

Boston, Massachusetts; and Richard L. Hasen, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WITHIN VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the current state of affairs for information technology within the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from Robert T. Howard, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, Paul A. Tibbits, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Development, Office of Information and Technology, Stephen M. Lucas, Director, Tampa Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Veterans Health Administration, and Kim Graves, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Valerie C. Melvin, Director, Human Capital and Management Information Systems Issues, and Gregory Wishusen, Director, Information Security Issues, both of the Govern-

ment Accountability Office; and John Glaser, Partners Healthcare, Boston, Massachusetts.

DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION FOR SENIORS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine preparing for the digital television transition, focusing on how senior citizens will be affected, after receiving testimony from Mark L. Goldstein, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission; John M.R. Kneuer, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information Administration; Nelda Barnett, AARP, Owensboro, Kentucky; and Amina Fazlullah, United States Public Interest Research Group, Marcellus Alexander, Jr., National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), and Sandy Markwood, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), all of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 28 public bills, H.R. 3579–3606; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 215; and H. Res. 663, 665–666 were introduced. **Pages H10624–25**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H10625–27**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3539, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend financing for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–334, Pt. 1);

H. Res. 664, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2881) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2008 through 2011, to improve aviation safety and capacity, and to provide stable funding for the national aviation system (H. Rept. 110–335); and

H.R. 2095, to amend title 49, United States Code, to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases and to authorize the Federal Railroad Safety Administration, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–336). **Page H10624**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Richard Estrada, Executive Director, Jovenes, Inc., Los Angeles, California. **Page H10513**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 878. **Pages H10513, H10524**

Terrorism Risk Insurance Revision and Extension Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 2761, to extend the Terrorism Insurance Program of the Department of the Treasury, by a yea-and-nay vote of 312 yeas to 110 nays, Roll No. 884. **Pages H10516–51**

Rejected the Dreier motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same back promptly without the changes made by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 110–333, by a yea-and-nay vote of 196 yeas to 228 nays, Roll No. 883. **Pages H10549–51**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 110–333, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole and shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment. **Pages H10516–17**

Accepted:

Frank (MA) manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–333) that clarifies the certification process for acts of NBCR (nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological) terrorism; applies the reset mechanism to the NBCR deductible, and

provides that the Consumer Price Index will be used to adjust for inflation the dollar amounts used in TRIA. The amendment also makes technical and conforming changes (by a recorded vote of 426 ayes to 1 no, Roll No. 881). **Pages H10544–45, H10547–48**

Rejected:

Pearce amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 110–333) that sought to raise the deductible set at 5% above \$1,000,000,000 by 1% each program year, rather than by .5% as the bill is written (by a recorded vote of 194 ayes to 230 noes, Roll No. 882). **Pages H10545–47, H10548–49**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H10551**

H. Res. 660, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 223 ayes to 195 noes, Roll No. 880, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 879. **Pages H10524–26**

Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and for medical devices and enhancing the postmarket authorities of the Food and Drug Administration with respect to the safety of drugs: H.R. 3580, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and for medical devices and to enhance the postmarket authorities of the Food and Drug Administration with respect to the safety of drugs, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 405 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 885. **Pages H10551–99**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H10513.

Senate Referral: S. 558 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Education and Labor. **Page H10623**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H10524, H10524–25, H10525, H10547–48, H10548–49, H10550, H10551, H10599. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Committee Meetings

RE-EMPOWERMENT OF SKILLED AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES AND CONSTRUCTION TRADESWORKERS ACT

Committee on Education and Labor: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1644, Re-Empowerment of Skilled and Professional Employees and Construction Tradesworkers (RESPECT) Act.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM LEADED-TAINTED IMPORTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Protecting Children From Lead-Tainted Imports.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Consumer Product Safety Commission: Nancy A. Nord, Acting Chairman; and Thomas H. Moore, Commissioner; and public witness.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: 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.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. POLITICAL AND MILITARY EFFORTS IN IRAQ

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on Assessment of the Administration’s September Report on the Status of U.S. Political and Military Efforts in Iraq. Testimony was heard from Senator Graham and Richard C. Holbrooke, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Department of State.

U.S.-BRAZIL RELATIONS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere approved for full Committee, as amended, H. Res. 651, Recognizing the warm friendship and expanding strategy relations 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.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on U.S.-Brazil Relations. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law approved for full