

*of our servicemen and women of our armed forces and their families:* H. Con. Res. 322, amended, to express the Sense of Congress regarding the contribution of the USO to the morale and welfare of our servicemen and women of our armed forces and their families, by a yea-and-nay vote of 407 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 8;

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Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Expressing the appreciation of Congress for the contributions of the United Service Organizations, Incorporated (the USO), to the morale and welfare of the members of the Armed Forces and their families.”.

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*Supporting the goals and ideals of a Day of Hearts, Congenital Heart Defect Day in order to increase awareness about congenital heart defects:* H. Res. 629, to support the goals and ideals of a Day of Hearts, Congenital Heart Defect Day in order to increase awareness about congenital heart defects;

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*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 High Street in Clinton, Massachusetts, as the “Raymond J. Salmon Post Office”:* H.R. 4152, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 High Street in Clinton, Massachusetts, as the “Raymond J. Salmon Post Office”; and

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*Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 57 Rolfe Square in Cranston, Rhode Island, shall be known and designated as the “Holly A. Charette Post Office”:* S. 1989, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 57 Rolfe Square in Cranston, Rhode Island, shall be known and designated as the “Holly A. Charette Post Office”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 408 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 9;—clearing the measure for the President.

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**Recess:** The House recessed at 3:10 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

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**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted a report prepared by the National Science Board entitled, “Science and Engineering Indicators—2006”;—referred to the Committee on Science.

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**Senate Message:** Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H238 and H245.

**Senate Referrals:** S. 2166 was referred to the Committee on House Administration and S. 2275 was held at the desk.

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**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H239 and H239–40. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### MEMBERS’ DAY

*Committee on the Budget:* Held a hearing on Members’ Day. Testimony was heard from Representatives Neugebauer, King of Iowa, Ehlers, Holt, McMorris, Hinojosa, Tiahrt, Young of Alaska, Regula, Fossella, McGovern, Capito, Carson, Bass, Bishop of New York, Kelly, Kucinich, Miller of North Carolina, Kennedy of Minnesota, Brown-Waite of Florida, Salazar, Hayes, Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, and Mica.

### POST 9/11—NATIONAL SECURITY WHISTLEBLOWERS

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations held a hearing entitled “National Security Whistleblowers in the post-9/11 Era: Lost in a Labyrinth and Facing Subtle Retaliation.” Testimony was heard from James McVay, Deputy Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel; Glenn A. Fine, Inspector General, Department of Justice; Gregory H. Friedman, Inspector General, Department of Energy; Thomas Gimble, Acting Inspector General, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

### RESOLUTION—SUPPORTING REPUBLIC OF BELARUS EFFORTS FOR DEMOCRACY

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats approved for full Committee action the following resolutions: H. Res. 673, Expressing support for the efforts of the people of the Republic of Belarus to establish a full democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights and urging the Government of Belarus to conduct a free and fair presidential election on March 19, 2006; and H. Res. 578, Concerning the government of Romania’s ban on intercountry adoptions and the welfare of orphaned or abandoned children in Romania.

### CHINESE INFLUENCE ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Chinese Influence on U.S. Foreign Policy through U.S. Educational Institutions, Multilateral Organizations and Corporate America. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**VA EDUCATION AND TRAINING BUDGET**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held an oversight hearing on the VA's Fiscal Year 2007 budget request for the education, vocational rehabilitation, and loan guaranty programs. Testimony was heard from Ron Aument, Deputy Under Secretary, Benefits, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

**VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION BUDGET**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Health held an oversight hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs Fiscal Year 2007 budget request for the Veterans Health Administration. Testimony was heard from Jonathan B. Perlin, M.D., Under Secretary, Health, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

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**NEW PUBLIC LAWS**

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D88)

H.R. 4519, to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend funding for the operation of State high risk health insurance pools. Signed on February 10, 2006. (Public Law 109-172)

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2006**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

**Senate**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to resume hearings to examine the progress of construction on the Capitol Visitor Center, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Preston M. Geren, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of the Army, Michael L. Dominguez, of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, James I. Finley, of Minnesota, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, and Thomas P. D'Agostino, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine rebuilding needs in Hurricane Katrina-impacted areas, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on the Budget:* to hold hearings to examine understanding the causes and solutions to addressing the Federal tax gap, 10 a.m., SD-608.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold hearings to examine video franchising, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine developments in nanotechnology, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* to hold hearings to examine S. 2197, to improve the global competitiveness of the United States in science and energy technology, to strengthen basic research programs at the Department of Energy, and to provide support for mathematics and science education at all levels through the resources available through the Department of Energy, including at the National Laboratories, 10:30 a.m., SD-366.

*Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests,* to hold hearings to review the progress made on the development of interim and long-term plans for use of fire retardant aircraft in Federal wildfire suppression operations, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Terrence L. Bracy, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation, and Dennis Bottorff, Susan Richardson Williams, and William B. Sansom, all of Tennessee, Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, Howard A. Thraikill, of Alabama, and Donald R. DePriest, of Mississippi, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2007 for EPA, 9:35 a.m., SD-628.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2007 for foreign affairs; and, if a quorum is present, consider and vote on the nominations of Claudia A. McMurray, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Bradford R. Higgins, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary for Resource Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of State, Jackie Wolcott Sanders, of Virginia, to be U.S. Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be U.S. Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as U.S. Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, Janet Ann Sanderson, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti, Bernadette Mary Allen, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, Patricia Newton Moller, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi, Steven Alan Browning, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, Robert Weisberg, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Congo, Michael W. Michalak, of Michigan, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Senior Official to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum, Janice L. Jacobs, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Jeanine E. Jackson, of Wyoming, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, James D. McGee, of Florida, to