

Agreed to the Smith of New Jersey amendment that makes several technical changes including limiting the principal amount of loans made to any single borrower to a maximum of \$30 million; prohibits the payment for any loss arising out of fraud or misrepresentation for which the party seeking payment is responsible; and makes available up to \$5 million for functions including subsidy cost and other expenses.

Pages H1895-96

H. Res. 136, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a voice vote.

Pages H1885-88

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:47 p.m. and reconvened at 1:37 p.m.

Page H1896

**Recess:** The House recessed at 7:56 p.m. and reconvened at 12:18 a.m.

Page H1936

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:19 a.m. and reconvened at 01:02 a.m.

Page H1968

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate appear on pages H1875 and H1919.

**Amendments:** Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H1973.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1896 and H1897. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 1:03 a.m. on Wednesday, April 14.

## Committee Meetings

### INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior continued appropriation hearings, with emphasis on Natural Resource Programs. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the EPA. Testimony was heard from Carol Browner, Administrator, EPA.

### FINALIZING BANK PREPAREDNESS FOR YEAR 2000

*Committee on Banking and Financial Services:* Held a hearing on Finalizing Bank Preparedness for the

Year 2000: Testing, Credit Risk, Contingency Planning and Liquidity, and Customer Confidence. Testimony was heard from Edward W. Kelley, Jr., member, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: John D. Hawke, Jr., Comptroller of the Currency; and Ellen Seidman, Director, Office of Thrift Supervision; Donna Tanoue, Chairman, FDIC; Norman D'Amours, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; John P. Burke, Banking Commissioner, Department of Banking, State of Connecticut; and public witnesses.

### OVERSIGHT—REGULATORY CLASSIFICATION OF LOW-POWER TV LICENSEES

*Committee on Commerce:* Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection held an oversight hearing on Regulatory Classification of Low-Power Television Licensees. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Mass Media Bureau, FCC: Roy J. Stewart, Chief; and Keith Larson, Associate Chief, Engineering; and public witnesses.

### REWARDING PERFORMANCE IN COMPENSATION ACT

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### YEAR 2000—ARE CRITICAL PROGRAMS READY?

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology and the Subcommittee on Technology of the Committee on Science held a joint hearing on "Are the Federal Government's Critical Programs Ready for January 1st, 2000?" Testimony was heard from Deidre Lee, Acting Deputy Director, Management, OMB; Joel Willemsen, Director, Civil Agencies Information Systems, GAO; Anne Reed, Chief Information Officer, AID, U.S. Information Development Cooperation Agency; Fernando Burbano, Chief Information Officer, Department of State; and James Flyzik, Chief Information Officer, Department of the Treasury.

### DEBT RELIEF FOR AFRICA

*Committee on International Relations,* Subcommittee on Africa held a hearing on Debt Relief for Africa. Testimony was heard from Representative Waters; William Schuerch, Deputy Assistant Secretary, International Development, Debt and Environmental Policy, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

### YEAR 2000 READINESS AND RESPONSIBILITY ACT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Held a hearing on H.R. 775, Year 2000 Readiness and Responsibility Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Davis of Virginia, Dreier, Moran of Virginia, Cramer, Dooley of California and Sandlin; Walter K. Stapleton, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit; and public witnesses.

### OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

*Committee on Resources:* Held an oversight hearing on the National Environmental Policy and the Environmental Quality Improvement Act. Testimony was heard from George Frampton, Acting Chair, Council on Environmental Quality.

Hearings continue April 21.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—TAX LIMITATION

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by a recorded vote of 7 to 1, a structured rule providing 3 hours of debate on H. J. Res. 37, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to tax limitations. The rule provides for one motion to amend if offered by the Minority Leader or his designee, which shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Scarborough, Barton of Texas and Watt of North Carolina.

### LOCAL CENSUS QUALITY CHECK ACT

*Committee on Rules:* Granted by voice vote a structured rule providing for one hour of debate on H.R. 472, Local Census Quality Check Act, as amended, in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. The rule considers the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report as adopted upon the adoption of the resolution. The rule provides for the consideration of the amendment numbered one printed in the Congressional Record, if offered by Representative Maloney of New York or her designee, which shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled between the proponent and an opponent. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

### CONFERENCE REPORT—CONCURRENT BUDGET RESOLUTION

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report on H. Con. Res. 68, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2009, and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled between the chairman and ranking minority of the Committee on the Budget. Testimony was heard from Chairman Kasich.

