

1190, San Diego Water Storage and Efficiency Act of 2005; H.R. 2563, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies to address certain water shortages within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in Idaho; and H.R. 3153, Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Programs Reauthorization Act of 2005. Testimony was heard from Representative Otter; William Rinne, Deputy Commissioner, Director of Operations, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior; Tom Blickensderfer, Endangered Species Program Director, Department of Natural Resources, State of Colorado; and a public witness.

CONFERENCE REPORT—FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Committee on Ways and Means: Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 3057, Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2006, and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Representative Kolbe.

NASA'S PROGRAMS STATUS

Committee on Science: Held a hearing on Status of NASA's Programs. Testimony was heard from Michael D. Griffin, Administrator, NASA.

HURRICANE KATRINA—RESPONSE PROPOSALS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management held a hearing on proposals in response to Hurricane Katrina. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kennedy of Rhode Island, Kolbe, Platts, Blumenauer, Schmidt, Foley, Lantos, Shays, Jindal and Pickering.

OVERSIGHT—VBA'S ANNUAL BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held an oversight hearing on the development of the Veterans Benefits Administrations' annual budget request. Testimony was heard from Daniel L. Cooper, Under Secretary, Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

REVIEW—CREDIT UNION TAX EXEMPTION

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on Review of Credit Union Tax Exemption. Testimony

was heard from JoAnn Johnson, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; Steven T. Miller, Commissioner, Tax-Exempt and Government Entities Division, IRS, Department of the Treasury; Richard J. Hillman, Management Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, GAO; former Representative Norman E. D'Amours, State of New Hampshire, and former Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; and public witnesses.

UNITED STATES-BAHRAIN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

Committee on Ways and Means: Approved the draft implementing proposal on the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL UPDATES/HOTSPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Updates/Hotspots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the current economic outlook, after receiving testimony from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

APPROPRIATIONS: SCIENCE/STATE/ JUSTICE/COMMERCE

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2862, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Friday, November 4, 2005.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Regional Powers Panel, hearing on U.S. response to regional powers and inter-agency planning capabilities, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, hearing entitled "The National Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan: Is the U.S. Ready for Avian Flu?" 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Conference: meeting of conferees on H.R. 2862, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Jus-

tice, Science, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, 11:30 a.m., H140.

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for October 2005, 9:30 a.m., 2226 RHOB.