

S.1082, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize and amend the prescription drug user fee provisions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Douglas G. Myers, of California, Jeffrey Patchen, of Indiana, Lotsee Patterson, of Oklahoma, all to be Members of the National Museum and Library Services Board, Stephen W. Porter, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts, and Cynthia Allen Wainscott, of Georgia, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability, and promotion lists for the Public Health Service.

ELECTION EXPENDITURES

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1091, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to repeal the limitation on party expenditures on behalf of candidates in general elections, after receiving testimony from John Samples, Cato Institute, Marc E. Elias, Perkins Coie LLP, Fred Wertheimer, Democracy 21, Thomas E. Mann, Brookings Institution, Gary Kalman, United States Public Interest Research

Group, and Michael J. Malbin, Campaign Finance Institute, all of Washington, D.C.

SARBANES-OXLEY ACT AND SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (Public Law 107-204) and its impact on small public companies, after receiving testimony from Christopher Cox, Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Mark W. Olson, Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, Washington, D.C.; Thomas R. Venables, Benjamin Franklin Bank, on behalf of the American Bankers Association, and Joseph Piche, Eikos, Inc., both of Franklin, Massachusetts; and Richard Wasielewski, Nortech Systems, Inc., Wayzata, Minnesota.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Thomas E. Harvey, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional Affairs).

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 32 public bills, H.R. 1905-1936; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 116-119; and H. Res. 315-317, 320-321, were introduced. **Pages H3559-61**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3561-62**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 317, providing for consideration of H.R. 1905, to provide for the treatment of the District of Columbia as a Congressional district for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives and providing for consideration of H.R. 1906, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the estimated tax payment safe harbor based on income for the preceding year in the case of individuals with adjusted gross income greater than \$5 million (H. Rept. 110-98);

H. Res. 318, providing for consideration of H.R. 363 to authorize appropriations for basic research and research infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships (H. Rept. 110-99);

H. Res. 319, providing for consideration of H.R. 1495, to provide for the conservation and develop-

ment of water and related resources and to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States (H. Rept. 110-100); and

H.R. 1281, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain deceptive practices in Federal elections, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110-101). **Page H3559**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Eshoo to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H3481**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Ron Jackson, East Gaffney Baptist Church, Gaffney, South Carolina. **Page H3481**

Calendar Wednesday: On a call of committees pursuant to the Calendar Wednesday rule, no bills were called up for consideration. **Page H3481**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measures:

Offering heartfelt condolences to the victims and their families regarding the horrific violence at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, and to the students, faculty, administration and staff and their families who have been deeply affected by the

tragic events that occurred there: H. Res. 306, to offer heartfelt condolences to the victims and their families regarding the horrific violence at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, and to the students, faculty, administration and staff and their families who have been deeply affected by the tragic events that occurred there, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 221;

Pages H3486–92, H3510–11

Commending the achievements of the Rutgers University women’s basketball team and applauding the character and integrity of their student-athletes: H. Res. 300, to commend the achievements of the Rutgers University women’s basketball team and applauding the character and integrity of their student-athletes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 416 yeas with none voting “nay” and 2 voting “present”, Roll No. 226; and

Pages H3492–94, H3527–28

Honoring the 53,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and civilians that comprise the Nation’s special operations forces community: H. Res. 305, to honor the 53,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and civilians that comprise the Nation’s special operations forces community.

Pages H3494–99

Relief for Entrepreneurs: Coordination of Objectives and Values for Effective Recovery Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 1361, to improve the disaster relief programs of the Small Business Administration, by a recorded vote of 267 yeas to 158 noes, Roll No. 225.

Pages H3511–27

Rejected the McHenry motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Small Business with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 204 yeas to 218 noes, Roll No. 224.

Pages H3525–26

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Small Business now printed in the bill and modified by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 110–97 shall be considered as adopted and shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment.

