

ZIMBABWE ELECTIONS

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations held a hearing on Zimbabwe: Prospects for Democracy after the March 2005 Elections. Testimony was heard from Constance Berry Newman, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—USA PATRIOT ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held an oversight hearing on the Implementation of the USA PATRIOT Act: Sections of the Act that Address—Crime, Terrorism, and the Age of Technology. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Laura H. Parsky, Deputy Assistant Attorney General; and Steven M. Martinez, Deputy Assistant Director, Cyber Division, FBI; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims held an oversight hearing entitled “October, 2005 deadline for Visa Waiver Program Countries to produce Secure Passports: Why it matters to Homeland Security.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Elaine Dezenski, Acting Assistant Secretary, Policy and Planning, Border and Transportation Security Directorate; and Richard L. Skinner, Acting Inspector General; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks held an oversight hearing on the National Historic Preservation Act. Testimony was heard from Jan Matthews, Associate Director, Cultural Resources, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; John Nau, Chairman, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and public witnesses.

SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs held a hearing entitled “Removing Obstacles to Job Creation: How Can the Federal Government Help Small Businesses Revitalize the Economy?” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CAFTA IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on Implementation of the Dominican Republic-Central

America Free Trade Agreement (DR–CAFTA). Testimony was heard from Representatives Burton, Dreier, Kaptur, DeFazio, Peterson of Minnesota, Lungren and Melancon; Peter F. Allgeier, Acting U.S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings**VETERANS PROGRAMS**

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of certain veterans organizations, after receiving testimony from LeRoy Riddell, NCC (SW), USN (Ret.), Retired Enlisted Association, Penny Splinter, Gold Star Wives, George R. Kaye, and Joseph L. Barnes, both of the Fleet Reserve Association, and Chief Master Sergeant James E. Lokovic, USAF (Ret.), Air Force Sergeants Association, all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Joint Committee on Printing: Committee met and designated Senator Lott as Chairman and Representative Ney as Vice-Chairman, and adopted its rules of procedure for the 109th Congress.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 358)

S. 256, to amend title 11 of the United States Code. Signed on April 20, 2005. (P.L. 109–8)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
APRIL 22, 2005**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine United States Special Operations Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2006; to be followed by a closed session in S–407, Capitol, 9:30 a.m., SR–222.

House

Committee on Government Reform, Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, hearing entitled “The National Parks: Will They Survive for Future Generations?” 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Friday, April 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, April 25

House Chamber

Program for Monday: The House will meet at 12 noon on Monday in pro forma session.

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