testimony was heard from Representative Goodling; John R. Fraser, Acting Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

FOREIGN CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Held a hearing on FEC Enforcement Actions: Foreign Campaign Contributions and Other FECA Violations. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FEC: Scott E. Thomas, Vice Chairman; Lawrence M. Noble, General Counsel; Lois Lerner, Associate General Counsel; and Jose Rodriguez, Staff Attorney.

COUNTER-NARCOTICS POLICY—COLOMBIA

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on U.S. Counter-Narcotics Policy Towards Colombia. Testimony was heard from Randy Beers, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Department of State; Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, USMC, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Southern Command, Department of Defense; Gen. Jose Serrano, Director General, National Police, Colombia; and public witnesses.

BETRAYAL OF SREBRENICA

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights held a hearing on the Betrayal of Srebrenica: Why did the Massacre Happen? Will It Happen Again? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING EFFICIENT SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND EQUITY ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a modified closed rule on H.R. 2400, Building Efficient Surface Transportation and Equity Act of 1998, providing two hours of general debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and thirty minutes equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute as recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, as modified by the amendment recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill and as modified by the amendment printed in part 1 of the report of the Committee on Rules, as an original bill for the purpose of amendment which shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as modified. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part 2 of the report of the Committee on Rules and waives all points of order against the amendments. The rule provides that the amendments made in order under part 2 of the report shall be considered only in the order specified, 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 allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce voting time to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Shuster, Petri, Baker, Archer, Bilbray, Hunter, Roukema, Kasich, Morella, Shays, Parker, Canady, Castle, Inglis of South Carolina, McKeon, McIntosh, Graham, Hayworth, Barr of Georgia, Ryan, Largent, Oberstar, Obey, Spratt. DeLauro, Moran of Virginia, Norton and Minge.

DOMAIN NAMES SYSTEMS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Basic Research and the Subcommittee on Technology held a joint oversight hearing on Domain Names Systems: Where Do We Go From Here? Testimony was heard from Ira Magaziner, Senior Advisor to the President for Policy Development, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

ELECTRICITY DEREGULATION

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held an oversight hearing on Electricity Deregulation: Implications for Research and Development and Renewable Energy. Testimony was heard from Victor S. Rezendes, Director, Energy Resources and Science Issues, GAO; David Rohy, Vice Chair, Energy Commission, State of California; and public witnesses.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT—PROPOSAL

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 1998. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TAX RETURN FILING SEASON; IRS BUDGET

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the 1998 Tax Return Filing Season and the IRS Budget for Fiscal Year 1999. Testimony was heard from Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury; Lynda D. Willis, Director, Tax Policy and Administration Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

AMERICAS FREE TRADE AREA

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on Free Trade Area of the Americas. Testimony was heard from Representative Farr; Richard Fisher, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

HUMAN INTELLIGENCE AND COVERT ACTION

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Human Intelligence and Covert Action. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.