

Heather M. Hodges, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova; Helen R. Meagher La Lime, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mozambique; Joseph LeBaron, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania; Wayne E. Neill, of Nevada, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin; Pamela J. H. Slutz, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Mongolia; Stephen M. Young, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic; and Dennis L. Schornack, of Michigan, to be Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada.

NOMINATION

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the nomination of Peter Eide, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

IRAQI WAR CRIMES

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Prisoners of War, focusing on Department of Defense policies with respect to the current conflict with Iraq, and Iraqi violations of the Convention, after receiving testimony from Pierre-Richard Prosper, Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues, Department of State; W. Hays Parks, Special Assistant, Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Army, Department of Defense; David J. Scheffer, United Nations Association of the United States of America, New York, New York; Tom Malinowski, Human Rights Watch, Washington, D.C.; Ruth Wedgwood, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded hearings to examine S. 504, to

establish academics for teachers and students of American history and civics and a national alliance of teachers of American history and civics, after receiving testimony from Senator Byrd; Bruce Cole, Chairman, National Endowment of the Humanities; Eugene W. Hickok, Under Secretary of Education; James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress; Diane Ravitch, New York University, New York; Blanche Deaderick, University of Memphis, Tennessee; David McCullough, West Tisbury, Massachusetts; and Russell Berg, Trumbull, Connecticut.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original resolution (S. Res. 117) recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Laborers' International Union of North America, and congratulating members and officers of the Laborers' International Union of North America for the union's many achievements; and

The nominations of Susan G. Braden, of the District of Columbia, and Charles F. Lettow, of Virginia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and Cecilia M. Altonaga, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Also, Committee began consideration of S. 274, to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Bruce E. Kasold, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and John W. Nicholson, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 58 public bills, H.R. 1708–1765; and; 12 resolutions, H.J. Res. 48–50; H. Con. Res. 146–150, and H. Res. 193–196 were introduced.

Pages H3300–04

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H3304–05

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Conference report on H. Con. Res. 95, Establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013 (H. Rept. 108–71);

H. Res. 191, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013 (H. Rept. 108-72); and

H. Res. 192, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 108-73). Pages H 3194-H3230, H3300

Prosecutorial Remedies & Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act Conference Report: The House agreed to the conference report on S. 151, to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the sexual exploitation of children by ye-a-and-nay vote of 400 yeas to 25 nays with 2 voting "present," Roll No. 127. Pages H3066-76

Agreed to H. Res. 188, the rule waiving points of order against the conference report by voice vote. Pages H3059-66

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

Fundamental Tax Reform: Debated on April 9, H. Con. Res. 141, expressing the sense of the Congress that the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 should be fundamentally reformed to be fairer, simpler, and less costly and to encourage economic growth, individual liberty, and investment in American jobs (agreed to by ye-a-and-nay vote of 424 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 128); and Pages H3076-77

Support for a Lasting Settlement in Cyprus: Debated on April 9, H. Res. 165, amended, expressing support for a renewed effort to find a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem (agreed to by ye-a-and-nay vote of 422 yeas with none voting "nay," Roll No. 129). Page H3077

Energy Policy Act: The House completed general debate and began considering amendments to H.R. 6, to enhance energy conservation and research and development, to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people. Further consideration will resume at a later date. Pages H3078-H3194, H3231-79

Agreed To:

Wilson of New Mexico amendment No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that limits the surface acreage covered by production and support facilities, including airstrips and acres covered by gravel berms or piers for support of pipelines, on the Alaska Coastal

Plain to 2,000 acres (agreed to by recorded vote of 226 yeas to 202 noes, Roll No. 134); Pages H3242-45, H3250

Peterson of Pennsylvania amendment No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that makes available the Federal bonuses for oil leases derived from the Arctic Coastal Plain to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program; Pages H3246-48

Vitter amendment No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should reduce dependence on foreign energy sources from 58% to 45% by January 1, 2113; Page H3256

