

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the budget and economic outlook for fiscal years 2005 to 2014, after receiving testimony from Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to assess the international effort to stabilize and rebuild Afghanistan, focusing on the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), after receiving testimony from General James L. Jones, Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium; and William B. Taylor, Jr., Coordinator for Afghanistan, Department of State.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security concluded an oversight hearing to examine the disclosure of mutual fund fees and the need for additional disclosures of mutual fund practices, including how the fees and other costs that investors pay as part of owning fund shares can affect their investment returns, after receiving testimony from Richard J. Hillman, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, General Accounting Office; New York Attorney General Eliot L. Spitzer, Albany; Peter T. Scannell, Weymouth Landing, Massachusetts; James Nesfield, Nesfield Capital, Engelhard, North Carolina; John C. Bogle, Bogle Financial Markets Research Center/Vanguard Group, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania; Jeffrey C. Keil, Lipper Inc., Travis Plunkett, Consumer Federation of America, Paul S. Stevens, Dechert LLP, on behalf of the Investment Company Institute, and Marc E. Lackritz, Securities Industry Association, all of Washington, D.C.; and John P. Freeman, University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia.

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTINUITY

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine a proposed constitutional amendment to guarantee a functioning Congress, with respect to ensuring the continuity of the United States government, after receiving testimony from former Senator Alan Simpson, on behalf of the Continuity of Government Commission; Sanford V. Levinson, University of Texas Law School, Austin; and Howard M. Wasserman, Florida International University College of Law, Miami.

SEAPORT SECURITY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine seaport security since September 11, 2001, focusing on the National Targeting Center, the Automated Targeting System, the Container Security Initiative, and non-intrusive inspection and radiation detection technologies, after receiving testimony from Rear Admiral Larry L. Hereth, Director of Port Security, U.S. Coast Guard, and Robert M. Jacksta, Executive Director, Border Security and Facilitation, Office of Field Operations, Customs and Border Protection, both of the Department of Homeland Security; and Gary M. Bald, Acting Assistant Director, Counter-Terrorism Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

RETIREMENT PLANNING

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine retirement planning, including retirement reform proposals, after receiving testimony from Jack L. VanDerhei, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the Employee Benefit Research Institute; and Jagadeesh Gokhale, CATO Institute, Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 3729–3734; 1 private bill, H.R. 3735; and 1 resolution, H. Con. Res 350, were introduced. **Page H127**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H128**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 502, providing for consideration of S. 610, to amend the provisions of title 5, United States Code, to provide for workforce flexibilities and certain Federal personnel provisions relating to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (H. Rept. 108–406); and

H. Res. 503, providing for consideration of S. 1920, to extend for 6 months the period for which

chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted (H. Rept. 108–407). **Page H127**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bonner to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H101**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:44 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H103**

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

Extending the authorization for a postage stamp to benefit breast cancer research: H.R. 1385, to extend the provision of title 39, United States Code, under which the United States Postal Service is authorized to issue a special postage stamp to benefit breast cancer research, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 331 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 6; **Pages H104–09, H112–13**

Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act of 2003: H.R. 3493, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make technical corrections relating to the amendments made by the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 333 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 7; **Pages H109–12, H113**

Joint Meeting of Congress: Agreed that it be in order at any time on Wednesday, February 4, 2004, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the chair, for the purpose of receiving in Joint Meeting His Excellency Jose Maria Aznar, President of the Government of Spain. **Page H112**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:54 p.m. and reconvened at 6:31 p.m. **Page H112**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H112–13 and H113. There were no recorded votes or quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

BUDGET AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on the Budget and Economic Outlook—Fiscal Years 2005–2014. Testimony was heard from Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director, CBO.

NASA WORKFORCE FLEXIBILITY ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule providing one hour of general debate on S. 610, NASA Workforce Flexibility Act of 2003, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science and 20 minutes equally divided

and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule and that it shall be considered as read. The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Boehlert.

FAMILY FARMER BANKRUPTCY RELIEF EXTENSION

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a modified closed rule providing one hour of general debate on the bill S. 1920, to extend for 6 months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States code is reenacted, and amendments made in order equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule provides that it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of H.R. 975 as passed by the House, and that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments to that amendment in the nature of a substitute which are printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that the amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Section 2 of the resolution provides that if the Senate bill, as amended, is passed then it shall be in order to move that the House insist on its amendment to S. 1920 and request a conference thereof. Testimony was heard from Chairman Sensenbrenner and Representative Baldwin.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D5)

H.R. 2673, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year