

## Committee Meetings

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on the District of Columbia approved for full Committee action the District of Columbia appropriations for fiscal year 2005.

### TROOP ROTATIONS; MOBILIZATION OF ARMY'S READY RESERVE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Held a hearing on Army and Marine Corps troop rotations for Operation Iraqi Freedom 3 and Operation Enduring Freedom 6 and the mobilization of the Army's Individual Ready Reserve. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: David S.C. Chu, Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; LTG Norton A. Schwartz, USAF, Director of Operations (J-3), Joint Chiefs of Staff; LTG Richard A. Cody, USA, Vice Chief of Staff, Department of the Army; and LTG Jan C. Huly, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Marine Corps, Plan, Policies, and Operations.

### EXAMINING CASH BALANCE PENSION PLANS

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Held a hearing entitled "Examining Cash Balance Pension Plans: Separating Myth from Fact." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL SERVICES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing entitled "Voice Over Internet Protocol Services: Will the Technology Disrupt the Industry or Will Regulation Disrupt the Technology?" Testimony was heard from Jeffrey Carlisle, Senior Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, FCC; and public witnesses.

### ENSURING ACCURACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN LAB TESTING

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Criminal Justice continued hearings entitled "Part II—Ensuring Accuracy and Accountability in Laboratory Testing: Does the Experience of Maryland General Hospital Expose Cracks in the System?" Testimony was heard from Carol Benner, Director, Office of Health Care Quality, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, State of Maryland; and public witnesses.

### FILLING UP—DRIVING DOWN THE COST

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory

Affairs held a hearing entitled "Driving Down the Cost of Filling Up." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Guy F. Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration; and Mark R. Maddox, Acting Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy; Jeffrey R. Holmstead, Assistant Administrator, Air and Radiation, EPA; Jim Wells, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; William E. Kovacic, General Counsel, FTC; and public witnesses.

### DOD—BUSINESS PROCESS MODERNIZATION

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management and the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations held a joint oversight hearing entitled "Business Process Modernization at the Department of Defense." Testimony was heard from Lawrence Lanzilotta, Under Secretary, Comptroller (Acting); and Greg Kutz, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO.

### DEFINING FEDERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held an oversight hearing entitled "Defining Federal Information Technology Research and Development: Who? Where? What? Why? And How Much?" Testimony was heard from David Nelson, Director, National Coordination Office, Information Technology Research and Development, Executive Office of the President; Peter Freeman, Co-Chairman, Interagency Working Group and Assistant Director, Computer and Information Science and Engineering Directorate, NSF; Hratch Semerjian, Acting Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; C. Edward Oliver, Associate Director, Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

### ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM SECURITY

*Committee on House Administration:* Held a hearing on Electronic Voting System Security. Testimony was heard from Kathy Rogers, Director, Elections Administration, Office of the Secretary of State, State of Georgia; Linda H. Lamone, Administrator, Board of Elections, State of Maryland; and public witnesses.

### U.S. SUPPORT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation and

Human Rights held a hearing on United States Support of Human Rights and Democracy. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Lorne W. Craner, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; and Roger P. Winter, Assistant Administrator, Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Ordered reported the following bills: S. 2363, to revise and extend the Boys and Girls Clubs of America; and H.R. 4518, as amended, Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004.

#### LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Rules:* Granted by voice vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4755, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized appropriations or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill). The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that the amendments printed in the report 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 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. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Kingston and Representative Holt.

#### MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2004

*Committee on Rules:* Granted by voice vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3598, Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2004. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on

Science. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that the amendments printed in the report 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. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Boehlert and Representatives Ehlers, Peterson (PA), Gordon, Costello, Larson (CT), Udall (CO), Jackson-Lee (TX), Slaughter, and Emanuel.

#### REBATE OF VALUE ADDED TAXES AT THE BORDER

*Committee on Small Business:* Held a hearing on the Rebate of Value Added Taxes at the Border and the Competitive Disadvantage for U.S. Small Businesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### U.S.—MOROCCO TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Held a hearing on implementation of the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement. Testimony was heard from Peter F. Allgeier, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

### *Joint Meetings*

#### SAFE ACCOUNTABLE FLEXIBLE AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION ACT

*Conferees* met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 3550, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Tuesday, July 13.