Tom Davis of Virginia amendment No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that requires studies on Federal procurement and contracting policies to be submitted to all relevant Congressional committees and requires studies on the conservation implications of widespread telecommuting by Federal employees and the merits of establishing performance measures to reduce petroleum consumption by Federal fleets (agreed to by recorded vote of 415 yeas to 10 noes, Roll No. 136); Pages H3256-58, H3269

Oberstar amendment No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that authorizes a photovoltaic solar energy commercialization program for the procurement and installation of photovoltaic solar energy systems for electric production in public buildings; Pages H3258-60

Nadler amendment No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that requires the Department of Energy, in its study on the threat resulting from the theft or diversion of highly enriched uranium, to address the benefits of accelerating the purchase of excess weapons grade plutonium and uranium from Russia to reduce the likelihood that they could be stolen or sold to terrorists; Pages H3266-67

Reynolds amendment No. 12 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that requires the Secretary of Energy to transmit a plan for the transfer of the Western New York Service Center in West Valley, New York, including nuclear waste cleanup responsibilities to the Federal government; Pages H3267-68

Barrett of South Carolina amendment No. 13 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that requires the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of developing commercial nuclear energy production facilities at existing Department of Energy sites; Pages H3271-73

Blumenauer amendment No. 14 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that establishes a Conserve by Bicycling pilot program within the Department of Transportation; authorizes ten pilot projects dispersed throughout the United States, and directs a report on the feasibility of converting motor vehicle trips to bicycle trips; Pages H3273-74

Ryan of Wisconsin amendment No. 15 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that reduces the proliferation of boutique fuels and directs EPA to give preference to plans that use either a Federal Clean Burning Gasoline (6.8 Reid Vapor Pressure) or a Low Reid Vapor Pressure (7.8 Reid Vapor Pressure) Gasoline; and

Pages H3274-77

Wu amendment No. 17 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that requires the Secretary of Energy to submit biennially a report on the equal employment opportunity practices at Department of Energy National laboratories.

Pages H3278-79

Rejected:

Boehlert amendment No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that sought to require that total oil consumption for cars and light trucks in 2010 shall be at least 5% less than the total amount that would have been used if the average fuel economy standards were to remain at 2004 levels (rejected by recorded vote of 162 yeas to 268 noes, Roll No. 132);

Pages H3248-49

Dingell amendment No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that sought to substitute Division A, Energy and Commerce, Title VI, Electricity provisions and provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) with anti-fraud authority for both electricity and natural gas markets; establishes audit trail requirements to improve FERC's ability to conduct investigations and take enforcement actions; provides for greater transparency by requiring reports on sales or transmissions of electricity or gas; increases penalties for civil and criminal offenses; requires energy policy rate reforms; authorizes refunds for overcharges back to the date they commenced, and directs the SEC to review Public Utility Holding Company (PUHCA) exemptions (rejected by recorded vote of 193 yeas to 237 noes, Roll No. 133);

Pages H3235-42, H3249-50

Markey amendment No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that strikes Division C, Resources, Title IV, Arctic Coastal Plain Domestic Energy Security Act that allows oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (rejected by a recorded vote of 197 yeas to 228 noes, Roll No. 135);

Pages H3251-56, H3268-69

Brown of Ohio amendment No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that sought to authorize a Gasoline Availability Stabilization (GAS) Reserve program with a total capacity of 20 million barrels of regular unleaded gasoline with reserve sites in California, the Midwest, the Northeast, and two additional sites as identified by the Secretary of Energy (rejected by recorded vote of 173 yeas to 252 noes, Roll No. 137); and

Pages H3260-63, H3270

Udall of New Mexico amendment No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 that sought to strike section 14029 that authorizes \$10 million for special dem-

onstrations projects for the uranium mining industry to develop improved in situ leaching mining technologies including environmental restoration technologies that may be applied to sites after completion of in situ leaching operations (rejected by recorded vote of 193 yeas to 231 noes, Roll No. 138).

