

Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act Motions to Instruct Conferees: Representative Ruppertsberger announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308, Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act. The House debated Representative Cooper's motion, noted on September 3, to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308. Further proceedings on the Cooper motion will be postponed until Friday, September 3.

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Energy Policy Act of 2003: The House agreed to Representative Tauzin's motion for unanimous consent to disagree with the Senate amendment to H.R. 6. Subsequently, Representative Dingell offered a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 6 to resolve by September 12, 2003, the differences between the House and Senate regarding the electric reliability provisions contained in the House bill (section 16031 of the House bill) and the corresponding provisions contained in the Senate amendment (section 206 of the Senate amendment), and the motion was debated. Further proceedings on the motion will be postponed until Friday, September 5. Pages H7922-30

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7899.

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H7950.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:52 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INFORMATION ANALYSIS AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection. Testimony was heard from Frank Libutti, Under Secretary, Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

BUDGET AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK UPDATE

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on Update of the Budget and Economic Outlook. Testimony was heard from Douglas J. Holtz-Eakin, Director, CBO.

STRENGTHENING PENSION SECURITY AND DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing on "Strengthening Pension Security and Defined Benefit Plans: Examining the Financial Health of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation." Testimony was heard from David Walker, Comptroller General,

GAO; and Steven A. Kandarian, Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

"BLACKOUT 2003: HOW DID IT HAPPEN AND WHY"

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Concluded hearings entitled "Blackout 2003: How Did It Happen and Why?" Testimony was heard from William J. Museler, President and CEO, Independent System Operator, New York; James P. Torgerson, President and CEO, Independent System Operator, Midwest; David Goulding, CEO, The Independent Market Operator of Ontario, Canada; Gordon van Welie, CEO, Independent System Operator, New England; and public witnesses.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on Government Accountability: Efforts to Identify and Eliminate Waste and Mismanagement. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Christopher Burnham, Assistant Secretary, Resource Management and Chief Financial Officer, Bureau of Resource Management; Anne M. Sigmund, Acting Inspector General; John Marshall, Assistant Administrator, Management and Chief Information Officer and Everett Mosley, Inspector General, both with AID; and Jess Ford, Director, Bureau of International Affairs and Trade, GAO.

OVERSIGHT—COLLEGE ATHLETIC CONFERENCES AND ANTITRUST ASPECTS OF BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Held an oversight hearing on "Competition in College Athletic Conferences and Antitrust Aspects of the Bowl Championship Series." Testimony was heard from Scott Cowen, Chairman, Presidential Coalition for Athletics Reform; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—INTERNET DOMAIN NAME FRAUD

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing on "Internet Domain Name Fraud—the U.S. Government's Role in Ensuring Public Access to Accurate Whois Data." Testimony was heard from James E. Farnan, Deputy Assistant Director, Cyber Crime Division, FBI, Department of Justice; Theodore W. Kassinger, General Counsel, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION AMENDMENTS ACT

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported, as amended, H.J. Res. 63, Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003.

COLUMBIA ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BOARD REPORT

Committee on Science: Held a hearing on “The Columbia Accident Investigation Board Report.” Testimony was heard from Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.), Chairman, Columbia Accident Investigation Board.

ECONOMIC GROWTH—RURAL ECONOMY

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing to discuss attracting economic growth for the rural economy and whether the federal government is adequately supporting a policy of growth in the rural portions of the country. Testimony was heard from Thomas C. Dorr, Under Secretary, Rural Development, USDA; David A. Sampson, Assistant Secretary, Economic Development, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce; Bernard L. Ungar, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; Mark R. Drabenscott, Vice President and Director, Center for the Study of Rural America, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Federal Reserve System; and a public witness.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to consider pending business.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy and National Security met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Intelligence Update. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

BRIEFING—RECENT COUNTERTERRORISM SUCCESS: HAMBALI

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security met

in executive session to receive a briefing on Recent Counterterrorism Success: Hambali. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

POWER BLACKOUTS IMPLICATIONS—NATION'S CYBERSECURITY AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Select Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Science, and Research and Development and the Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Border Security held a joint hearing entitled “Implications of Power Blackouts for the Nation's Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Protection: The Electric Grid, Critical Interdependencies, Vulnerabilities, and Readiness.” Testimony was heard from Cofer Black, Coordinator, Counterterrorism, Department of State; Larry A. Mefford, Executive Assistant Director, Counterterrorism, FBI, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue September 17.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the employment situation for August, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.