

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3256–57, H3257, H3257–58, H3258–59, H3259, H3357, H3357–58, H3358–69, and H3369–70. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review Agricultural Trade Negotiations. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 4278, Improving Access to Assistive Technology for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2004.

REGIONAL ENERGY RELIABILITY AND SECURITY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “Regional Energy Reliability and Security: DOE Authority to Energize the Cross Sound Cable.” Testimony was heard from Senator Schumer; Representatives DeLauro, King of New York and Shays; the following officials of the Department of Energy: Patrick Wood, III, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and Lee Otis, General Counsel; Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General, State of Connecticut; and public witnesses.

COMMUNICATIONS MARKETPLACE COMPETITION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Competition in the Communications Marketplace: How Convergence Is Blurring the Lines Between Voice, Video, and Data Services.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT AND RESULTS ACT; OVERSIGHT—NASA’S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3826, Program Assessment and Results Act.

The Subcommittee also held an oversight hearing entitled “Mission Impossible? Fixing NASA’s Financial Management.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of NASA: Gwendolyn Brown, Chief Financial Officer; Robert Cobb, Inspector General; and Greg Kutz, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO.

FEDERAL ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held an oversight hearing entitled “Federal Enterprise Architecture: A Blueprint for Improved Federal IT Investment and Cross-Agency Collaboration and Information Sharing.” Testimony was heard from Karen S. Evans, Administrator of E-Government and Information Technology, OMB; Randolph C. Hite, Director, Information Technology Architecture and Systems, GAO; Daniel Matthews, Chief Information Office, Department of Transportation; Kim Nelson, Chief Information Officer, EPA, and public witnesses.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACT

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on Implementation of the Millennium Challenge Act. Testimony was heard from Paul Applegarth, Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation.

ESTABLISH A COMMISSION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ASSIST PARLIAMENTS IN EMERGING DEMOCRACIES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Europe approved for full Committee action H. Res. 642, Providing for the establishment of a commission in the House of Representatives to assist parliaments in emerging democracies.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 646, amended, To Expand the boundaries of the Fort Donelson National Battlefield to authorize the acquisition and interpretation of lands associated with the campaign that resulted in the capture of the fort in 1862; H.R. 1156, To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to increase the ceiling on the Federal share of the costs of phase I of the Orange County, California, Regional Water Reclamation Project; H.R. 2619, amended, Kilauea Point National Wildlife Point National Wildlife Refuge Expansion Act of 2003; H.R. 2831, amended, Newlands Project Headquarters and Maintenance Yard Facility Transfer Act; H.R. 2909, amended, Utah Test and Training Range Protection Act; H.R. 3785, amended, To authorize the exchange of certain land in Everglades Park; H.R. 4115, To amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation; H.R. 4158, To provide for the conveyance to the Government of Mexico of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration ship; H.R. 4362, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to accept a parcel of Federal land in the State of Washington in trust for the Nisqually Tribe, to ensure that the acceptance of such land

does not adversely affect the Bonneville Power Administration; S. 144, amended, Noxious Weed Control Act of 2003; and S. 1146, Three Affiliated Tribes Health Facility Compensation Act.

FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY R&D PROGRAMS IMPACT

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled "The Impact of Federal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy R&D Programs." Testimony was heard from Peter Smith, Energy Research and Development Authority, State of New York; and public witnesses.

EPA—HOMELAND SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards held a hearing entitled "Homeland Security Research and Development at the EPA: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead." Testimony was heard from Paul Gilman, Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development, EPA; Penrose C. Albright, Assistant Secretary, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

RED TAPE REDUCTION

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled "Red Tape Reduction: Improving the Competitiveness of America's Small Manufacturers." Testimony was heard from John Graham, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—BIOMETRICS USE TO IMPROVE AVIATION SECURITY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held an oversight hearing on The Use of Biometrics to Improve Aviation Security. Testimony was heard from Stewart Verdery, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Border and Transportation Security, Department of Homeland Security; Keith A. Rhodes, Chief Technologist, Applied Research and Methods, GAO; and public witnesses.

VETERANS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 4231, amended, Department of Veterans Affairs Nurse Recruitment and Retention Act of 2004; H.R. 4248, amended, Homeless Veterans Assistance Reauthorization 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. 4345, To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum amount of home loan guaranty available under the home loan guaranty program of the

Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 1716, amended, Veterans Earn and Learn Act of 2004; and H.R. 4175, amended, Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2004, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

VA'S ROLE—IN ELECTRONIC-MEDICAL RECORDS SYSTEMS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs' role in the development of interoperable Electronic-medical records systems in the Federal Government. Testimony was heard from Linda Koontz, Director, Information Management Issues, GAO; Jonathan B. Perlin, M.D., Acting Under Secretary, Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; James C. Reardon, Chief Information Officer, Military Health System, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS—BRIEFING—DOD'S INTELLIGENCE REFORM INITIATIVE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to consider pending business.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on Department of Defense Intelligence Reform Initiative (DoD HUMINT Reform). The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

2005 BUDGET

Conferees: On Tuesday, May 18, 2004, agreed to file a conference report on S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 468)

S. 2315, to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to extend the deadline for the INTELSAT initial public offering. Signed on May 18, 2004. (Public Law 108-228)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine intellectual property, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Extended Custodial Inventory Program, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and