

Law Revision Counsel—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Mr. Peter LeFevre as Law Revision Counsel for the House of Representatives, effective May 4, 2004. **Page H2037**

Pension Funding Equity Act of 2003—Order of Business: Agreed that it be in order at any time to consider a conference report to accompany H.R. 1308, 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; that the conference report be considered as read; and that all points of order against the conference report and its consideration be waived. **Pages H1997–H2014**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1793.

Senate Referral: S. 275 was referred to the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Energy and Commerce. **Page H2014**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H1845, H2031–32, H2032, H2032–33, and H2033–34. There were no quorum calls.

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

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, JUDICIARY AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies held a hearing on Broadcasting Board of Governors. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Broadcasting Board of Governors: Kenneth Tomlinson, Chairman; and Norman Pattiz, member of the Board.

The Subcommittee held a hearing on Department of State International Organizations. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Ambassador John D. Negroponte, U. S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations; and Kim Holmes, Assistant Secretary.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the Legal Services Corporation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Legal Services Corporation: Helanine Barnett; President; and Frank B. Strickland, Chairman.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on District of Columbia held a hearing on Public Defender Services, Court Services, and Offender Supervision. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the District of Columbia: Ronald S. Sullivan, Director, Public Defender Services; and Paul A. Quander, Jr., Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs held a hearing on U.S. Agency for International Development. Testimony was heard from Andrew S. Natsios, Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development, Department of State.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

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

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on the National Endowment for the Arts and on the National Endowment for the Humanities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities: Dana Gioia, Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts; and Bruce Cole, Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities.

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 Workforce Preparation and Training. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Education: Susan K. Sclafani, Assistant Secretary, Office of Vocational and Adult Education; and Sally Stroup, Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Executive Office of the President. Testimony was heard from Tim Campen, Assistant to the President and Director of Office of Administration.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the NSF. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the NSF: Arden L. Bement, Acting Director; and Warren M. Washington, Chairman.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—FUTURE COMBAT SYSTEM AND FORCE PROTECTION INITIATIVES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Future Combat System and Force Protection Initiatives. Testimony was heard from Paul L. Francis, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Defense: LTG Joseph L. Yakovac, Jr., USA, Military Deputy and Director, Army Acquisition Corps, Office of the Assistant Secretary (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), and LTG Benjamin S. Griffin, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G8 (programming, materiel integration, and management), both with the Department of the Army; and LTG Edward Hanlon, Jr., USMC, Deputy Commandant, Combat Development, U.S. Marine Corps.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Destructions of the U.S. Chemical Weapons Stockpile—Program and Status. Testimony was heard from Raymond J. Decker, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Defense: Dale E. Klein, Assistant to the Secretary, Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs; Claude Bolton, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics); Pat Wakefield, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Chemical Demilitarization and Counterproliferation); and Mike Parker, Director, U.S. Army Chemical Material Agency; Craig Conklin, Chief, Nuclear and Chemical Hazards Branch Preparedness Division, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; Patrick J. Meehan, M.D., Deputy Director, Program National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Department of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET PRIORITIES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Held a hearing entitled “FY 2005 Budget Priorities for the Department of Energy.” Testimony was heard from Spencer Abraham, Secretary of Energy.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health continued hearings entitled “Inter-governmental Transfers: Violations of the Federal-State Medicaid Partnership or Legitimate State Budget Tool?” Testimony was heard from Dennis G. Smith, Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and Barbara Edwards, Deputy Director, Office of Medicaid, Department of Job and Family Services, State of Ohio.

SATELLITE HOME VIEWER IMPROVEMENT REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing on the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Reauthorization Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from Eloise Gore, Assistant Division Chief, Media Bureau's Policy Division, FCC; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.” Testimony was heard from John D. Hawke, Jr., Comptroller of the Currency.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Government Reform: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 3737, amended, Administrative Law Judges Pay Reform Act of 2004; H.R. 3751, amended, to require the Office of Personnel and Management study and present options under which dental and vision benefits could be made available to Federal employees and other appropriate classes of individuals; H.R. 4012, to amend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 to permanently authorize the public school and private school tuition assistance programs established under the Act; H.R. 1822, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3751 West 6th Street in Los Angeles, California, as the “Dosan Ahn Chang Ho Post Office”; H.R. 3939, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14–24 Abbot Road in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, as the “Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building”; H.R. 3942, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7 Commercial Boulevard in Middletown, Rhode Island, as

