

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, with amendments; and

The nominations of Frank D. Whitney, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, Kenneth L. Wainstein, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and Thomas D. Anderson, to be United States Attorney for the District of Vermont, all of the Department of Justice.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jerome A. Holmes, of Oklahoma, to be United States Circuit

Judge for the Tenth Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Inhofe, Daniel Porter Jordan III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi, who was introduced by Senators Cochran and Lott, and Gustavo Antonio Gelpi, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, who was introduced by Representative Fortuño, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 5622–5630; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 871 were introduced. **Pages H4133–34**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4134–35**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5136, to establish a National Integrated Drought Information System within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to improve drought monitoring and forecasting capabilities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–503). **Page H4133**

Declaring that the United States will prevail in the Global War on Terror, the struggle to protect freedom from the terrorist adversary: The House began consideration of H. Res. 861, to declare that the United States will prevail in the Global War on Terror, the struggle to protect freedom from the terrorist adversary. Further consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, Friday, June 16.

Pages H4024–H4123

H. Res. 868, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 194 nays, Roll No. 287, after ordering the previous question without objection.

Pages H4014–24

Senate Message: Messages received from the Senate today appear on page H4024.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4023–24. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at midnight.

Committee Meetings

CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review Efforts to Eliminate Waste, Fraud and Abuse in the Crop Insurance Program. Testimony was heard from Eldon Gould, Administrator, Risk Management Agency, USDA; Daniel Bertoni, Acting Director, Natural Resources and Environment Division, GAO; and public witnesses.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION PUBLIC LANDS EFFECTS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Effects of Illegal Immigration on Public and Tribal Lands. Testimony was heard from Representatives Tancredo and Grijalva; the following officials of the Department of the Interior: William T. Civish, District Manager, Dila District, Bureau of Land Management; and Selanhongva McDonald, Southwestern Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs; and public witnesses.

COMBAT EQUIPMENT—IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing to receive an update on the use of combat helmets, vehicle armor, and body armor by ground forces in Operation Iraq

Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: MG Stephen M. Speakes, USA, Director, Force Development, Army G8; MG William D. Catto, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Systems Command; Roger M. Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Littoral and Mine Warfare; and MG (sel) Gary McCoy, USAF, Director, Logistics Readiness, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics, Installations and Mission Support.

HEALTH MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Ordered reported the following measures: S. 655, amended, A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the National Foundation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; H.R. 5573, Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006; H.R. 5574, amended, Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2006; H. Con. Res. 426, Recognizing the Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Food and Drugs Act for the important service it provides to the Nation; and H.R. 4157, amended, Health Information Technology Promotion Act of 2005.

SILICOSIS INVESTIGATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations approved a motion authorizing the issuance of subpoenas in connection with the Committee's investigation on silicosis.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA'S HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Regional Insecurity: DHS Grants to the National Capital Area." Testimony was heard from George W. Foresman, Under Secretary, Preparedness, Department of Homeland Security; Edward D. Reiskin, Deputy Mayor, Public Safety and Justice, District of Columbia; Robert Crouch, Assistant to the Governor for Preparedness, State of Virginia; Dennis Schrader, Director, Office of Homeland Security, State of Maryland; and David Robertson, Executive Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT—SHIRLINGTON LIMO CASE

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Management, Integration, and Oversight held a hearing entitled "An Examination of the Department of Homeland Security's Procurement Process Regarding Shirlington Limousine and Transportation, Inc." Testimony was heard from the following officials of

the Department of Homeland Security: Elaine C. Duke, Chief Procurement Officer; and Kevin Boshears, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization; and Calvin Jenkins, Deputy to the Associate Deputy Administrator, SBA

NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROPERTY—PREVENT DISCRIMINATORY TAXATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law approved for full Committee action H.R. 1369, To prevent discriminatory taxation of natural gas pipeline property.

OVERSIGHT—PATENT TROLLS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing on Patent Trolls: Fact or Fiction? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FISHERIES/HATCHERY MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 4957, Tylersville Fish Hatchery Conveyance Act; H.R. 5061, Paint Bank and Wytheville National Fish Hatcheries Conveyance Act; and H.R. 5381, National Fish Hatchery System Volunteer Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Boucher; Mamie Parker, Assistant Director, Fisheries and Habitat Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Douglas Austen, Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, State of Pennsylvania; Gary Martel, Director, Fisheries, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, State of Virginia; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE LINE ITEM VETO ACT

Committee on Rules: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 4890, Legislative Line Item Veto Act of 2006.

OVERSIGHT—INTERMODALISM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways, Transit and Pipelines held an oversight hearing on Intermodalism. Testimony was heard from Jeffrey Shane, Under Secretary, Transportation Policy, Department of Transportation; Katherine Siggerud, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; J. Robert Bray, Executive Director, Port Authority, State of Virginia; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—RECENT PATIENT SAFETY ISSUES

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held an oversight hearing on recent patient safety issues. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: James P. Bagian, M.D., VHA Chief

Patient Safety Officer and Director, VA National Center for Patient Safety; and John D. Daigh, Jr., M.D., Assistant Inspector General, Healthcare Inspections; Daniel Schultz, M.D., Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; and Laurie Ekstrand, Director, Health Care, GAO.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION ACT OF 2006

Committee on Ways and Means: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 4157, Health Information Technology Promotion Act of 2006.

SSA'S IMPROVED DISABILITY DETERMINATION PROCESS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on the Social Security Administration's Improved Disability Determination Process. Testimony was heard from Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner, SSA; Robert E. Robertson, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

SOUTH CENTRAL EUROPE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): Commission concluded a hearing to examine human rights challenges that countries in South Central Europe face as they seek integration into the European Union and/or North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), focusing on legal restrictions on religious activities and other attacks on religious freedom, lagging efforts to combat trafficking in persons, discrimination and violence against Roma, and the prevalence of official corruption and organized crime, after receiving testimony from Rosemary A. DiCarlo, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasia Affairs; Daniel Serwer, United States Institute of Peace; Janusz Bugajski, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Joseph K. Grieboski, Institute on Religion and Public Policy, all of Washington, D.C.; and Nicolae Gheorghe, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Warsaw, Poland.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 572)

H.R. 1953, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Old Mint at San Francisco, otherwise known as the "Granite Lady". Signed on June 15, 2006. (Public Law 109-230)

H.R. 3829, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Muskogee, Oklahoma, as the Jack C. Montgomery Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Signed on June 15, 2006. (Public Law 109-231)

H.R. 5401, to amend section 308 of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act to make certain clarifying and technical amendments. Signed on June 15, 2006. (Public Law 109-232)

S. 1235, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and extend housing, insurance, outreach, and benefits programs provided under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to improve and extend employment programs for veterans under laws administered by the Secretary of Labor. Signed on June 15, 2006. (Public Law 109-233)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2006

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Government Reform, hearing entitled "Disabled Services in the District of Columbia: Who is Protecting the Rights of D.C.'s Most Vulnerable Residents?" 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, hearing entitled "Evaluating the Synthetic Drug Control Strategy," 9 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection and Cybersecurity, hearing on H.R. 5604, Screening Applied Fairly and Equitably to Truckers Act of 2006, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.