

of Congo Peace Accords: One Year Later. Testimony was heard from Constance Berry Newman, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 822, Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2003; H.R. 4806, Pine Springs Land Exchange Act; and H.R. 4838, Health Forest Youth Conservation Corps Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from Representative Larsen of Washington and Neugebauer; Mark Rey, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, USDA; and public witnesses.

SMALL BUSINESS LIABILITY REFORM

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform and Oversight held a hearing on Small Business Liability Reform. Testimony was heard from Representative Chabot; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan—The First Major Projects. Testimony was heard from Representative Foley; COL Robert M. Carpenter, Commander, Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army; Ernest Barnett, Director, Ecosystem Projects, Department of Environmental Protection, State of Florida; and public witnesses.

VA-DoD COLLABORATION—CARE OF VETERANS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held a hearing on the evolution of VA-DoD collaboration in research and amputee care for veterans of current and past conflicts, and needed reforms in VA blind rehabilitation services. Testimony was heard from Cynthia A. Bascetta, Director, Veterans' Health and Benefits Issues, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Michael J. Kussman, M.D., Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Health; Mindy L. Aisen, M.D., Deputy Chief, Research and Development Officer; and Frederick Downs, Jr., Chief Consultant, Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service Strategic Healthcare Group; the following officials of the Department of Defense: Brett P. Giroir, M.D., Deputy Director, Defense Sciences Office, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency; LTC Paul Pasquina, M.D., USA, Chief, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Chuck Scoville, Program Manager, U.S. Amputee Patient Care, both with the Walter Reed

Army Medical Center; representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on Electronic Prescribing. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BRIEFING: INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGICAL SUPERIORITY

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical Intelligence met in executive session to receive a Briefing: Technological Superiority in the Intelligence Community. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

BRIEFING: NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND OLYMPICS THREATS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security met in executive session to receive a Briefing: Threats to the National Conventions and the Olympics. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

BRIEFING: PORT SECURITY

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security met in executive session to receive a Briefing: Port Security. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

POSTPONEMENT OF ILLNESS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine long-term trends in the health status and health spending levels of elderly Americans, focusing on evidence regarding declining rates of chronic disability and assess the best opportunities for further health promotion, after receiving testimony from James Lubitz, Acting Chief, Aging and Chronic Diseases, Statistics Branch, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; Kenneth G. Manton, Duke University Center for Demographic Studies, Durham, North Carolina; James F. Fries, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California; and Judith Feder, Georgetown University Public Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D781)

S. 15, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide protections and countermeasures against chemical, radiological, or nuclear agents that may be

used in a terrorist attack against the United States by giving the National Institutes of Health contracting flexibility, infrastructure improvements, and expediting the scientific peer review process, and streamlining the Food and Drug Administration approval process of countermeasures. Signed on July 21, 2004. (Public Law 108–276)

H.R. 218, to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns. Signed on July 22, 2004. (Public Law 108–277)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
JULY 23, 2004

Senate

No meetings/hearings are scheduled.

House

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, oversight hearing on Regulatory Aspects of Voice Over the Internet Protocol (VoIP), 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, to consider pending business, 1 p.m., and, executive, Briefing: Acting Director of Central Intelligence, 2 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

July 23, Subcommittee on Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence, executive, Briefing: Counternarcotics: Mexico, 10 a.m., H-405 Capitol.