

TELEPHONE SLAMMING

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded hearings to examine issues relating to telephone slamming which is the unauthorized switching of a consumer's long-distance service, including S. 1740, to improve the protections against the unauthorized change of subscribers from one telecommunications carrier to another, which entities are most responsible for intentional slamming incidents, and the technique used to deceive consumers, after receiving testimony from Eljay B. Bowron, Assistant Comptroller General for Special Investigations, Office of Special Investigations, General Accounting Office; and William E. Kennard, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

The nominations of James K. Robinson, of Michigan, to be Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, and Wilma A. Lewis, to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, all of the Department of Justice;

S. 1504, to adjust the immigration status of certain Haitian nationals who were provided refuge in

the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 1360, to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, and to enhance land border control and enforcement, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Also, committee began markup of the proposed Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Thursday, April 30.

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL TERRORISM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information concluded joint hearings with the Select Committee on Intelligence to examine Federal efforts in dealing with chemical and biological weapons threats to America, and the implementation of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act (P.L. 104-132), after receiving testimony from Donald C. Latham, Member, Defense Science Board; Christine M. Gosden, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom; and Richard Preston, New York, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 3715-3732 were introduced. **Pages H2317-18**

Reports Filed: One report was filed as follows:

H.R. 3546, to provide for a national dialogue on Social Security and to establish the Bipartisan Panel to Design Long-Range Social Security Reform. Amended (H. Rept. 105-493). **Page H2317**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Ewing to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2239**

Judicial Reform Act of 1998: The House passed H.R. 1252, to modify the procedures of the Federal courts in certain matters. **Pages H2243-86**

Agreed to the Manzullo unanimous consent request to strike section 5, Limitation on Court-imposed Taxes, from the bill. **Pages H2284-85**

Agreed To:

The Coble amendment that extends the judiciary information technology fund; provides for retaining offsetting receipts; enhances the membership in cir-

cuit judicial councils; sunsets civil justice expense and delay reduction plans; and establishes certifying officers in the judiciary branch; **Pages H2256-57**

The Delahunt amendment to section 5 that applies the limitation on court-imposed taxes only to any order or settlement which expressly directs any State, or political subdivisions of a State, to impose, increase, levy, or assess any tax (agreed to by a recorded vote of 230 ayes to 181 noes, Roll No. 103. Subsequently, agreed by unanimous consent to strike section 5 from the bill); **Pages H2257-62**

The Campbell amendment to section 5 that limits court imposed taxes that contribute to or exacerbate the deprivation intended to be remedied including the effect on property values (subsequently, agreed by unanimous consent to strike section 5 from the bill); **Page H2262**

The Rogan amendment that strikes section 6, that establishes the right to bring a motion to reassign a case; **Pages H2262-63**

The Nadler amendment that provides for a witness' voice and face to be disguised or otherwise obscured during the broadcast coverage of an appellate court proceeding; **Pages H2267-68**

The DeLay amendment that prohibits a court to carry out any felony prisoner release order on the basis of prison conditions and terminates existing consent decrees that provide for remedies relating to prison conditions (agreed to by a recorded vote of 367 ayes to 52 noes, Roll No. 105); **Pages H2272-78**

Rejected:

The Jackson-Lee amendment that sought to limit protective orders and sealing of cases and settlements relating to public health or safety (rejected by a recorded vote of 177 ayes to 242 noes, Roll No. 104); **Pages H2263-66**

The Lofgren amendment that sought to establish parent-child testimonial privileges in Federal, civil, and criminal proceedings specifying that a witness may not be compelled to testify against a child or parent of the witness (rejected by a recorded vote of 162 ayes to 256 noes, Roll No. 106); **Pages H2268-72, H2278**

The Skaggs amendment that sought to require that a settlement to which the United States is a party shall not be sealed unless the court determines that there is a compelling public interest in limiting such availability; **Pages H2282-83**

The Conyers amendment that sought to establish process service jurisdiction and compliance with rules of discovery for defendants located outside the United States (rejected by a recorded vote of 200 ayes to 216 noes, Roll No. 107); and **Pages H2279-81, H2283-84**

The Aderholt amendment to section 5 that sought to apply the limitation on court-imposed taxes only to any order or settlement which expressly directs any State, or political subdivision of a State, to impose, increase, levy, or assess any tax or disburse any funds to remedy the deprivation of a right under the Constitution (rejected by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 236 noes, Roll No. 108). **Pages H2281-82**

The Coburn amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to establish a limitation on racketeering specifying that the defendant must have committed a criminal offense. **Pages H2285-86**