### HAZARDOUS DUTY AREAS—TAX BENEFITS AVAILABLE

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Ordered reported H.R. 1376, to extend the tax benefits available with respect to services performed in a combat zone to services performed in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia/Montenegro) and certain other areas.

### 1999 TAX RETURN FILING—IRS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the 1999 Tax Return Filing Season and the IRS Budget for Fiscal Year 2000. Testimony was heard from Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury; James R. White, Director, Tax Policy and Administration Issues, General Government Division, GAO; and public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS BUDGET AUTHORIZATIONS

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on budget authorizations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for the U.S. Customs Service, U.S. International Trade Commission, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and other Customs issues. Testimony was heard from Representative Rodriguez; the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Raymond W. Kelly, Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service; John P. Simpson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Regulatory, Tariff, and Trade Enforcement; and Dennis S. Schindel, Assistant Inspector General, Audit; Richard W. Fisher, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; Lynn M. Bragg, Chairman, U.S. International Trade Commission; the following officials of the GAO: Norman J. Rabkin, Director, Administration of Justice Issues, General Government Division; and Randolph C. Hite, Associate Director, Governmentwide and Defense Information Systems, Accounting and Information Management Division; and public witnesses.

**BUDGET: DCI WRAP-UP**

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold a hearing on fiscal year 2000 Budget: DCI Wrap-up. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,  
APRIL 14, 1999**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

**Senate**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on ballistic missile defense, 11 a.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Strategic, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on strategic nuclear forces and policy and the future years defense program, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings on the status of financial management within the Department of Defense, 2 p.m., SR-222.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Trade and Finance, to hold hearings on the issues relating to the Export Control Process, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold hearings to examine the published scandals plaguing the Olympics, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* to hold closed oversight hearings to examine damage to the national security from Chinese espionage at the Department of Energy nuclear weapons laboratories, 9:30 a.m., SH-219.

*Committee on Finance:* to hold oversight hearings on restructuring and reform of the internal revenue service, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, to hold hearings on issues relating to the continuing crisis in Afghanistan, 10 a.m., SD-562.

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* to resume hearings on the future of the Independent Counsel Act, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* to hold hearings on education research, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* to hold oversight hearings on the implementation of welfare reform for Indians, 1:45 p.m., SR-485.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration, to hold hearings on the Kosovo Refugee Crisis, 9 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights, business meeting to consider S.J. Res.14, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, 2 p.m., SD-226.

*Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem:* to hold hearings on Federal Government Y2K preparedness, 9:30 a.m., SD-138.

**House**

*Committee on Agriculture,* Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition, and Forestry, hearing to review of the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis Program, 10:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary, on SEC and on FCC, 10 a.m., and on Administration of Foreign Affairs, 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, on Public Witnesses-Energy and Other Programs, 10 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, on Public Witnesses, 10 a.m., and 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies, on EPA, 9:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Banking and Financial Services,* hearing on The Department of HUD's Preparedness for the Year 2000: Testing, Contingency Planning, and Business Partner Outreach, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Commerce,* Subcommittee on Energy and Power, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 45, Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999; H.R. 459, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for FERC Project No. 9401, the Mt. Hope Waterpower Project; and a measure to authorize appropriations for carrying out pipeline safety activities under chapter 601 of title 49, United States Code, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and the Workforce,* hearing on Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act: An Overview, 11:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Government Reform,* hearing on Tax Reform in the States, Part 2, of a series on National Problems, Local Solution: Federalism at Work, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on International Relations,* to mark up the following: H.R. 1211, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001; the Western Hemisphere Drug Elimination Technical Corrections Act; H. Res. 128, condemning the murder of human rights lawyer Rosemary Nelson and calling for the protection of defense attorneys in Northern Ireland; and H. Con. Res. 54, recognizing the historic significance of the first anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing to Review U.S.-Taiwan Relations on the 20th Anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.