

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 410, Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership act of 2005; H.R. 599, Federal Lands Restoration Enhancement, Public Education, and Information Resources Act of 2005, and H.R. 975, Trail Responsibility and Accountability for the Improvement of Lands Act. Testimony was heard from Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, USDA; Kim Thorsen, Assistant Director, Office of Law Enforcement and Security, Department of the Interior; Joe Donandson, Mayor, Flagstaff, Arizona; and public witnesses.

PROTECTION OF INCAPACITATED PERSONS ACT OF 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing one hour of debate in the House on H.R. 1334, Protection of Incapacitated Persons Act of 2005, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit.

SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules committee. The rule applies the waiver to any special rule reported on the legislative day of March 17, 2005, providing for consideration of a bill relating to the rights of an incapacitated person or persons.

FUTURE OF AERONAUTICS AT NASA

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on the Future of Aeronautics at NASA. Testimony was heard from J. Victor LeBacqz, Associate Administrator, Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, NASA; and public witnesses.

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS ACT

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled "The RFA at 25: Needed Improvements for Small Business Regulatory Relief." Testimony was heard from Thomas Sullivan, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, SBA; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—MEMBER PROJECTS REQUESTS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Member Project Requests for the Water Resources Development Act of 2005. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kanjorski, Shays, Pallone, Rohrabacher, Castle, Foley, McGovern, Hinojosa, Allen, Wilson of New Mexico, Holt, Miller of Michigan, Carnahan, Westmoreland, Jindal and Stupak.

PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2006 Budget for the Department of Labor. Testimony was heard from Elaine Chao, Secretary of Labor.

BUDGET HEARING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to continue hearings on the Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States; to be followed by a closed hearing in SH-219, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine posture of the U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2006, 3 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to markup The Federal Public Transportation Act of 2005, 11 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2006 for the Coast Guard Operational Readiness/Mission Balance, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Lester M. Crawford, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the report entitled, "Back from the Battlefield: Are we providing the proper care for America's Wounded Warriors?", 10 a.m., SR-418.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Under Secretary for Rural Development, 9:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, on Air Force Posture, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn, and executive, on Air Force Acquisition, 1:30 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on The Department of Homeland Security, on Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, on Secretary of Labor, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies, on the Secretary of Labor, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Science, The Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies, on SBA, 10 a.m., and on Federal Prison System, 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on current operations and the political transition in Iraq, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2006 National Defense Authorization budget request—United States Special Operations Command policy and programs, 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness and the Subcommittee on Select Education, joint hearing entitled “Tracking International Students in Higher Education: A Progress Report,” 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Setting the Path for Reauthorization: Improving Portfolio Management at the NIH,” 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “A Review of Security Initiatives at DOE Nuclear Facilities,” 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled “A Review of the Securities Arbitration System,” 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on H.R. 1185, Deposit Insurance Reform Act of 2005, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, hearing entitled “Restoring Faith in America’s Pastime: Evaluating Major League Baseball’s Efforts to Eradicate Steroid Use,” 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, oversight hearing on U.S. Counternarcotics Policy in Afghanistan: Time for Leadership, 11 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, oversight hearing on A Global Review of Human Rights: Examining the State Department’s 2004 Annual Report, 1:30 p.m., 2220 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on International Terrorism and Non-proliferation, oversight hearing on the United Nations and the Fight Against Terrorism, 2:30 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, oversight hearing on The United Nations Oil-for-Food Program: The Cotecna and Saybolt Inspection Firms, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, oversight hearing on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, oversight hearing on Holmes Group, the Federal Circuit, and the State of Patent Appeals, 3:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, oversight hearing on Responding to Organized Crimes Against Manufacturers and Retailers; followed by mark up of H.R. 32, Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, oversight hearing on a measure to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to restrict off-reservation gaming, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, oversight hearing on the Fiscal Year 2006 National Park Service Budget, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, to mark up the following measures: H.R. 1023, Charles “Pete” Conrad Astronomy Awards Act; H.R. 1158, To reauthorize the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988; H.R. 28, High-Performance Computing Revitalization Act of 2005; H.R. 1215, Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2005; H. Con. Res. 96, Recognizing the significance of African American women in the United States scientific community; and H.R. 798, Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Rural Enterprise, Agriculture and Technology, hearing entitled “The High Price of Natural Gas and its Impact on Small Businesses: Issues and Short Term Solutions,” 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, oversight hearing on The Administration’s “Strengthening America’s Communities” Initiative and its impact on economic development, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Managing the Use of Imaging Services, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, on hearing on Global Updates, 9 a.m., and executive, hearing on the Budget, 1:30 p.m., H-405 Capitol.