

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### APPROPRIATIONS: HUD

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, the Judiciary, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, after receiving testimony from Alphonso Jackson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006, after receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from William T. Hawks, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Eric M. Bost, Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, and Merle D. Pearson, Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety and Inspection, all of the Department of Agriculture.

### APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006, after receiving testimony in behalf of funds for his respective activities from Linton F. Brooks, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

### NATIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL SYSTEM

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine implementation by the Department of Defense of the National Security Personnel System, focusing on pay, performance, accountability, staffing flexibilities, and labor relations, after receiving testimony from Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy; Dan G. Blair, Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management; Derek B. Stewart, Director, Military and Department of Defense Civilian Personnel Issues, Government Accountability Office; and John Gage, American Federation of Government Employees, and Hannah S. Sistare, National Academy of Public Administration, both of Washington, D.C.

### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine Air Force acquisition oversight in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2006, after receiving testimony from Paul J. McNulty, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, Department of Justice; Joseph E. Schmitz, Inspector General, Michael L. Dominguez, Acting Secretary of the Air Force, and Sallie Flavin, Deputy Director, Defense Contract Management Agency, all of the Department of Defense; and Daniel I. Gordon, Managing Associate General Counsel for Procurement Law, Government Accountability Office.

### TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the implementation of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program, focusing on the role of the Federal government in ensuring that insurance to protect against losses from acts of terrorism remains available to Americans, after receiving testimony from Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director, Congressional Budget Office; Howard Mills, New York State Department of Insurance, Albany, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; and Ernst Csiszar, Property Casualty Insurers Association of America, J. Robert Hunter, Consumer Federation of America, Brian Duperreault, ACE Limited, on behalf of the American Insurance Association, Franklin W. Nutter, Reinsurance Association of America, and Robert J. Lowe, Lowe Enterprises, on behalf of the Coalition to Insure Against Terrorism, all of Washington, D.C.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 364, to establish a program within the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration to integrate Federal coastal and ocean mapping activities, with amendments;

S. 714, to amend section 227 of the Communications Act of 1934 relating to the prohibition on junk fax transmissions, with amendments;

S. 432, to establish a digital and wireless network technology program;

An original bill, to reauthorize and improve surface transportation safety programs; and

The nominations of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Promotion List, and 2 Coast Guard Promotion Lists.

**TAX GAP**

*Committee on Finance:* Committee held a hearing to examine issues relating to the amount of taxes, including individual income, corporate income, employment, estate, and excise, owed by taxpayers and the amount voluntarily paid on time (the so-called “tax gap”), focusing on tax laws and enforcement, pensions and employee benefits, and fraud, receiving testimony from George K. Yin, Chief of Staff, Joint Committee on Taxation; Eileen J. O’Connor, Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division, Department of Justice; David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; Mark Everson, Commissioner, Kevin M. Brown, Commissioner, Small Business/Self-Employed Division, and Nancy J. Jardini, Chief, Criminal Investigation, all of the Internal Revenue Service, and J. Russell George, Inspector General for Tax Administration, all of the Department of the Treasury; and Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, Washington, D.C.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

**UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia concluded an oversight hearing to examine a review of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995, focusing on the impact the Act has had on Federal, state, and local governments and explore if changes are necessary to strengthen the law’s procedures, definitions, and exclusions, after receiving testimony from Orice M. Williams, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; John D. Graham, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget; Elizabeth Robinson, Deputy Director, Congressional Budget Office; Maryland Delegate John Hurson, Annapolis, on behalf of the National Conference of State Legislatures; Colleen Landkamer, Blue Earth County, Mankato, Minnesota, on behalf of the National Association of Counties; and Nick Licata, City of Seattle, Washington, on behalf of the National League of Cities.

**U.S. POSTAL SERVICE**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the ongoing need for comprehensive postal reform, focusing on United States Postal Service reform that includes self-financing, transparency, flexibility, accountability and corporate best practices, after receiving testimony from Timothy S. Bitsberger, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Markets; Dan G. Blair, Acting Director, Office of Personnel Man-

agement; John E. Potter, Postmaster General, U.S. Postal Service; and David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office.

**EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine lifelong education opportunities, focusing on S. 694, to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to provide for a job training grant pilot program, after receiving testimony from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor; Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education; Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher, Frankfort, and Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius, Topeka, both on behalf of the National Governors Association; Steve Gunderson, The Greystone Group, Arlington, Virginia; Brian K. Fitzgerald, The Business-Higher Education Forum, Washington, D.C.; and Pamela Boisvert, Colleges of Worcester Consortium, Worcester, Massachusetts.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 119, to provide for the protection of unaccompanied alien children, with an amendment;

S. 555, to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal, and

The nominations of Thomas B. Griffith, of Utah, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Robert J. Conrad, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, and James C. Dever III, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship and Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security concluded joint hearings to examine immigration reform issues, focusing on deportation and related issues relating to strengthening interior enforcement, after receiving testimony from Jonathan Cohn, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division, Department of Justice; Victor X. Cerda, Acting Director of Detention and Removal Operations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and David Venturella, former Acting Director of the Office of Detention and Removal Operations, both of the Department of Homeland Security; and Lee Gelernt, American Civil Liberties Union Immigrant’s Rights Project, Washington, D.C.

## NOMINATION

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Lieutenant General Michael V. Hayden, United States Air Force, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Mikulski and Representative Murtha, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session and ordered favorably reported the nominations of John D. Negroponte, of New York, to be Director of National Intelligence, and Lieutenant General Michael V. Hayden, United States Air Force, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

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## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Measures Introduced:** 44 public bills, H.R. 1629–1672; 1 private bill, H.R. 1673 and; 8 resolutions, H. J. Res. 42; H. Con. Res. 132–133, and H. Res. 213–217 were introduced. **Pages H2100–02**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2102–04**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:  
H.R. 804, to exclude from consideration as income certain payments under the national flood insurance program (H. Rept. 109–44). **Page H2100**

**Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005:** The House passed S. 256, to amend title 11 of the United States Code, by a yea-and-nay vote of 302 yeas to 126 nays, Roll No. 108—clearing the measure for the President.  
**Pages H1974–87, H1988–92, H1993–H2077**

Rejected the Schakowsky motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the bill back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 200 yeas to 229 nays, Roll No. 107. **Pages H2074–76**

H. Res. 211, the rule providing for consideration of the measure was agreed to by a recorded vote of 227 yeas to 196 noes, Roll No. 105, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 104.  
**Pages H1991–92**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Rejected the Woolsey motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 49 yeas to 371 nays, Roll No. 103. **Pages H1987–88**

**Privileged Resolution:** The House agreed to table H. Res. 213, relating to a question of privileges of the House, by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 106. **Pages H1992–93**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 18, and further, that when the House ad-

journs on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19 for Morning Hour debate. **Page H2081**

**Calendar Wednesday:** Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, April 20. **Page H2081**

**Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Simmons to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy. **Page H2081**

**Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative King (NY) to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. **Page H2081**

**Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Representatives Kelly and Taylor (NC). **Page H2081**

**Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Representatives Kolbe and Harris. **Page H2081**

**Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with regard to disaster mitigation payments:** The House agreed by unanimous consent to concur in the Senate amendment and pass H.R. 1134, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the proper tax treatment of certain disaster mitigation payments—clearing the measure for the President. **Pages H2082–83**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1971.