

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008: The House began consideration of H.R. 3161, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. Further consideration is expected to resume Wednesday, August 1st.

Pages H9231–44, H9253–68

Rejected the Price (GA) motion that the Committee rise by a recorded vote of 172 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 776. Earlier, a vote was called pending the absence of a quorum, and, subsequently 389 members recorded their presence, Roll No. 775.

Pages H9253–55

Agreed to sustain the ruling of the chair on a point of order raised against the content of debate by a recorded vote of 220 ayes to 178 noes, Roll No. 777.

Pages H9256–67

Agreed to the Hoyer motion that the Committee rise by a recorded vote of 235 ayes to 153 noes, Roll No. 778.

Pages H9267–68

H. Res. 581, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 769.

Pages H9212–19, H9227

Recess: The House recessed at 7:47 p.m. and reconvened at 3:41a.m.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page S9219.

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page 9270.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One quorum call, twelve yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9210, H9210–11, H9211, H9225, H9225–26, H9226–27, H9227, H9227–28, H9228–29, H9229, H9229–30, H9230–31, H9253–54, H9254, H9266–67, and H9267–68.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 3:45 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1st.

Committee Meetings

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held hearing on the Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol: Stephen T. Ayers, Acting Architect; and Bernard Ungar, Capitol Visitor Center Project Executive; Terrell Dorn, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

AUGMENTEE FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on Use of In Lieu Of, Ad Hoc and Augmentee Forces in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Testimony was heard from following officials of the Department of Defense: BG Jack B. Eggington, USAF, Deputy Director, Operations, U.S. Central Command; MG Jason K. Kamiya, USA, Director, Joint Training, U.S. Joint Forces Command; BG David D. Halverson, USA, Director, Operations, Readiness and Mobilization, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7, Headquarters U.S. Army; RADM Timothy M. Giardina, USN, Director, Information, Plans and Security, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; and BG Marke F. Gibson, USAF, Director, Current Operations and Training, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

ALTERNATIVES FOR IRAQ'S FUTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations continued hearings on A Third Way: Alternatives for Iraq's Future (Part 4). Testimony was heard from GEN Jack Keane, USA (ret.), former Vice Chief of Staff, Army; LTG Gregory S. Newbold, USMC (ret.), former Director, Operations (J–3), Joint Chiefs of Staff; former GEN Barry McCaffrey, USA, (ret.); and public witnesses.

IRAQ-AFGHANISTAN MILITARY COSTS

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on the Costs of Military Operations and Reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the of the Department of Defense: Gordon England, Deputy Secretary; and LTG John F. Sattler, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff; Robert Sunshine, Assistant Director, Budget Analysis, CBO; and the following officials of the Department of State: Joseph Saloom, Ambassador of the United States and Senior Transition Advisor; and John A. Gastright, Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary, South and Central Asian Affairs; and Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., Special Inspector General, Iraq Reconstruction.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 814, Children's Gasoline Burn Prevention Act; H.R. 1699, Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act; H.R. 1721, Pool and Spa Safety Act; and H.R. 2474, To provide for an increased maximum civil penalty for violations under the Consumer Product Safety Act.

NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND ACT OF 2007

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2895, National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007.

Committee recessed until tomorrow.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 1567, Stop Tuberculosis (TB) Now Act of 2007; and H.R. 3096, Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2007.

The Committee also favorably considered the following measures and adopted a motion urging the Chairman to request that they be considered on the Suspension Calendar: H.R. 1302, amended, Global Poverty Act of 2007; H.R. 2185, amended, To amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to provide debt relief to developing countries that take action to protect forests and coral reefs and associated coastal marine ecosystems, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010; H.R. 3062, amended, South Pacific Economic and Educational Development Act of 2007; H. Res. 32, amended, Denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, “honor” killings, acid burning, dowry deaths, and other gender-based persecutions and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that participation, protection, recognition, and independence of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral, and honorable society; H. Res. 34, amended, Recognizing the 75th birthday of Desmond Mpilo Tutu, South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient; H. Res. 238, Commending the first democratic elections in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia, and expressing support for the further democratic development and implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding; H. Res. 508, amended, Recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States and expressing appreciation to Japan for its role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region and its efforts in the Global war against terrorism; H. Res. 518, amended, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Malaysia’s independence; H. Res. 548, amended, Expressing the ongoing concern of the House of Representatives for Lebanon’s democratic institutions and unwavering support for the administration of justice upon those responsible for the assassination of Lebanese public figures opposing Syrian control of Lebanon; H. Res. 557, amended, Strongly condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses in various countries, while choosing to unfairly target Israel by including it as the only coun-

try permanently placed on the Council’s agenda; H. Res. 564, Recognizing that violence poses an increasingly serious to peace and stability in Central America and supporting expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence; H. Res. 575, Commending the people and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their continued commitment to holding elections and broadening participation; and H. Res. 583, Recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

