

## TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE REVISION AND EXTENSION ACT OF 2007

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by a vote of 8 to 3, a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 2761, Terrorism Risk Insurance Revision and Extension Act of 2007, equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services, modified by the amendment printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. The bill as amended shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill as amended.

The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in Part B of the Rules Committee report. The further amendments made in order in Part B may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI are waived. 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.

## SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE RULES COMMITTEE

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by a voice vote, a rule 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 resolution reported through the legislative day of Wednesday, September 19, 2007, that provides for consideration of a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and for medical devices, to enhance the post market authorities of the Food and Drug Administration with respect to the safety of drugs, and for other purposes.

## VA ASSESSMENT

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Held a hearing on the state of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 3375, amended, To amend the trade adjustment assistance program under the Trade Act of 1974 for 3 months; H.R. 3640, Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2007; and H.R. 3539, amended, Airport and Airway Trust Fund Financing Act of 2007.

## FISA

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Held a hearing on FISA. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## BRIEFING—BIOLOGICAL THREATS

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to receive a briefing on current efforts against biological threats. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* business meeting to markup S. 1518, to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to reauthorize the Act, and H.R. 835, to reauthorize the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing assistance for Native Hawaiians, and an original bill entitled, "FHA Modernization Act of 2007", 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Subcommittee on Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality, to hold hearings to examine America's wastewater infrastructure needs in the 21st century, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Barry Leon Wells, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia, Robin Renee Sanders, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mark M. Boulware, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, James D. McGee, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe, Ronald K. McMullen, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the State of Eritrea, and Louis John Nigro, Jr., of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chad, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Democracy and Human Rights, to hold hearings to examine the Everglades, focusing on protecting natural

treasures through international organizations, 3 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Indian Affairs*: to hold hearings to examine the process of federal recognition of Indian tribes, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

*Committee on the Judiciary*: Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, to hold hearings to examine the “material support to terrorist organizations” bar to admission to asylum and resettlement in the United States, focusing on the denial of refuge to the persecuted, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Rules and Administration*: to hold a hearing to examine S. 1905, to provide for a rotating schedule for regional selection of delegates to a national Presidential nominating convention, 9:30 a.m., SR-301.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*: to hold hearings to examine the current state of affairs for information technology with the Department of Veterans Affairs, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

*Special Committee on Aging*: to hold hearings to examine preparing for the digital television transition, focusing on how senior citizens will be affected, 10:30 a.m., SD-106.

### House

*Committee on Education and Labor*, hearing on H.R. 1644, Re-Empowerment of Skilled and Professional Employees and Construction Tradesworkers (RESPECT) Act, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled “Protecting Children from Lead-Tainted Imports,” 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing entitled “Issues in Emergency Communications: A Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3403, 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, and an Oversight Hearing of the Department of Homeland Security’s Office of Emergency Communications,” 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, hearing on Assessment of the Administration’s September Report on the Status of U.S. Political and Military Efforts in Iraq, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, to mark up H. Res. 651, Recognizing the warm friendship and

expanding strategic relationship between the United States and Brazil, commending Brazil on successfully reducing its dependence on oil by finding alternative ways to satisfy its energy needs, and recognizing the importance of the March 9, 2007, United States-Brazil Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on biofuels cooperation; followed by a hearing on U.S.-Brazil Relations, 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing and mark up of H.R. 3564, Regulatory Improvement Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, oversight hearing on Diversifying Native Economies, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Rules*, to consider H.R. 2881, FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Committee on Science and Technology*, hearing on Bridge Safety: Next Steps to Protect the Nation’s Critical Infrastructure, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, hearing to examine the Small Business Administration’s contracting programs, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Cruise Ship Security Practices and Procedures, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, hearing on the findings of the President’s Commission on Care for America’s Returning Wounded Warriors, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up H.R. 1424, Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Unemployment Insurance to Reduce Barriers for Jobless Workers, 1 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, executive, briefing on Hot-Spots, 8:45 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

### Joint Meetings

**Joint Economic Committee**: to hold hearings to examine the evolution of an economic crisis, focusing on the subprime lending disaster and the threat to the broader economy, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.