

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 26 public bills, H.R. 5782–5807; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 446–448 and H. Res. 914, were introduced. **Pages H5222–23**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5223–24**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

S. 1496, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a pilot program under which up to 15 States may issue electronic Federal migratory bird hunting stamps (H. Rept. 109–556);

H.R. 854, to provide for certain lands to be held in trust for the Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–557);

H.R. 4294, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–558);

H.R. 4376, to authorize the National Park Service to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on behalf of Springfield Technical Community College, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–559);

H.R. 5094, to require the conveyance of Mattamuskeet Lodge and surrounding property, including the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge headquarters, to the State of North Carolina to permit the State to use the property as a public facility dedicated to the conservation of the natural and cultural resources of North Carolina (H. Rept. 109–560);

H.R. 5340, to promote Department of the Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–561);

S. 260, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore, enhance, and manage private land to improve fish and wildlife habitats through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (H. Rept. 109–562); and

H.R. 4014, to reauthorize the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–563). **Page H5222**

Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006: The House passed H.R. 9, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965,

by a recorded vote of 390 ayes to 33 noes, Roll No. 374, after ordering the previous question.

Pages H5143–H5207

Pursuant to the rule, 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.

Page H5177

Rejected:

Norwood amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 109–554) which sought to update the formula in section 4 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) that determines which states and jurisdictions will be covered under Section 5 of the VRA. This updated formula would be a rolling test based off of the last three presidential elections. Any state would be subject to Section 5 if it currently has a discriminatory test in place or voter turnout of less than 50% in any of the three most recent presidential elections (by a recorded vote of 96 ayes to 318 noes, Roll No. 370);

Pages H5178–86, H5204–05

Gohmert amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–554) which sought to make the reauthorization period 10 years, rather than the 25 years proposed in H.R. 9 (by a recorded vote of 134 ayes to 288 noes, Roll No. 371);

Pages H5186–91, H5205

King of Iowa amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 109–554) which sought to strike sections 7 and 8 of the bill. These sections relate to multilingual ballots and use of American Community Survey census data, and they would automatically expire in 2007 (by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 372); and

Pages H5191–98, H5205–06

Westmoreland amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 109–554) which sought to provide for an expedited, proactive procedure to bail out from coverage under the preclearance portions of the Voting Rights Act, by requiring the Department of Justice to assemble a list of all jurisdictions eligible for bailout and to notify the jurisdictions. The Department of Justice is then required to consent to the entry of a declaratory judgment allowing bailout if a jurisdiction appears on the list. Adds a three-year initial time period (and annually thereafter) for assembly of the bailout list by the Department of Justice (by a recorded vote of 118 ayes to 302 noes, Roll No. 373).

Pages H5198–H5204, H5206–07

H. Res. 910, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question without objection.

Pages H5133–43

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, July 17th, for Morning-Hour Debate.

Page H5209

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, July 19th.

Page H5209

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H5133.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 108 was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and S. Con. Res. 96 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Pages H5220–21

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5204–04, H5205, H5205–06, H5206–07, and H5207. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT—CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Program. Testimony was heard from Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, EPA; and Anu K. Mittal, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Team, GAO.

MEDICAL LIABILITY SOLUTIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Innovative Solutions to Medical Liability.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS—FOREIGN INFLUENCE FACTORS

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled “Can You Clear Me Now?: Weighing ‘Foreign Influence’ Factors in Security Clearance Investigations.” Testimony was heard from Robert Andrews, Deputy Under Secretary, Counterintelligence and Security, Department of Defense; J. William Leonard, Director, Information Security and Oversight Office, National Archives and Records Administration; and public witnesses.

NEW YORK 9/11 ASSISTANCE FRAUD

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Management, Integration, and Oversight, to continued hearings entitled “Federal 9/11 Assistance to New York: Lessons Learned in Fraud Detection, Pre-

vention, and Control.” Part 2, “Recovery.” Testimony was heard from Ruth Ritzema, Special Agent in Charge for New York, Office of Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Eric Thorson, Inspector General, SBA; Douglas Small, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training, Department of Labor; Leroy Frazer, Bureau Chief, Special Prosecutions Bureau, District Attorney’s Office, New York County; and public witnesses.

The Subcommittee concluded hearings on this subject, focusing on Part 3, “Rebuilding.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Bernard Cohen, Lower Manhattan Recovery Office, Federal Transit Administration; and Todd J. Zinser, Acting Inspector General; Michael Nestor, Director, Office of Investigations, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey; and a public witness.

VENEZUELA AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Terrorism and Nonproliferation held a hearing on Venezuela: Terrorism Hub of South America? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Frank C. Urbancic, Jr., Principal Deputy Coordinator, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism; and Charles Shapiro, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs.

OVERSIGHT—ABANDONED MINE LANDS

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing on Opportunities for Good Samaritan Cleanup of Hard Rock Abandoned Mine Lands. Testimony was heard from Brent Fewell, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, EPA; Joseph Pizarchik, Director, Bureau of Mining and Reclamation, Department of Environmental Protection, State of Pennsylvania; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—WORKING RANCHES/OPEN SPACES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held an oversight hearing on Working Ranches, Healthy Range and Maintaining Open Space, focusing on the importance of federal grazing programs and working ranches to the landscape. Testimony was heard from Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, USDA; the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Ed Shepard, Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management; and Kenneth McDermond, Deputy Manager, California-Nevada Operations, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;