the “Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building”; H.R. 4037, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 475 Kell Farm Drive in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as the “Richard G. Wilson Processing and Distribution Facility”; H. Res. 399, Honoring the life and legacy of Melvin Jones and recognizing the contributions of Lions Clubs International; H. Res. 578, Supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month; and S. Con. Res. 97, Recognizing the 91st annual meeting of the Garden Club of America.

“AFGHANISTAN: ARE THE BRITISH COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS GOING WOBBLY?”

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, hearing entitled “Afghanistan: Are the British Counternarcotics Efforts Going Wobbly?” Testimony was heard from Robert Charles, Assistant Secretary, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Department of State.

MARIJUANA AND MEDICINE

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources held a hearing entitled “Marijuana and Medicine: The Need for a Science-Based Approach.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Nora D. Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH; and Robert J. Meyer, M.D., Director, Office of Drug Evaluation II, Center for Evaluation and Research, FDA; Patricia Good, Chief, Liaison and Policy Section, Office of Diversion Control, DEA, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

AFRICA—FIGHTING TERRORISM

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Africa held a hearing on Fighting Terrorism in Africa. Testimony was heard from Karl Wycoff, Associate Coordinator, Press, Policy and Plans, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Department of State, and public witnesses.

AL-QAEDA—THREAT TO U.S. AND ALLIES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Human Rights held a hearing on Al-Qaeda: The Threat to the United States and Its Allies. Testimony was heard from Ambassador-at-Large J. Cofer Black, Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Department of State.

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT—PRESCRIBE OATH OF RENUNCIATION AND ALLEGIANCE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims held a hearing on H.R. 3191, to prescribe the oath of renunciation and allegiance for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Ryun of Kansas; Alfonso Aguilar, Chief, Office of Citizenship, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

LUMBEE RECOGNITION ACT

Committee on Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 898, Lumbee Recognition Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives McIntyre and Burr; Michael Olsen, Counselor to the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

GREEN CHEMISTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2004

Committee on Science: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 3970, Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2004.

LUNAR SCIENCE AND RESOURCES: FUTURE OPTIONS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Space held a hearing on Lunar Science and Resources: Future Options. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—AIRPORT DEREGULATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held an oversight hearing on Airport Deregulation. Testimony was heard from Jeffrey N. Shane, Under Secretary, Policy, Department of Transportation; James E. Bennett, President and CEO, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; Bonnie Allin, President and CEO, Tucson Airport Authority, Tucson, Arizona; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—REPORT VA’S VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE TASK FORCE

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Subcommittee on Benefits held an oversight hearing to receive the report of the VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service Task Force. Testimony was heard from Dorcas R. Hardy, Chairman, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service Task Force, Department of Veterans Affairs.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2004 ANNUAL REPORTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on the Board of Trustees 2004 Annual Reports. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services: Leslie V. Norwalk, Acting Deputy Administrator; and Jeff Flick, San Francisco Regional Administrator.

MEDICARE DISCOUNT DRUG CARD

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on The Medicare Discount Drug Card. Testimony was heard from Representative Foley; Michael McMullan, Deputy Director, Center for Beneficiary Choices, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

COUNTERNARCOTICS BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on the Counternarcotics Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy and National Security met in executive session to hold a hearing on Intelligence Community Language Capabilities. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

PENSION FUNDING EQUITY ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of 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.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D264)

S. 2231, to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through June 30, 2004. Signed on March 31, 2004. (Public Law 108–210)

S. 2241, to reauthorize certain school lunch and child nutrition programs through June 30, 2004. Signed on March 31, 2004. (Public Law 108–211)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on the Department of Defense Counternarcotics Program; to be followed by a closed session in SR–232A, 9:30 a.m., SR–222.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, hearing and markup of H.R. 2771, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize the New York City Watershed Protection Program, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on Special Programs Budget, 9 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the employment situation for March, 9:30 a.m., 1334 LHOB.