Pages H3263-66, H3270-71

Proceedings Postponed:

Schakowsky amendment No. 16 printed in H. Rept. 108-69 was offered that expresses the sense of Congress that the Department of Energy should develop and implement more stringent inventory and procurement controls, including controls on the purchase card program and the Department's Inspector General should continue to review purchase card and other procurement and inventory practices. Further proceedings on the amendment were postponed.

Pages H3277-78

Agreed to H. Res. 189, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill by recorded vote of 236 yeas to 190 noes, Roll No. 131. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by yeas-and-nays vote of 226 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 130.

Pages H3086-87

FY 2004 Budget Resolution Conference Report: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013 by yeas-and-nays vote of 216 yeas to 211 nays, Roll No. 141.

Pages H3194-H3230, H3268, H3279-98

House agreed to H. Res. 191, the rule that waived points of order against the conference by yeas-and-nays vote of 221 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 140.

Pages H3279, H3286-91

Earlier agreed to H. Res. 190, waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against resolutions reported from the Rules Committee on the legislative day of April 10, 2003, providing for consideration or disposition of the budget resolution conference report by yeas-and-nays vote of yeas to nays, Roll No. 139.

Pages H3279-85

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H3055 and H3231.

Referral: S. Con. Res. 31 was referred to the Committee on International Relations.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven yeas-and-nays votes and eight recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3075-76, H3076-77, H3077, H3086, H3087, H3249, H3249-50, H3250, H3268-69, H3269-70, H3270, H3270-71, H3285-86, H3290-91, and H3298. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 2:48 a.m. on Friday, April 11.

Committee Meetings

FARM BILL IMPLEMENTATION; AGRICULTURE ASSISTANCE

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing on implementation of the 2002 Farm bill and 2003 Agriculture Assistance. Testimony was heard from J.B. Penn, Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE AND THE JUDICIARY AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Science and Technology. Testimony was heard from Charles McQueary, Under Secretary, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the U.S. Coast Guard. Testimony was heard from Adm. Thomas H. Collins, USCG, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Related Agencies held a hearing on Secretary of Labor. Testimony was heard from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor.

TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Treasury, and Independent Agencies, on Passenger Rail (Panel). Testimony was heard from Michael P. Jackson, Deputy Secretary, Department of Transportation; David L. Gunn, President and Chief Executive Officer, Amtrak; and a public witness.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on NSF. Testimony was heard from Rita R. Colwell, Director, NSF.

IMPROVING EDUCATION RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1350, Improving Education Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003.

EFFECTIVENESS OF STATE REGULATION: WHY SOME CONSUMERS CAN'T GET INSURANCE

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "The Effectiveness of State Regulation: Why Some Consumers Can't Get Insurance." Testimony was heard from Ernst Csiszar, Director, Department of Insurance, State of South Carolina; and public witnesses.

NATION'S CAPITAL—EMERGENCY READINESS

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Are We Ready for Prime Time? Assessing the State of Emergency Readiness in the Nation's Capital." Testimony was heard from Michael Byrne, Director, Office of National Capital Region Coordination, Department of Homeland Security; Van Harp, Director, Washington Field Office, FBI, Department of Justice; Teresa Chambers, Chief, U.S. Park Police, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Mark Warner, Governor, State of Virginia; the following officials of the District of Columbia: Anthony Williams, Mayor; and Charles Ramsey, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department; Richard White, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; and public witnesses.

BALKANS—ASSESSING PROGRESS

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Europe held a hearing on The Balkans: Assessing the Progress and Looking to the Future. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT TRANSITION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims held an oversight hearing on "Department of Homeland Security Transition: Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement." Testimony was heard from Asa Hutchinson, Under Secretary, Border and Transportation Security, Department of Homeland Security; Rich Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

SIKES ACT REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held a hearing on