

Energy, Resources and Science Issues, Resources, Community and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office; and Marvin Fertel, Nuclear Infrastructure, Support, and International Programs, Nuclear Energy Institute, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Robert A. Seiple, of Washington, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom after the nominee testified and answered questions on his own behalf.

INDEPENDENT COUNSEL ACT

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee resumed hearings on the future of the Independent Counsel Act, receiving testimony from Janet Reno, Attorney General, Department of Justice; Charles G. La Bella, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California, San Diego, former Supervising Attorney, Campaign Financing Task Force; John Q. Barrett, St. John's University School of Law, New York, New York, former Associate Independent Counsel, Iran-Contra Investigation; and Philip B. Heymann, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, former Associate Watergate Special Prosecutor.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee began markup on S. 326, to improve the access and choice of patients to quality, affordable health care, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again tomorrow.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on S. 400, to provide technical corrections to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, and to improve the delivery of housing assistance to Indian tribes in a manner that recognizes the right of tribal self-governance, after receiving testimony from Jacqueline Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Native American Programs; and Chester Carl, Window Rock, Arizona, and John Williamson, Port Angeles, Washington, both on behalf of the National American Indian Housing Council.

INTELLIGENCE

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

Committee will meet again tomorrow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 34 public bills, H.R. 1141-1174; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 56-59, and H. Res. 119 and 121 were introduced. Pages H1405-07

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1141, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999 (H. Rept. 106-64);

H.R. 15, to designate a portion of the Otay Mountain region of California as wilderness (H. Rept. 106-65);

H.R. 449, to authorize the Gateway Visitor Center at Independence National Historical park (H. Rept. 106-66);

H.R. 509, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to the personal representative of the estate of Fred Steffens of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land comprising the Steffens family property, amended (private bill, H. Rept. 106-67);

H.R. 510, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to John R. and Margaret J. Lowe of Big

Horn County, Wyoming, certain land so as to correct an error in the patent issued to their predecessors in interest (private bill, H. Rept. 106-68); and

H. Res. 120, providing for consideration of H.R. 4, to declare it to be the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense (H. Rept. 106-69). Page H1405

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 119, electing Representative Schakowsky to the Committee on Government Reform. Page H1337

Meeting Hour—March 18: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on March 18. Page H1341

Holocaust Memorial Council: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representatives Gilman, LaTourette, and Cannon to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. Page H1349

Steel Import Reduction and Import Monitoring Program: The House passed H.R. 975, to provide for a reduction in the volume of steel imports, and

to establish a steel import notification and monitoring program by a ye and nay vote of 289 yeas to 141 nays, Roll No. 56. **Pages H1342–49, H1349–70, H1382**

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 114, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill by voice vote. **Page H1349**

Coast Guard Authorization Act: The House passed H.R. 820, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for the Coast Guard by a recorded vote of 424 yeas to 7 noes, Roll No. 55. **Pages H1341–42, H1370–82**

Agreed to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order by the rule as amended. **Page H1381**

Agreed To:

The Gilchrest amendment that makes technical changes and expresses the sense of the Congress that the President should expeditiously issue guidelines regarding oil spill response actions to clarify that a person who is not responsible for the spill, yet takes action to prevent or mitigate the effects of it, shall not be held liable for violation of fish and wildlife laws; **Pages H1377–78**

The Pickett amendment that allows the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the vessel NORFOLK before January 1, 2001, if before that date the vessel undergoes a major conversion in a shipyard located in the United States and the cost of the conversion is more than three times the amount the owner paid to purchase the vessel; **Page H1378**

The Upton amendment that requires the Coast Guard to continue to offer assistance to organizations dedicated to Great Lakes lighthouse stewardship and to release information concerning the timing of designations of Great Lakes lighthouses as surplus property (adopted by a recorded vote of 428 yeas with none voting “no,” Roll No. 53); and **Pages H1379–80**

The LoBiondo amendment that authorizes the acquisition of 7 PC-170 coastal patrol craft for drug interdiction and provides for the improvement of shore facilities for drug interdiction operations (adopted by a recorded vote of 424 yeas to 4 noes, Roll No. 54). **Pages H1378–79, H1381**

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 113, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill by voice vote. **Page H1342**

Amendments: Amendment ordered printed pursuant to the rule appears on page H1408.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One ye and nay vote and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages

H1380, H1381, and H1382. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Rural Development. Testimony was heard from Jill Long-Thompson, Under Secretary, Rural Development, USDA.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary held a hearing on the FBI and on U.S. Trade Representative. Testimony was heard from Louis Freeh, Director, FBI, Department of Justice, and Charlene Barshefsky, U.S. Trade Representative.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on fiscal year 2000 Army Budget Overview. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Louis Caldera, Secretary; and Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, USA, Chief of Staff.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session to hold a hearing on fiscal year 2000 Army Acquisition Program. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Paul J. Hooper, Assistant Secretary (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology); Lt. Gen. Paul J. Kern, USA, Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary, Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology); and Lt. Gen. William H. Campbell, USA, Director, Information Systems, Command, Control, Communications, and Computers.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations held a hearing on Secretary of the Treasury. Testimony was heard from Robert E. Rubin, Secretary of the Treasury.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on GAO and National Park Service Housing. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Robert G. Stanton, Director, National Park Service and Donald Barry, Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and