

**2004 BUDGET: INDIAN AFFAIRS**

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for Fiscal Year 2004 for Indian Programs, after receiving testimony from Tex Hall, National Congress of American Indians, Russell Sossamon, National American Indian Housing Council, and Gary Edwards, National Native American Law Enforcement Association, all of Washington, D.C.; Julia Davis-Wheeler, National Indian Health Board, and Kay Culbertson, Indian Health and Family Services, on behalf of the National Council of Urban Indian Health, both of Denver, Colorado; John Cheek, National Indian Education Association, Alexandria, Virginia; and Ron McNeil, Sitting Bull College,

Fort Yates, North Dakota, on behalf of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium.

**2004 BUDGET: VETERANS' PROGRAMS**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for Fiscal Year 2004 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on health care system priorities, after receiving testimony from Anthony J. Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Philip Wilkerson, American Legion, Dennis Cullinan, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Carl Blake, Paralyzed Veterans of America, all of Washington, D.C.; Rick Surratt, Disabled American Veterans, Cold Spring, Kentucky; and Richard Jones, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland.

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## House of Representatives

***Chamber Action***

**Measures Introduced:** 35 public bills, H.R. 918–952; and 7 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 56 and H. Res. 100, 104–108, were introduced. **Pages H1394–96**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H1396**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 258, to ensure continuity for the design of the 5-cent coin, establish the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee, amended (H. Rept. 108–20); and

H. Res. 105, providing for consideration of H.R. 534, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit human cloning (H. Rept. 108–21). **Page H1394**

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Terry to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1337**

**Committee Election—Minority Members:** The House agreed to H. Res. 104, electing Representative Lucas of Kentucky to the Committee on Agriculture (to rank immediately after Representative Boswell); Representative Kind to the Committee on the Budget; Delegate Norton to the Committee on Government Reform (to rank immediately after Representative Ruppertsberger); Delegate Christensen (to rank immediately after Representative Ryan of Ohio), Representative Davis of Illinois (to rank immediately after Delegate Christensen), Representative Gonzalez (to rank immediately after Representative Davis of Illinois), and Representative Majette (to rank immediately after Delegate Bordallo).

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**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

***Celebrating the 140th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and Commending Abraham Lincoln's Efforts to End Slavery:*** H. Con. Res. 36, encouraging the people of the United States to honor and celebrate the 140th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and commending Abraham Lincoln's efforts to end slavery (agreed to by yeas and nays vote of 415 yeas with none voting "nay," Roll No. 35); **Pages H1338–41, H1356**

***Emergency Securities Response Act:*** H.R. 657, amended, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to augment the emergency authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission; **Pages H1341–43**

***North American Development Bank Reauthorization:*** H.R. 254, to authorize the President of the United States to agree to certain amendments to the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States concerning the establishment of a Border Environment Cooperation Commission and a North American Development Bank; **Pages H1343–51**

***American 5-Cent Coin Design Continuity:*** H.R. 258, amended, to ensure continuity for the design of the 5-cent coin, establish the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (agreed to by yeas and nays vote of 412 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 36); and

**Pages H1351–54, H1356–57**

***Navy Commander Willie McCool Elementary/Middle School in Apra Heights, Guam:*** H.R. 672, amended, to rename the Guam South Elementary/

Middle School of the Department of Defense Domestic Dependents Elementary and Secondary Schools System in honor of Navy Commander William "Willie" McCool, who was the pilot of the Space Shuttle Columbia when it was tragically lost on February 1, 2003. Pages H1355–56

**Recess:** The House recessed at 3:22 p.m. and reconvened at 5:30 p.m. Page H1357

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two ye-and-nay developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1356 and H1356–57. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 1 p.m. and adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### BUDGET VIEWS AND ESTIMATES; COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

*Committee on Agriculture:* Approved Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2004 for submission to the Committee on the Budget.

The Committee also met again for organizational purposes.

### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies held a hearing on Office of Inspector General. Testimony was heard from Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, USDA.

### INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on Secretary of the Interior. Testimony was heard from Gale A. Norton, Secretary of the Interior.

### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction held a hearing on Army Construction. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Mario P. Fiori, Assistant Secretary (Installations and Environment); Major Gen. Larry J. Lust, USA, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installation Management; Major Gen. Collis N. Phillips, USA, Deputy Chief, Army Reserve; and Brig. Gen. Clyde A. Vaughn, USA, Deputy Director, Army National Guard.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Navy Construction. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Navy: Hansford T. Johnson, Acting Secretary; Rear Adm.

Michael R. Johnson, USN, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command; and Brig. Gen. Ronald S. Coleman, USMC, Acting Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics.

### VA, HUD, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies held a hearing on American Battle Monuments Commission. Testimony was heard from Major Gen. John Herrling, USA (Ret.), Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Selective Service System. Testimony was heard from Lewis C. Brodsky, Acting Director, Selective Service System.

### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST

*Committee on Armed Services:* Continued hearings on the fiscal year 2004 National Defense Authorization budget request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Navy: Hansford T. Johnson, Acting Secretary; Adm. Vernon E. Clark, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; and Gen. Michael W. Hagee, USMC, Commandant, Marine Corps.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

### EUROPEAN THEATER—U.S. FORWARD- DEPLOYED STRATEGY

*Committee on Armed Services:* Held a hearing on U.S. forward-deployed strategy in the European Theater. Testimony was heard from Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, USA (Ret.), former Commanding General, U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army; Fred Kagan, Associate Professor, Military History, U.S. Military Academy, Department of the Army; and a public witness.

### HHS BUDGET PRIORITIES

*Committee on the Budget:* Held a hearing on the Department of Health and Human Services Budget Priorities Fiscal Year 2004. Testimony was heard from Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

### BACK TO WORK INCENTIVE ACT

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 444, Back to Work Incentive Act of 2003.

### THEFT AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled