

EXPIRING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on Review of Expiring Programs. Testimony was heard from Charles Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training, Department of Labor; Scott Bloch, Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel; Keith Pedigo, Associate Deputy Under Secretary, Office of Policy and Program Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

VA INSPECTOR GENERAL/IT BUDGET

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on VA FY 2009 Budget—Office of the Inspector General and Office of Information and Technology. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Jon A. Wooditch, Deputy Inspector General; and Robert T. Howard, Assistant Secretary, Information and Technology; and Valerie Melvin, Director, Information Technology, GAO.

BUDGET PROPOSALS FISCAL YEAR 2009—OMB/HHS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on the Administration's budget proposals for fiscal year 2009, OMB. Testimony was heard from James Nussle, Director, OMB.

The Committee also held a hearing on the Administration's budget proposals fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Health and Human Services. Testimony was heard from Michael O. Leavitt, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

BRIEFING—HOT SPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Hot Spots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE HOT SPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence met in executive session to hold a hearing on Counterintelligence Hot Spots. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUNDS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the efficacy of sovereign wealth funds, government investment funds, funded by foreign currency reserves, but managed separately from official currency reserves, focusing on the U.S. economy and national security risks, after receiving testi-

mony from David H. McCormick, Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs; and Stuart E. Eizenstat, Covington and Burling LLP, and Douglas Rediker, New America Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.

FINLAND'S LEADERSHIP OF THE OSCE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Finland's leadership of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), focusing on plans, priorities, and challenges that face the region, after receiving testimony from Ilkka Kanerva, Finland Minister for Foreign Affairs, Helsinki.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2008

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the strategy in Afghanistan, focusing on reports by the Afghanistan Study Group and the Atlantic Council of the United States, 11:10 a.m., SD-106.

Full Committee, to continue hearings to examine the strategy in Afghanistan, focusing on reports by the Afghanistan Study Group and the Atlantic Council of the United States, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the current state of the United States economy and financial matters, 10 a.m., SR-325.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine health care and the budget, focusing on information technology and health care reform, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Agriculture Forest Service, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine S. 1499, to amend the Clean Air Act to reduce air pollution from marine vessels, 10:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine international aspects of a carbon cap and trade program, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, S. 1810, to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the provision of scientifically sound information and support services to patients receiving a positive test diagnosis for Down syndrome or other prenatally and postnatally diagnosed conditions, S. 999, to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and

rehabilitation, S. 1760, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Healthy Start Initiative, H.R. 20, to provide for research on, and services for individuals with, postpartum depression and psychosis, and S. 1042, to amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly, and any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine ways to build and strengthen the Federal acquisition workforce, 9:45 a.m., SD-342.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Homeland Security, 1:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for tribal programs, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 2304, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, S. 2449, to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, relating to protective orders, sealing of cases, disclosures of discovery information in civil actions, S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. 2136, to address the treatment of primary mortgages in bankruptcy, S. 2133, to authorize bankruptcy courts to take certain actions with respect to mortgage loans in bankruptcy, and the nominations of Kevin J. O'Connor, of Connecticut, to be Associate Attorney General, and Gregory G. Katsas, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine the Director of National Intelligence authorities, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on NRCS Under Secretary Mark Rey, 2 p.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, on Army Readiness, 1:30 p.m., H 140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Waste Development, and Related Agencies, overview hearing on Vehicle Technology and Gas Prices, 12 p.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Land Border Enforcement, 12:30 p.m., and 3 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, overview hearing on Opportunities Lost and Costs to Society: the Social and Economic Burden of Disease, Injuries, and Disability, 12 p.m., and on Secretary of Health and Human Services, Fiscal Year 2009 Budget overview, 2 p.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Veterans Affairs, 1 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on Implications for Our Strategic Posture, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Provincial Reconstruction Teams: A Case for Interagency National Security Reform? 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing on The State of the Bond Insurance Industry, 11:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, to mark up the following measures: The Global HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008; H. Res. 185, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region as a result of human rights violations; H. Res. 854, Expressing gratitude to all of the member states of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service (ITS) on ratifying the May 2006 Agreement to amend the 1955 Bonn Accords granting open access to vast Holocaust and other World War II related archives located in Bad Arolsen, Germany; H. Res. 865, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the March 2007 report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development makes an important contribution to the understanding of the high levels of crime and violence in the Caribbean, and that the United States should work with Caribbean countries to address crime and violence in the region; H. Res. 909, Commemorating the courage of the Haitian soldiers that fought for American Independence in the "Siege of Savannah" and for Haiti's independence and renunciation of slavery; H. Con. Res. 154, Expressing the sense of Congress that the fatal radiation poisoning of Russian dissident and writer Alexander Litvinenko raises significant concerns about the potential involvement of elements of the Russian Government in Mr. Litvinenko's death and about the security and proliferation of radioactive materials; H. Con. Res. 255, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States' commitment to preservation of religious and cultural sites and condemning instances where sites are desecrated; and H. Con. Res. 278, Supporting Taiwan's fourth direct and democratic presidential elections in March 2008; 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Asia, The Pacific and the Global Environment, hearing on an Overview of Cambodia and the Need for Debt Recycling: How Can the U.S. Be of Assistance? 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled "Homeland Security Intelligence at a Crossroads: the Office of Intelligence and Analysis' Vision for 2008," 11 a.m., Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on H.R. 3679, State Video Tax Fairness Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, oversight hearing on the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, 11 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, hearing on Design Law—Are Special Provisions Needed to Protect Unique Industries? 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, oversight hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing on One year later: Medicaid's Response to Systemic Problems Revealed by the death of Deamonte Driver, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and National Archives and the Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization and Procurement, joint hearing on Federal IT Security: A Review of H.R. 4791, Federal Agency Data Protection Act, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, to continue hearings on Six Years Later (Part III): Innovative Approaches to Defeating Al Qaeda, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, hearing on Funding for the America COMPETES Act in the Fiscal Year 2009 Administration Budget Request, 11 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, hearing entitled "Business Activity Taxes and their Impact on Small Businesses, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on Revitalization of the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Program, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on Examining the VA's Claims Processing System, 2 p.m., 340 Cannon

Committee on Ways and Means, to mark up H.R. 5264, Trade Preference Extension Act of 2008, and to consider Committee's Views and Estimates Letter to the Committee on the Budget, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing on the Medicare portions of the President's fiscal year 2009 budget, 12 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Overhead, 10 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled "Fire and Rain: How the Destruction of Tropical Forests is Fueling Climate Change, " 2 p.m., room to be announced.