

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Rosemary S. Pooler and Robert D. Sack, both of New York, each to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Victoria A. Roberts, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Richard W. Roberts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and Ronnie L. White, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf. Ms. Roberts was introduced by Senators Levin and Abraham and Representative Upton, Mr. Roberts was introduced by District of Columbia Delegate Norton, and Mr. White was introduced by Senator Bond and Representative Clay.

NOMINATION

Committee on Small Business: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Prior to this action, committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Mr. Hochberg, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf. Testimony was also received on the nominee from Senator D'Amato; Representative Forbes; and Ada Alvarez, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 25 public bills, H.R. 3865–3889; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 119, H. Con. Res. 277, and H. Res. 431–434 and 437–439, were introduced. Pages H3311–12

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H. Res. 435, providing for consideration of H.R. 3616, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1999 (H. Doc. 105–535); and

H. Res. 436, providing for consideration of H. Res. 432, Expressing the Sense of the House of Representatives Concerning the President's Assertion of Executive Privilege and providing for consideration of H. Res. 437, Calling Upon the President of the United States to Urge Full Cooperation By His Former Political Appointees and Friends and their Associates with Congressional Investigations (H. Doc. 105–536). Pages H3310–11

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Ney to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H3259

Motion To Adjourn: Rejected the Serrano motion to adjourn by a ye and nay vote of 15 yeas to 379 nays, with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 152. Pages H3259–69

Question of Privilege of the House: The Chair ruled that H. Res. 431, relating to a question of the

privileges of the House did constitute a question of privilege and was in order. Pages H3260–61

Subsequently, agreed to the Arney motion to table the resolution by a recorded vote of 223 yeas to 196 noes, Roll No. 153. Page H3261

Freedom From Religious Persecution Act of 1998: The House passed H.R. 2431, to establish an Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring, to provide for the imposition of sanctions against countries engaged in a pattern of religious persecution by ye and nay vote of 375 yeas to 41 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 155. Pages H3271–94

Agreed To:

The Brady amendment that establishes provisions to promote religious freedom including an internet site, training for foreign service officers, equal access to U.S. missions abroad for conducting religious activities, international broadcasting and exchanges; and foreign service awards for promotion of internationally recognized human rights; creates a five member commission on international religious persecution composed of a Director, two Senators and two Members of the House of Representatives; and provides limited contract sanctity for transactions involving the Trade and Development Agency or the Export Import Bank; Pages H3288–90

The Hastings of Florida amendment that permits the Director of the Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring, in consultation with the Secretary of State to make policy recommendations to the President to promote and develop legal protections and

cultural respect for religious freedom; and requires the Director to assist the Secretary of State in establishing an award program for foreign service officers who provide meritorious service in the promotion of human rights including the right to religious freedom (agreed to by ye and nay vote of 415 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 154); and Pages H3290-92

The Campbell amendment that permits the President to waive sanctions against Sudan if the President determines that national security interests justify a waiver and notifies specified Senate and House of Representatives committees in writing of his intention to waive any sanction. Pages H3292-93

H. Res. 430, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a voice vote. Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3806, modified by the amendments printed in part 1 of H. Rept. 105-534, the report accompanying the rule, was considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. Pages H3263-71

Committee Election: the House agreed to H. Res. 434, electing the Delegate of the Virgin Islands, the Honorable Christian-Green to the Committee on Small Business. Page H3294

Legislative Program: The Majority Leader announced the legislative program for the week of May 18. Pages H3294-95

Meeting Hour—Monday, May 18: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, May 18. Page H3295

Meeting Hour—Tuesday, May 19: Agreed that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 19, for Morning Hour debate. Page H3295

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, May 20. Page H3295

Resignations—Appointments: Agreed that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Monday, May 18, the Speaker, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House. Page H3295

Senate Messages: Message received today from the Senate appears on page H3259.

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H3312-55.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two ye and nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3259-60, H3261, H3291-92, and H3294. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Commerce: Ordered reported the following measures: H. Con. Res. 171, declaring the memorial service sponsored by the National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial Service Board of Directors to honor emergency medical services personnel to be the "National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service"; H.R. 2202, amended, National Bone Marrow Registry Reauthorization Act of 1998; and H.R. 3849, amended, Internet Tax Freedom Act.

CHINA TRADE POLICY

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing on China Trade Policy. Testimony was heard from Ambassador David Aaron, Under Secretary, International Trade, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 2869, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to exempt safety and health assessments, audits, and reviews conducted by or for an employer from enforcement action under such Act; H.R. 2873, amended, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; H.R. 2661, amended, Sound Scientific Practices Act; and H.R. 3725, amended, Postal Service Health and Safety Promotion Act.

GULF WAR VETERANS' ILLNESSES

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing on the Status of Efforts to Identify Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses: Tumor Data. Testimony was heard from Kwai Chan, Director, Special Studies and Evaluation Group, GAO; Susan Mather, M.D., Chief, Public Health and Environmental Hazards Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs; Gary Christopherson, Acting Assistant Secretary (Health Affairs), Department of Defense; Richard Miller, M.D., Director, Medical Follow-Up Agency, Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific approved for full Committee action the following resolutions: H. Res. 392, relating to the importance of Japanese-American relations