BORDER PATROL SHOOTING CASE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight held a hearing on the Case of Ramos and Compean: the Across-Border Context. Testimony was heard from Charles S. Shapiro, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

REGISTERED TRAVELER PROGRAM

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection held a hearing entitled “Managing Risk and Increasing Efficiency: An Examination of the Implementation of the Registered Traveler Program.” Testimony was heard from Kip Hawley, Assistant Secretary, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

ENSURING ARTISTS FAIR COMPENSATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held a hearing on Ensuring Artists Fair Compensation: Updating the Performance Right and Platform Parity for the 21st Century. Testimony was heard from Representative Hodes; Marybeth Peters, U.S. Register of Copyrights, U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—POLITICAL INTERVENTION AT THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Held an oversight hearing on Crisis of Confidence: The Political Influence of the Bush Administration on Agency Science and Decision-Making. Testimony was heard from Representatives Thompson of California, Walden of Oregon, Doolittle, and Herger; the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Mary Kendall, Deputy Inspector General; and H. Dale Hall, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; the following officials of the Department of Commerce: John M. Seeba, Assistant Inspector General, Auditing; and

William Hogarth, Assistant Administrator, NOAA; and public witnesses.

FEMA PREPAREDNESS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Held a hearing on FEMA Preparedness in 2007 and Beyond. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: R. David Paulison, Administrator, FEMA; and Matt Jadacki, Deputy Inspector General; MG Terry Scherling, USA, Director, Joint Staff, National Guard Bureau, Department of Defense; William Jenkins, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, GAO; Darrell Darnell, Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, GAO; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL COMPENSATION—PAY

Committee on Oversight an Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Services, and the District of Columbia held a hearing on Federal Compensation, Part I, Pay. Testimony was heard from Representatives Faleomavaega and Kennedy; Linda Springer, Director, OPM; Curtis Copeland, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue August 2.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2008

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 3222, Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the Congressional Record. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule permits the Chair, during consideration of the bill in the House, to postpone further consideration of it to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Representatives Murtha and Young of Florida.

CONFERENCE REPORT—WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a voice vote, a rule providing for the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1495, Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and its consideration. The rule also considers the conference report as read. Testimony was heard from Chairman Oberstar.

WAIVING CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII AGAINST CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE RULES COMMITTEE

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 4, a resolution waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules Committee. The rule applies the waiver to any resolutions reported on the legislative day of August 1, 2007, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3161) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 4, a closed rule. The rule provides two hours of debate in the House on H.R. 3162, Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act of 2007, with one hour to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways & Means and one hour to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways & Means now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill as amended and provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard by Representatives McDermott, Pallone, Hastings of Washington, and Blackburn.

COAST GUARD ADMINISTRATION LAW SYSTEMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing to review the Coast Guard Administration Law System. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security: RADM Brian Salerno, USCG, Director, Inspection and Compliance; and CAPT Thomas Sparks, USCG, Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Unit; and public witnesses.

VETERANS' MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 674, To amend title 38, United States Code, to repeal the provision of law requiring termination of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans as of December 31, 2009; H.R. 1273, To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to restore plot allowance eligibility for veterans of any war and to restore the headstone or marker allowance for eligible persons; H.R. 1900, To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for pension benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans who receive an expeditionary medal during a period of military service other than a period of war; H.R. 1901, To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for pension benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans who served during certain periods of time in specified locations; H.R. 2346, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a process for determining whether a geographic area is sufficiently served by the national cemeteries located in that geographic area; H.R. 2696, Veterans' Dignified Burial Assistance Act of 2007; and H.R. 2697, To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for veterans' mortgage life insurance to include members of the Armed Forces receiving specially adapted housing assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from Representatives Rahall and Fossella; Bradley H.G. Mayes, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

DNI 100 DAY PLAN

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management held a hearing on DNI 100 Day Plan. Testimony was heard from Representatives Rahall, Gutierrez, and Fossella; Bradley G. Mayes, Director, Compensa-

tion and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representative of veterans organizations.

Joint Meetings

21ST CENTURY COMPETITIVENESS ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2272, to invest in innovation through research and development, and to improve the competitiveness of the United States.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1088)

S. 966, to enable the Department of State to respond to a critical shortage of passport processing personnel. Signed on July 30, 2007. (Public Law 110-50)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 1677, to amend the Exchange Rates and International Economic Coordination Act of 1988, and original bills entitled, "Housing Assistance Authorization Act", "Private Student Loan Transparency and Improvement Act", and "Commission on Natural Catastrophe Risk Management and Insurance Act", 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Commerce, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold an oversight hearing to examine recent advances in clean coal technology, focusing on the prospects for deploying these technologies at a commercial scale in the near future, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine S. 1054 and H.R. 122, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Inland Empire regional recycling project and in the Cucamonga Valley Water District recycling project, S. 1472, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to create a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority and other regional partners to achieve objectives relating to water supply, water quality, and environmental restoration, S. 1475 and H.R. 1526, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program, H.R. 30, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater