

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 30 public bills, H.R. 1942–1971, 1 private bill, H.R. 1972; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 119–120 and H. Res. 191–194, were introduced. Pages H3693–94

Reports Filed: One report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 195, providing for consideration of H.R. 1401, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 (H. Rept. 106–166); Page H3693

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Sununu to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H3609

Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies Appropriations: The House resumed consideration of amendments to H.R. 1906, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000. The House completed general debate and considered amendments on May 25. Pages H3614–49

Rejected:

The Coburn amendment that sought to reduce funding for the Agriculture Research Service by \$50.8 million (rejected by a recorded vote of 35 yeas to 390 noes, Roll No. 158); Pages H3622–25, H3645

The Coburn amendment that sought to reduce funding for special grants for agricultural research on climate change by \$1 million (rejected by a recorded vote of 93 yeas to 330 noes, Roll No. 159); Pages H3625–32, H3645–46

The Sanford amendment that sought to reduce funding for special grants for agricultural research on wood by \$5.1 million (rejected by a recorded vote of 79 yeas to 348 noes, Roll No. 160); and Pages H3632–38, H3646–47

The Coburn amendment that sought to reduce funding for research and education activities for peanut research by \$300,000 (rejected by a recorded vote of 119 yeas to 308 noes, Roll No. 161). Pages H3639–45, H3647

Withdrawn:

The Kucinich amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to allocate \$100,000 to the Agriculture Research Center for a study on the effects of pollen on butterflies; and Pages H3621–22

The Coburn amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to reduce funding for agricultural research grants by \$300,000. Pages H3638–39

H. Res. 185, the rule that is providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to on May 25.

Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act: The House passed H.R. 1259, to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to protect Social Security surpluses through strengthened budgetary enforcement mechanisms by a yeas and nays vote of 416 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 164. Pages H3657–79

Rejected the Rangel motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report it back to the House forthwith with amendments to preserve budget surpluses until Social Security and Medicare Solvency Legislation is enacted by a yeas and nays vote of 205 yeas to 222 nays, Roll No. 163. Pages H3675–78

Earlier, agreed to H. Res. 186, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill by a yeas and nays vote of 223 yeas to 205 nays, Roll No. 162. The amendment to H.R. 1259, as specified in section 2 of the rule, was considered as adopted. Pages H3649–56

Memorial Day District Work Period: The House agreed to S. Con. Res. 35, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives by a yeas and nays vote of 249 yeas to 178 nays, Roll No. 165. Pages H3679–80

Presidential Messages: Read the following messages from the President:

National Emergency Re Iran: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted his periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 106–73); and Page H3680

National Emergency Re Burma: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted his periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 106–74); Page H3680

Clerk of the House Designation: Read a letter from the Clerk wherein he designated, in addition to Gerasimos C. Vans, Assistant to the Clerk, Daniel J. Strodel, Assistant to the Clerk to sign any and all papers and do all other acts under the name of the

Clerk of the House in case of the Clerk's temporary absence or disability. Page H3680

Recess: The House recessed at 9:35 p.m. and reconvened at 12:33 a.m. on May 27. Page H3690

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate appear on pages H3609 and H3657.

Amendments Ordered Printed: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H3695.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea and nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on page H3645, H3646, H3646-47, H3647, H3656, H3678, H3678-79, and H3679-80. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:34 a.m. on May 27.

Committee Meetings

RURAL AREAS—ELECTRIC DEREGULATION EFFECTS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Resource Conservation, and Credit held a hearing to review the effects of electric deregulation on rural areas and an examination of legislative proposals. Testimony was heard from Wally Beyer, Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, USDA; Mark Mazur, Director, Office of Policy, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 629, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Amendments Act of 1999; and H.R. 413, Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs Act of 1999.

Prior to this action, the Committee held a hearing on these measures. Testimony was heard from Senator Kennedy; Representative Rush; Gary Gensler, Under Secretary, Domestic Finance, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

ELECTRICITY COMPETITION

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power continued hearings on Electricity Competition, focusing on State Restructuring Efforts and Consumer Protection Issues. Testimony was heard from Elaine Kolish, Associate Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, FTC; Mary Ellen Burns, Assistant Attorney General in Charge, Bureau of Energy and Telecommunications, State of New York; and public witnesses.

CHEMICAL SAFETY INFORMATION AND SITE SECURITY ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment concluded hearings on H.R. 1790, Chemical Safety Information and Site Security Act of 1999. Testimony was heard from Leon G. Billings, member, House of Delegates, State of Maryland; and public witnesses.

DOE'S-FUNDED ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on a Review of the Department of Energy's Deployment of DOE-Funded Environmental Cleanup Technologies. Testimony was heard from Representative Hastings of Washington; Gary L. Jones, Associate Director, Energy, Resources, and Sciences Issues, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Energy: Ernest J. Moniz, Under Secretary; James Owendoff, Acting Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management; and Gerald Boyd, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Science and Technology; and public witnesses.

COMBATING TERRORISM

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, Veteran's Affairs and International Relations held a hearing on Combating Terrorism: Proposed Transfer of the Domestic Preparedness Program to the Department of Justice. Testimony was heard from Charles L. Cragin, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Reserve Affairs, Department of Defense; Andy Mitchell, Deputy Director, Office for State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice; and the following officials of the FEMA: Barbara Y. Martinez, Deputy Director, National Domestic Preparedness Office; and Catherine Light, Director, Office of National Security Affairs.

COX COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on The Cox Committee: Report of the Select Committee on U.S. Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China. Testimony was heard from Representatives Cox and Dicks.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported the following measures: H.J. Res. 33, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States; H.R. 354, amended, Collections of Information Antipiracy Act; H.R. 1565, amended, Trademark Amendments Act of 1999; H.R. 1761, amended, Copyright Damages