Page H3516

Agreed to:

Jindal modified amendment (No. 3 printed in Part B of House Report 110–97) that adds a new section to the bill relating to a Gulf Coast disaster loan refinancing program.

Pages H3522–23

Rejected:

Chabot amendment (No. 1 printed in Part B of House Report 110–97) that sought to strike section 211, thereby requiring anyone receiving both a grant and a disaster loan to use the grant to repay the disaster loan thereby preventing the government from compensating the same person twice for the same

disaster (by a recorded vote of 178 yeas to 246 noes, Roll No. 222) and

Pages H3519–21, H3523–24

Chabot amendment (No. 2 printed in Part B of House Report 110–97) that sought to strike section 210, thereby eliminating the authority of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to offer grants to certain small businesses that were severely affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, or Wilma but that were denied disaster loans (by a recorded vote of 174 yeas to 252 noes, Roll No. 223).

Pages H3521–22, H3524

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

Pages H3528–29

H. Res. 302, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question.

Pages H3506–08

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Jim Jontz, former Member of Congress.

Page H3527

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, April 17th:

Supporting the goals and ideals highlighted through National Volunteer Week: H. Res. 293, to support the goals and ideals highlighted through National Volunteer Week, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 411 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 227.

Page H3528

Shareholder Vote on Executive Compensation Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 1257, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation. Further consideration is expected to continue Friday, April 20th.

Pages H3530–50

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Page H3539

Agreed to:

Bachus amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of April 17, 2007) that makes technical changes to section 2 of the bill;

Pages H3539–40

Roskam amendment (No. 12 printed in the Congressional Record of April 17, 2007) that adds clarifying language relating to special meetings of shareholders; and

Page H3540

Frank modified amendment (No. 4 printed in the Congressional Record of April 17, 2007) that adds clarifying language to the bill.

Page H3540

Withdrawn:

Jackson-Lee amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of April 17, 2007) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that sought to add a new paragraph relating to the website disclosure of votes.

Pages H3540–41

H. Res. 301, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 227 ayes to 195 noes, Roll No. 220, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 219.

Pages H3499–H3506, H3508–10

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3509, H3509–10, H3510, H3523–24, H3524, H3526, H3526–27, H3527–28, and H3528. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture held a hearing to review the economic impacts of production, processing and marketing of organic agricultural products. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Army Reset. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Army: LTG Stephen Speakes, G8; LTG Ann Dunwoody G4; and LTG William Mortensen, Army Material Command.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Army/Marine Corps Personnel Issues. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: LTG Michael D. Rochelle, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G1; and LTG Ronald S. Coleman, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Power.

FINANCIAL SERVICE AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on the GSA. Testimony was heard from Lurita A. Doan, Administrator, GSA.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies continued

appropriation hearing. Testimony was heard from public witnesses (Native Americans).

U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Budget Request U.S. Central Command. Testimony was heard from ADM William Fallon, USN, Commander, U.S. Central Command, Department of Defense.

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION FUELS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “Alternative Transportation Fuels: An Overview.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MEDICARE PROGRAM EFFICIENCY AND INTEGRITY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Medicare Program Efficiency and Integrity.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Leslie V. Norwalk, Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and Stuart E. Wright, Deputy Inspector General, Evaluation and Inspections; Daniel S. Fridman, Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General and Special Counsel for Health Care Fraud, Department of Justice; and Mark E. Miller, Executive Director, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.

LEBANON’S POLITICAL SITUATION

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia held a hearing on the Political Situation in Lebanon. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: C. David Welch, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs; and Mark Ward, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia and the Near East, U.S. Agency for International Development.

ISOLATING PROLIFERATORS AND SPONSORS OF TERROR

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade, and the Subcommittee on Domestic, and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology of the Committee on Financial Services held a joint hearing on Isolating Proliferators and Sponsors of Terror: The Use of Sanctions and the International Financial System to Change Regime Behavior. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Daniel Glaser, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Terrorist Financing and Financial Crimes, Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence; and Adam J. Szubin, Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control;