

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 22 public bills, H.R. 3890–3911; 1 private bill, H.R. 3912; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 378–379, were introduced.

Pages H870–71

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H871–72

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Pension Funding Equity Act of 2003—Motion to go to Conference: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3108, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily replace the 30-year Treasury rate with a rate based on long-term corporate bonds for certain pension plan funding requirements and other provisions, and agreed to a conference.

Page H835

Appointed as conferees: From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modification committed to conference: Representatives Boehner, McKeon, Sam Johnson (TX), Tiberi, George Miller (CA), and Andrews.

Page H835

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Thomas, Portman, and Rangel.

Page H835

Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act of 2004: The House passed H.R. 3752, to promote the development of the emerging commercial human space flight industry, to extend the liability indemnification regime for the commercial space transportation industry, to authorize appropriations for the Office of the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 402 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 39.

Pages H835–40

Agreed to:

Boehlert amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of March 3) that makes technical corrections to the bill; and

Page H839

Flake amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of March 3) that holds funding for the next three fiscal years for the Federal Aviation Administration's Office of Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation at the current spending level.

Pages H839–40

H. Res. 546, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to on Wednesday, March 3.

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

Honoring the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration on the occasion of its

30th Anniversary: Debated on March 3, H. Res. 412, honoring the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration on the occasion of its 30th Anniversary, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 402 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 40; and

Page H841

Supporting the goals of Japanese American, German American, and Italian American communities in recognizing a National Day of Remembrance: Debated on March 3, H. Res. 56, supporting the goals of the Japanese American, German American, and Italian American communities in recognizing a National Day of Remembrance to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the restriction, exclusion, and internment of individuals and families during World War II, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 404 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 41.

Pages H841–42

Late Report: Agreed that the Committee on the Judiciary have until midnight on March 5 to file a report on H.R. 339, to prevent frivolous lawsuits against the manufacturers, distributors, or sellers of food or non-alcoholic beverage products that comply with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

Page H843

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourn today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, March 8, and further that when it adjourn on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9 for Morning-Hour debate.

Page H843

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, March 10.

Page H843

Presidential Message: Read a letter from the President wherein he transmitted the text of a proposed Protocol Amending the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 108–169).

Page H868

Senate Message: Message from the Senate appears today on page H833.

Senate Referral: S. 2057 was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Page H869

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H840, H841, and H841–42. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11:30 a.m. and adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies held a hearing on Marketing and Regulatory Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: William T. Hawks, Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Bobby R. Accord, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; A.J. Yates, Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service; and Donna Reifschneider, Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on the Bureau of Reclamation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Gale A. Norton, Secretary; and John W. Keys III, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Secretary of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Tom Ridge, Secretary of Homeland Security.

INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Fish and Wildlife Service. Testimony was heard from Steven A. Williams, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on Secretary of Health and Human Services. Testimony was heard from Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the EPA. Testimony was heard from Michael Leavitt, Administrator, EPA.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National

Defense Authorization budget request—Military Construction Budget Request for the Programs of the Department of the Army and the Department of the Navy. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Geoffrey G. Prosch, Acting Assistant Secretary, Installations and Environment; Maj. Gen. Larry J. Lust, USA, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installation Management; Maj. Gen. Walter Pudlowski, USA, Special Assistant to the Director, Army National Guard; and Brig. Gen. Gary M. Profit, USA, Deputy Chief, Army Reserve; and the following officials of the Department of the Navy: H.T. Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Installations and Environment; Rear Adm. Christopher Weaver, USN, Commander, Navy Installations; and Brig. Gen. Willie J. Williams, USMC, Assistant Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics (Facilities), Commandant of the Marine Corps (LF).

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—AVIATION INDUSTRIAL BASE AND DOD ROTORCRAFT INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Aviation Industrial Base and Department of Defense Rotorcraft Investment Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Al Shaffer, Director, Plans and Programs for the Director, Defense Research and Engineering, Office of the Secretary; Maj. Gen. James D. Thurman, USA, Director, Army Aviation Task Force; Tom Laux, Program Executive Officer (Air Anti-Submarine Warfare, Assault, and Special Missions), Department of the Navy; Rear Adm. Andy Winns, USN, Deputy N78 Aviation Requirements Officer for Helicopters, U.S. Navy; and Brig. Gen. Samuel T. Helland, USMC, Assistant Deputy Commandant, Aviation, U.S. Marine Corps; Joseph H. Bogosian, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Transportation and Machinery, Department of Commerce; and a public witness.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST—DOD HOMELAND DEFENSE AND HOMELAND SECURITY MISSIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization Budget Request—Department of Defense Responsibilities in Homeland Defense and Homeland Security Missions. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Paul McHale, Assistant Secretary (Homeland Defense); Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, USA, Chief, National Guard Bureau; and Maj. Gen. John A. Love, USAF, Special Assistant to the Commander, Northern Command, National Guard Matters.