The Clerk was authorized in the engrossment of the bill to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill. **Page H2286**

H. Res. 408, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a voice vote. **Pages H2242-43**

Conference on Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3579, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and agreed to a conference. Appointed as conferees: Chairman Livingston, Representatives McDade, Young of Florida, Regula, Lewis of California, Porter, Rogers, Skeen, Wolf, Kolbe, Packard, Callahan, Walsh, Obey, Yates, Stokes, Murtha, Sabo, Fazio, Hoyer, Kaptur, and Pelosi. **Pages H2286-96**

By a recorded vote of 186 ayes to 222 noes, Roll No. 109, rejected the Obey motion to instruct conferees to agree to funding for the International Monetary Fund consistent with the terms, conditions, and provisions of H.R. 3114, International Monetary Fund Reform and Authorization Act of 1998, as reported by the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. **Pages H2286-96**

Conference on Child Performance and Incentive Act: The House disagreed to the Senate amendments to H.R. 3130, to provide for an alternative penalty procedure for States that fail to meet Federal child support data processing requirements, to reform Federal incentive payments for effective child support performance, and to provide for a more flexible penalty procedure for States that violate interjurisdictional adoption requirements, and requested a conference. Appointed as conferees: From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendments, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Archer and Representatives Shaw, Camp, Rangel, and Levin. As additional conferees from the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of section 401 of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Goodling and Representatives Fawell and Payne. **Page H2296**

BESTEIA Conference Appointment: As additional conferees from the Committee on Science, for consideration of section 312(d) and Title VI of the House bill and sections 1119, 1206, and Title II of the Senate bill and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Sensenbrenner and Representatives Morella and Brown of California. **Pages H2296-97**

Legislative Program: The Majority Whip announced the legislative program for the week of April 27. **Page H2297**

Meeting Hour—Monday, April 27: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 27. **Page H2297**

Meeting Hour—Tuesday, April 28: Agreed that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to

meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28 for morning hour debate.

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Calendar Wednesday: Agreed that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, April 29.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H2262, H2265–66, H2277–78, H2278, H2283–84, H2284, and H2296. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary held a hearing on International Organizations and Peacekeeping. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Ambassador Bill Richardson, U.S. Representative to the United Nations; and Princeton Lyman, Assistant Secretary, International Organizations.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Corporation for National and Community Service, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, the U.S. Institute of Peace, the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission and the National Council on Disability. Testimony was heard from Harris Wofford, CEO, Corporation for National Service; the following officials of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service: John Calhoun Wells, Director; C. Richard Barnes, Deputy Director, Field Operations; Vella M. Traynham, Deputy Director, National Office Operations; and Frances L. Leonard, Director, Budget and Finance Office; Richard H. Solomon, President, United States Institute of Peace; Mary Lu Jordan, Chairman, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission; and Marca Bristo, Chairperson, National Council on Disability.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE AVAILABILITY ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Held a hearing on H.R. 219, Homeowners' Insurance Availability Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Representatives Fazio, Emerson and Christian-Green; Lawrence Summers, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury; Donald A. Dowdell, Deputy General Counsel, Department of Insurance, State of Florida; David Knowles, Chief Deputy Insurance Commissioner, Department of Insurance, State of California; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL INSURANCE PROGRAMS BUDGETING

Committee on the Budget: Task Force on Budget Process held a hearing on Budgeting for Federal Insurance Programs. Testimony was heard from Susan J. Irving, Associate Director, Budget Issues, GAO; Marvin Phaup, Deputy Assistant Director, Special Studies, CBO; and Rudolph G. Penner, Senior Fellow, Urban Institute.

DIGITAL HIGH DEFINITION TV

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on Digital High Definition Television: Coming Soon to a Home Theater Near You. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICAN WORKER PROJECT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on the American Worker Project: Emerging Trends in the High-Tech Workplace. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Failed to obtain two-thirds Committee majority to grant immunity to four individuals regarding campaign fundraising investigation.

KUOTO PROTOCOL

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing on "The Kuoto Protocol: Is the Clinton-Gore Administration Selling Out Americans?" Testimony was heard from Senator Hagel; Representatives Calvert, Knollenberg, Wise, and McCarthy of Missouri; Edward Montgomery, Chief Economist, Department of Labor; Dan Reicher, Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy; David Gardiner, Assistant Administrator, Policy, Planning, and Evaluation, EPA; William A. Walaska, Senator, State of Rhode Island; Tom Alley,