

SECURE ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND COURT PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing one hour of general debate on H.R. 1751, Secure Access to Justice and Court Protection 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. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that the amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment printed in the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Sensenbrenner and Representatives King of Iowa, Gohmert, Jackson-Lee of Texas, McCarthy, and Cuellar.

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs held a hearing entitled “The Small Business Innovation Research Program—Open Doors to New Technology.” Testimony was heard from Calvin Jenkins, Acting Associate Deputy Administrator, Government Contracting and Business Development, SBA; Frank Ramos, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense; James Decker, Principal Deputy Director, Office of Science, Department of Energy; Norka Ruiz Bravo, M.D., Deputy Director, Extramural Research, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; Colien Hefferan, Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, USDA; and Joseph Hennessey, Senior Advisor, Industrial Innovation Program, Small Business Innovation Research, NSF.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine agricultural transportation and energy issues, 10:30 a.m., SDG-50.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense Business Transformation and Financial Management Accountability, 2 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: with the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to hold joint hearings to examine energy pricing and profits, focusing on record prices of oil, gasoline, and natural gas and factors affecting those prices, issues relating to global demand, resource development strategies and windfall profits taxes, and the effectiveness of federal and state consumer protection laws to prevent occurrences of price gouging during supply disruptions, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: with the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to hold joint hearings to examine energy pricing and profits, focusing on record prices of oil, gasoline, and natural gas and factors affecting those prices, issues relating to global demand, resource development strategies and windfall profits taxes, and the effectiveness of federal and state consumer protection laws to prevent occurrences of price gouging during supply disruptions, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine issues regarding a comprehensive and integrated approach to meet the water resources needs of coastal Louisiana in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, including storm and flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration and navigation, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to review and make recommendations on proposed legislation implementing the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine Avian influenza preparation issues, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ronald L. Schlicher, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus, Ross Wilson, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, Carol van Voorst, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland, and Marilyn Ware, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Finland, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Coast Guard's response to Hurricane Katrina, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to resume oversight hearings to examine the Federal security clearance process, focusing on Office of Personnel Management's plan to address the backlog of security clearance investigations, 3 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the use of cameras in the courtroom, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights, business meeting to mark up S.J. Res. 1, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage, and S.J. Res. 12, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SH-219.

Full Committee, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies and the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, joint hearing on Natural Gas, 10 a.m., B308 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on the Defense Logistics Agency's Prime Vendor Program, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Regional Powers Panel, hearing on regional powers' threats to the United States' interests, 1:45 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing on a proposal to create a statutory framework for Internet Protocol and Broadband Services, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on H.R. 3997, Financial Data Protection Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, hearing entitled "Justice Delayed is Justice Denied: A Case for a Federal Employees Appeals Court," 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science, and Technology and the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services, joint hearing entitled "Responding to Catastrophic Events: the Role of the Military and National Guard in Disaster Response," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on International Relations, to mark up H. Res. 505, Requesting the President of the United States and directing the Secretary of State to provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in their possession relating to the White House Iraq Group, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats, hearing on Germany After the Election: Implications for Germany, Europe and U.S.-German Relations, 2:30 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing and briefing on the Illicit Drug Transit Zone in Central America, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 3889, Methamphetamine Epidermic Elimination Act of 2005; H.R. 2791, United States Patent and Trademark Fee Modernization Act of 2005; and H.R. 3729, To provide emergency authority to delay or toll judicial proceedings in United States district and circuit courts, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution, oversight hearing on The Voting Rights Act: Section 5—Judicial Evolution of the Retrogression Standard, 2 p.m., and oversight hearing on the Voting Rights Act: Section 203—Bilingual Election Requirements, Part II, 4 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, oversight hearing on the Second Discussion Draft of Legislation Off-Reservation Indian Gaming, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3626, Arthur V. Watkins Dam Enlargement Act of 2005; H.R. 3967, Pactola Reservoir Reallocation Authorization Act of 2005; and 4195, Southern Oregon Bureau of Reclamation Repayment Act of 2005, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Science, to mark up H. Res. 515, Of Inquiry requesting the President of the United States to provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in his possession relating to the anticipated effects of climate change on the coastal regions of the United States, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, to mark up H.R. 2830, Pension Protection Act of 2005, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing entitled "Unauthorized Disclosures," 9:30 a.m., and, executive, hearing entitled "Progress of the Director of National Intelligence," 1 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina, hearing entitled "Hurricane Katrina: Preparedness and Response by the State of Alabama," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Meetings: Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to hold joint hearings to examine energy pricing and profits, focusing on record prices of oil, gasoline, and natural gas and factors affecting those prices, issues relating to global demand, resource development strategies and windfall profits taxes, and the effectiveness of federal and state consumer protection laws to prevent occurrences of price gouging during supply disruptions, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Joint Meetings: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to hold joint hearings to examine energy pricing and profits, focusing on record prices of oil, gasoline, and natural gas and factors affecting those prices, issues relating to global demand, resource development strategies and windfall profits taxes, and the effectiveness of federal and state consumer protection laws to prevent occurrences of price gouging during supply disruptions, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.