

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Thornberry to act as Speaker Pro Tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through May 4, 2004.

Pages H2485–86

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no votes or quorum calls.

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

Committee Meetings

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs held a hearing on Security Assistance Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Richard L. Armitage, Deputy Secretary, Department of State; and Paul D. Wolfowitz, Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense.

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 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Research and Services. Testimony was heard from Charles G. Curiam, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Federal Highway Administration (Environmental Streamlining). Testimony was heard from Mary Peters, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation.

AFGHANISTAN: SECURITY AND RECONSTRUCTION

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on Afghanistan: Security and Reconstruction. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Peter Rodman, Assistant Secretary, International Security Affairs; and LTG Walter Sharp, USA, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, The Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Ambassador William Taylor, Coordinator for Afghanistan, Department of State.

DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SYSTEM—REFORM AND STRENGTHEN

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations held a hearing entitled “Examining Long-Term Solutions to Reform and Strengthen the Defined Benefit Pension System.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SPYWARE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Spyware: What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FTC: Mozelle W. Thompson, Commissioner; and J. Howard Beales III, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection; and public witnesses.

ULTRADEEP WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “Ultradeep Water Research and Development: What Are the Benefits?” Testimony was heard from Representatives DeLay and Sandlin; Howard Gruenspecht, Deputy Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

TRANSFORMING THE NATIONAL GUARD: RESOURCING FOR READINESS

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled “Transforming the National Guard: Resourcing for Readiness.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Paul McHale, Assistant Secretary, Homeland Security; Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary, Reserve Affairs; LTG H. Steven Blum, USA, Chief, National Guard Bureau; and MG John A. Love, USAF, Special Assistant to Combatant Commander for National Guard Affairs, U.S. Northern Command; Janet A. St. Laurent, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, GAO; and the following Adjutant Generals: Wayne Marty, USA, State of Texas; MG Timothy J. Lowenberg, USAF, State of Washington; and MG Bruce Tuxill, USAF, State of Maryland.

DIVERSITY VISA PROGRAM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims held an oversight hearing entitled “The Diversity Visa Program, and Its Susceptibility to Fraud and Abuse.” Testimony was heard from Anne W. Patterson, Deputy Inspector General, Department of State; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on the International Aspects of Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Management. Testimony was heard from David A. Balton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Ocean and Fisheries, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State; William T. Hogarth, Assistant Administrator, Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce; Kenneth B. Stansell, Assistant Director, International Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3638, Redwood National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2003; H.R. 3932, To amend Public Law 99-338 to authorize the continued use of certain lands within the Sequoia National Park by portions of an existing hydroelectric project; and S. 144, Noxious Weed Control Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from Senator Craig; the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Don Murphy, Deputy Director, National Park Service; and Scott Cameron, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Performance and Management; Brenda Waters, Noxious Weed Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, State of Idaho; and public witnesses.

CONTINUITY OF CONGRESS— INCAPACITATION OF MEMBERS AND THE QUORUM REQUIREMENT

Committee on Rules: Held a hearing to address mass incapacitation of Members and the quorum requirement in the context of the Continuity of Congress. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Office of the Parliamentarian: Charles W. Johnson, III, Parliamentarian; John Sullivan and Tom Duncan, both Deputy Parliamentarians; RADM John Eisold, M.D., USN, Attending Physician to Congress and Rear Admiral, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy; and Walter Dellinger, former Acting Solicitor General of the United States.

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE— WOULD IT HELP OR HINDER SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment and Government Programs held a hearing on Would an Increase in the Federal Min-

imum Wage Help or Hinder Small Business? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE CAPE TOWN TREATY AND THE COMMERCIAL AVIATION MANPADS DEFENSE ACT; OVERSIGHT—THE CAPE TOWN TREATY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 4226, The Cape Town Treaty Implementation Act of 2004; and H.R. 4056, Commercial Aviation MANPADS Defense Act of 2004.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on The Cape Town Treaty. Testimony was heard from Karan K. Bhatia, Assistant Secretary, Aviation and International Affairs, Department of Transportation.

VETERANS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Benefits held a hearing on the following measures: H.R. 348, Prisoners of War Benefits Act of 2003; H.R. 843, Injured Veterans Benefits Eligibility Act of 2003; H.R. 1735, To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum amount of a home loan guarantee available to a veteran; H.R. 2206, Prisoner of War/Missing in Action National Memorial Act; H.R. 2612, Veterans Adapted Housing Expansion Act of 2003; H.R. 4065, Veterans Housing Affordability Act of 2004; H.R. 3936, To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the principal office of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims to be at any location in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, rather than only in the District of Columbia, and expressing the sense of Congress that a dedicated Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center should be provided for that Court and those it serves and should be located, if feasible, at a site owned by the United States that is part of or proximate to the Pentagon Reservation; H.R. 4172, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify certain additional diseases as establishing a presumption of service-connection when occurring in veterans exposed to ionizing radiation during active military, naval, or air service; H.R. 4173, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to contract for a report on employment placement, retention, and advancement of recently separated servicemembers; and a measure to create an open period for certain active duty servicemembers to elect to participate in the program of basic educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill. Testimony was heard from Representatives Calvert, Michaud, Ginny Brown-Waite of Florida, Davis of California and Reyes; Kenneth B. Kramer, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; Robert Epley, Associate Deputy

Under Secretary, Policy and Program Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; William Carr, Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Military Personnel Policy, Department of Defense; and representatives of veterans organizations.

SSI PROGRAM

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing on the Supplemental Security Income Program. Testimony was heard from Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner, SSA.

**TRADE WITH SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA;
AFOA ACCELERATION ACT**

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on trade with sub-Saharan Afri-

ca and H.R. 4103, AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from Representative Royce; and public witnesses.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
APRIL 30, 2004**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No Committee meetings are scheduled.