

the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11501.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Legislative Branch resumed hearings to examine the progress of Capitol Visitor Center construction, focusing on the Architect of the Capitol's progress in managing the project's schedule since the Subcommittee's last hearing, the status of an integrated schedule, fire protection, and cost, receiving testimony from Alan Hartman, Architect, and Bob Hickson, Capitol Visitor Center Project Manager, both of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol; Bernard L. Ungar, Director, and Terrell Dorn, Assistant Director, both of Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office.

Hearings continue on Tuesday, November 15.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably the following bills:

S. 1562, to provide for the merger of the bank and savings association deposit insurance funds, to modernize and improve the safety and fairness of the Federal deposit insurance system, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

An original bill to require the use of appropriated funds when the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development disposes of certain properties or loans in a discount transaction.

Also, Committee completed its review of certain spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010, and agreed on recommendations which it will make to the Committee on the Budget thereon.

### NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of the National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on reducing losses to the Program resulting from policy subsidies and repetitive loss properties, and developing accurate digital flood maps, after receiving testimony from David I. Maurstad, Acting Director, Federal Insurance Administrator, Mitigation Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate,

Department of Homeland Security; William O. Jenkins, Jr., Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Chris Landsea, Tropical Prediction Center, National Hurricane Center, National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; J. Robert Hunter, Consumer Federation of America, and Douglas J. Elliott, Center on Federal Financial Institutions, both of Washington, D.C.; Robert P. Hartwig, Insurance Information Institute, New York, New York; and Chad Berginnis, Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc., and Mark J. Browne, University of Wisconsin—Madison School of Business, both of Madison, Wisconsin.

### DERIVATIVES MARKET

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Trade and Finance concluded a hearing to examine growth and development of the derivatives market, focusing on the role of derivatives as a part of risk management for corporations and financial entities, after receiving testimony from James Newsome, New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc., Joseph P. Bauman, JB Risk Consulting, LLC, on behalf of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., Paul Bennett, New York Stock Exchange, Inc., and Charles Smithson, Rutter Associates, LLC, all of New York, New York.

### WINTER FUELS OUTLOOK

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the winter fuels outlook and the effect of high prices this coming winter, focusing on the Energy Information Administration Short-Term Energy Outlook and Winter Fuels Outlook which provides energy supply, demand and price projections and winter fuel expenditure expectations, after receiving testimony from Guy Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Tom Kuhn, Edison Electric Institute, Washington, D.C.; Laurence M. Downes, New Jersey Resources, Wall, on behalf of the American Gas Association; Peter R. Smith, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, Albany, on behalf of the National Association of State Energy Officials; and Jack Sullivan, New England Fuel Institute, Watertown, Massachusetts.

### ENERGY POLICY

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the national capacity for producing innovation in energy technologies and the importance of this innovation to our global economic competitiveness, including the results of a recent related National Academy of Sciences report,

after receiving testimony from Ralph Cicerone, National Academy of Sciences and National Research Council, Washington, D.C.; and Norman R. Augustine, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Bethesda, Maryland.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee ordered favorably reported a bill to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, to make technical corrections.

### GAS PETROLEUM REFINER IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1772, to streamline the refinery permitting process, after receiving testimony from Brian Mannix, Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency; Colorado State Senator Shawn Mitchell, Broomfield; Eric Shaeffer, Environmental Integrity Project, Washington, D.C.; and Jonathan H. Adler, Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, Ohio.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James S. Halpern, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, Susan C. Schwab, of Maryland, who was introduced by Representative Hoyer, and Karan K. Bhatia, of Maryland, each to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the Rank of Ambassador, Franklin L. Lavin, of Ohio, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, who was introduced by Senator DeWine, and Clay Lowery, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### UNITED NATIONS REFORM

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a briefing and hearing to examine prospects for United Nations reform, focusing on improving the management structure and oversight capacity of the United Nations, and challenges and opportunities in moving ahead on United Nations reform, after receiving testimony from Paul A. Volcker, Chairman, Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-For-Food Program, United Nations; and John R. Bolton, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Department of State.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee ordered favorably reported the business items:

S. 1873, to prepare and strengthen the biodefenses of the United States against deliberate, accidental, and natural outbreaks of illness, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Mark Hofflund, of Idaho, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts, Naomi Churchill Earp, of Virginia, and Christine M. Griffin, of Massachusetts, each to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jan Cellucci, of Massachusetts, Sandra Frances Ashworth, of Idaho, and Diane Rivers, of Arkansas, each to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, Bertha K. Madras, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director for Demand Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Mark S. Schneider, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Education Statistics, Department of Education, Bruce Cole, of Indiana, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and John O. Agwunobi, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Health.

Also, Committee completed its review of certain spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010, and agreed on recommendations which it will make to the Committee on the Budget thereon.

### IMMIGRATION REFORM

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine comprehensive immigration reform, focusing on border security, interior enforcement and immigration reform, after receiving testimony from Michael Chertoff, Secretary of Homeland Security; Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor; Frank Sharry, National Immigration Forum, and Mark Krikorian, Center for Immigration Studies, both of Washington, D.C.; and Douglas S. Massey, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James F.X. O'Gara, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Director for Supply Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy, and Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement,

and Emilio T. Gonzalez, of Florida, to be Director of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, who was introduced by Senator Martinez and Representative Ros-Lehtinen, both of the Department of Homeland Security, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of William F.

Tuerk, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Robert Joseph Henke, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary for Management, John M. Molino, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, Lisette M. Mondello, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, and George J. Opfer, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 7 public bills, H.R. 4070–4076; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 268; and H. Res. 498–500 were introduced.

Pages H8918–19

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H8919–20

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1400, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–250); and

H.R. 3647, to render nationals of Denmark eligible to enter the United States as nonimmigrant traders and investors, with an amendment (Rept. 109–251).

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**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Price of Georgia to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

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**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:17 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

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**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Assistance for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in Developing Countries Act of 2005:* H.R. 1409, amended, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in developing countries, by a yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 525;

Pages H8857–64, H8889

*Mourning the loss of life caused by the earthquake that occurred on October 8, 2005, in Pakistan and India, expressing the condolences of the American people to the families of the victims, and urging assistance to those affected:* H. Res. 492, to mourn the loss of life caused by the earthquake that occurred on October 8, 2005, in Pakistan and India,

expressing the condolences of the American people to the families of the victims, and urging assistance to those affected, by a yea-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 526;

Pages H8864–68, H8889–90

*Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2005:* H.R. 177, amended, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project, to authorize the Secretary to carry out a program to assist agencies in projects to construct regional brine lines in California, to authorize the Secretary to participate in the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project;

Pages H8868–69

*Rocky Mountain National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2005:* S. 55, to adjust the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park in the State of Colorado—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H8869–71

*Ojito Wilderness Act:* S. 156, to designate the Ojito Wilderness Study Area as wilderness, to take certain land into trust for the Pueblo of Zia—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H8871–73

*Extending through March 31, 2006, the authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept and expend funds contributed by non-Federal public entities and to expedite the processing of permits:* H.R. 3765, amended by the Senate, to extend through March 31, 2006, the authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept and expend funds contributed by non-Federal public entities and to expedite the processing of permits;

Pages H8873–74

*William F. Clinger, Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act:* H.R. 3549, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 210 West 3rd Avenue in Warren, Pennsylvania, as the