

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 3177–3194; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 289 and H. Res. 379–380, were introduced.

Pages H8949–50

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H8950–51

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 2714, to reauthorize the State Justice Institute (H. Rept. 108–285); and

H.R. 1829, to amend title 18, United States Code, to require Federal Prison Industries to compete for its contracts minimizing its unfair competition with private sector firms and their non-inmate workers and empowering Federal agencies to get the best value for taxpayers' dollars, to provide a five-year period during which Federal Prison Industries adjusts to obtaining inmate work opportunities through other than its mandatory source status, to enhance inmate access to remedial and vocational opportunities and other rehabilitative opportunities to better prepare inmates for a successful return to society, to authorize alternative inmate work opportunities in support of non-profit organizations (H. Rept. 108–286).

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Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Rev. Dr. Harold R. Mayberry, Senior Pastor, First African Methodist Episcopal Church in Oakland, California.

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Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act—Appointed as Conferees: The Speaker announced that Representatives Chabot and Lofgren were added as conferees on S. 3, Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003.

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Continuing Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2004: The House passed H.J. Res. 69, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004 by a yeas and nay vote of 407 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 520.

Pages H8909–16

Considered under a unanimous consent agreement reached on Wednesday, September 24.

Do-Not-Call Registry: The House passed H.R. 3161, to ratify the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to establish a do-not-call registry by a yeas and nay vote of 412 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 521.

Pages H8916–22

Considered under a unanimous consent agreement reached on Wednesday, September 24.

Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House rejected the Kind motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1, Medicare

Prescription Drug and Modernization Act of 2003, which was debated on Wednesday, September 24, by a yeas and nay vote of 199 yeas to 220 nays, Roll No. 522.

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Later the House debated the Sandlin motion to instruct conferees on the bill. Further consideration on the motion was postponed until a later date.

Pages H8925–30

National Defense Authorization Act—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House agreed to the Crowley motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1588, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, which was debated on Wednesday, September 24, by a yeas and nay vote of 356 yeas to 67 nays, Roll No. 523.

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Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House debated the Pallone motion to instruct on H.R. 1308, Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed until a later date.

Pages H8930–35

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, September 25, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, September 29, and further that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30 for morning hour debate.

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Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, October 1.

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Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H8936.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Committee Meetings

IRAQ—U.S. POLICY AND OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on United States policy and operations in Iraq. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Secretary; Gen. John Abizaid, USA, Commander, U.S. Central Command and Gen. John M. Keane, USA, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army; and Ambassador L. Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq and Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 3076, amended,

Graduate Opportunities in Higher Education Act of 2003; H.R. 3077, amended, International Studies in Higher Education Act of 2003; and H. Con. Res. 282, honoring the life of Johnny Cash.

FREDDIE MAC: ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUES RAISED BY DOTY REPORT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Freddie Mac: Accounting Standards Issues Raised in the Doty Report.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SECONDARY MORTGAGE MARKET ENTERPRISES REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT ACT; ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS ON GSE REGULATION

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing on the following: H.R. 2575, Secondary Mortgage Market Enterprises Regulatory Improvement Act; and the Administration's proposals on GSE regulation. Testimony was heard from Armando Falcon, Jr., Director Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, Department of Housing and Urban Development; the following officials of the Federal Housing Finance Board: John T. Korsmo, Chairman; David H. Hehman, President and CEO, Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati; and Dean Schultz, President and CEO, Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Government Reform: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 1151, to provide that transit pass transportation fringe benefits be made available to all qualified Federal employees in the National Capital Region; to allow passenger carriers which are owned or leased by the Government to be used to transport Government employees between their place of employment and mass transit facilities; H.R. 1231, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums; H.R. 3054, District of Columbia Military Retirement Equity Act of 2003; H. Con. Res. 273, recognizing and congratulating the East Boynton Beach, Florida, Little League team as the 2003 United States Little League Champions; and H.R. 3159, Government Network Security Act of 2003.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on International Relations: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 3145, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to reauthorize the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

The Committee adversely reported H. Res. 364, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than 14 days after the date of adoption of this resolution the report prepared for the Joint Chiefs of Staff entitled “Operation Iraqi Freedom Strategic Lessons Learned:” and documents in his possession on the reconstruction and security of post-war Iraq.

The Committee also approved a motion urging the Chairman to request that the following measures be considered on the Suspension Calendar: H. Con. Res. 274, commending the National Endowment for Democracy for its contributions to democratic development around the world on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the National Endowment for Democracy; H.R. 2264, Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act of 2003; H. Res. 372, expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives in response to the murder of Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh; and H. Res. 356, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the man-made famine that occurred in Ukraine 1932–1933.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD IRAQ

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on U.S. Policy Toward Iraq. Testimony was heard from Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq and Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority.

TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY—IMPACT ON FEDERAL MINERALS AND ENERGY

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing entitled “The Toxic Release Inventory and its Impact on Federal Minerals and Energy.” Testimony was heard from Kim Nelson, Assistant Administrator, EPA; and public witnesses.

MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENTS; MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 2693, Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2003.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 154, to exclude certain properties from the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System; H.R. 2501, to clarify the boundaries of Coastal Barrier Resources System Cape Fear Unit NC-07P; H.R. 2619, to provide for the expansion of Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge; H.R. 2623, Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge Expansion Act; and H.R. 3056, to clarify the boundaries of the John H. Chafee Coast Barrier Resources

System Cedar Keys Unit P25 on Otherwise Protected Area P25P. Testimony was heard from Representatives Paul, Bachus, McIntyre and Case; Clint Riley, Special Assistant to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

WATER SUPPLY, RELIABILITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power approved for full Committee action H.R. 2828, Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act.

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON: REMOVING BARRIERS TO TECHNOLOGY TO PREVENT BLACKOUTS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on Keeping the Lights on: Removing Barriers to Technology to Prevent Blackouts. Testimony was heard from James W. Glotfelty, Director, Office of Electric Transmission and Distribution, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

FUTURE OF RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Rural Enterprises, Agriculture and Technology held a hearing entitled "The Future of Rural Telecommunications: Is the Universal Service Fund Sustainable?" Testimony was heard from Kathleen Abernathy, Commissioner, FCC; and public witnesses.

VA'S LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Benefits held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs' Life Insurance Program. Testimony was heard from Thomas M. Lastowka, Director, VA Regional Office and Insurance Center, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Col. Virginia S. Penrod, USAF, Director, Compensation, Military Personnel Policy, Department of Defense; and representatives of veterans organizations.

SSA'S MANAGEMENT—OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on the SSA's Manage-

ment of the Office of Hearings and Appeals. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the SSA: Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner; and James G. Huse, Jr., Inspector General; Syl Scheiber, member, Social Security Advisory Board; and public witnesses.

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.

INFORMATION ANALYSIS AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AND THE TERRORIST THREAT INTEGRATION CENTER

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security met in executive session to hold a hearing on Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection and the Terrorist Threat Integration Center. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1023)

H.R. 13, to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act. Signed on September 25, 2003. (Public Law 108–81).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No Committee meetings are scheduled.