

## Committee Meetings

### SEC

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on the SEC. Testimony was heard from Christopher Cox, Chairman, SEC.

### SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agency Agencies held a hearing on Special Operations Command. Testimony was heard from ADM Eric T. Olson, USN, Commander, Special Operations Command, Department of Defense.

### NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY PROGRAM

*Committee on Armed Services:* Held a hearing on the National Industrial Security Program: Addressing the Implications of Globalization and Foreign Ownership for the Defense Industrial Base. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense; Troy Sullivan, Deputy Under Secretary, Counterintelligence and Security; Kathleen Watson, Director, Defense Security Service; and William Schneider, Chairman, Defense Science Board; and Ann Calvaresi-Barr, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, GAO.

### GROUND FORCE READINESS SHORTFALLS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Air Land Forces and the Subcommittee on Readiness held a joint hearing on H. Res. 834, Regarding the readiness decline of the Army, Marine Corps, National Guard, and Reserves, and the implications for national security. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### RETIREMENT PLAN DISCLOSURE RULES

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 3185, 401(k) Fair Disclosure for Retirement Security Act of 2007.

### PROTECTING THE MEDICAID SAFETY NET ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 5613, Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008.

### REFORM INSURANCE REGULATIONS

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled "Examining Proposals to Reform Insurance Regulation." Testimony was heard from David G. Nelson, Assistant Sec-

retary, Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

### FORECLOSURE PREVENTION AND SOUND MORTGAGE SERVICING ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing on H.R. 5679, Foreclosure Prevention and Sound Mortgage Servicing Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Laura A. Maggiano, Deputy Director, Office of Single Family Asset Management, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Judy Caden, Director, Loan Guaranty Service, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

### WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRAVEL INITIATIVE

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism held a hearing entitled "Moving Beyond the First Five Years: Ensuring Successful Implementation of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Kathleen Kraninger, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy Screening Coordination Office; and Robert Jacksta, Executive Director, Traveler Security and Facilitation, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; Derwood Staeben, Senior Advisor, Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, Department of State; Liz Luce, Director, Department of Licensing, State of Washington; and public witnesses.

### OVERSIGHT—NON-AGRICULTURAL FOREIGN WORKERS PROGRAM

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law held an oversight hearing on the H-2b Program. Testimony was heard from Representatives Stupak, Bishop of New York and Gilchrest; and public witnesses.

### OVERSIGHT—DRIFTNET FISHING MORATORIUM; SHARK CONSERVATION ACT

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on the implementation of the Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing provisions of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and a hearing on H.R. 5741 Shark Conservation Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from David A. Balton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Oceans and Fisheries, Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science, Department of State; Rebecca Lent, Director, Office of International Affairs, NOAA, Department of Commerce; CAPT Michael Giglio, USCG, Chief,

Office of Law Enforcement, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

#### OVERSIGHT—INDIAN WATER RIGHTS

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Water and Power held an oversight hearing on Indian Water Rights Settlements. Testimony was heard from Michael Bogert, Chairman, Working Group on Indian Water Rights, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 4791, amended, Federal Agency Data Protection Act; H.R. 5712, amended, Close the Contractor Fraud Loophole Act; H.R. 5781, Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act; H. Res. 49, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day; H. Res. 127, Recognizing and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the entry of Alaska in the Union as the 49th State; H. Res. 1073, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 5 through 11, 2008; H. Res. 1091, amended, Honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Charlton Heston and extending its deepest sympathies to the family of Charlton Heston for the loss of such a generous man, husband, and father; and H.R. 5477, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 South Del Mar Avenue in San Gabriel, California, as the "Chi Mui Post Office Building."

The Committee also held a hearing on Healthcare Associated Infections: A Preventable Epidemic. Testimony was heard from Cynthia Bascetta, Director, Health Care Issues, GAO; Don Wright, M.D., Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Health, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

#### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRESERVATION ACT

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and National Archives held a hearing on the Electronic Communications Preservation Act. Testimony was heard from Linda Koontz, Director, Information Management, GAO; the following officials of the National Archives and Records Administration: Paul M. Webster, Jr., Director, Modern Records Program; and Sharon K. Fawcett, Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries; and public witnesses.

#### BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs continued hearings on What Are the Prospects, What Are the Costs?: Oversight Missile Defense (Part 11). Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### NATIONAL NANOTECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE AMENDMENTS ACT

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Held a hearing on the National Nanotechnology Initiative Amendments Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Floyd E. Kvamme, Co-Chair, President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology; and public witnesses.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION ACT

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 5789, Science and Technology Innovation Act of 2008.

#### SMALL BUSINESSES FEDERAL CONTRACT ACCESS

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology held a hearing on the obstacles that small businesses currently face in securing federal contracts. Testimony was heard from Fay E. Ott, Associate Administrator, Contracting, SBA; and public witnesses.

#### CLEAN WATER RESTORATION ACT

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Held a hearing on the Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of the Army; Arlen Lancaster, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA; Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator, Water, EPA; John C. Cruden, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice; Joan Card, Director, Water Quality Division, Department of Environmental Quality, Arizona; James M. Tierney, Assistant Commissioner, Water Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, New York; and public witnesses.

#### VETERANS MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 4883, To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for a limitation on the sale, foreclosure, or seizure of property owned by a servicemember during the one-year period following the servicemember's period of military service; H.R.

4884, Helping Our Veterans to Keep Their Homes Act of 2008; H.R. 4889, Guard and Reserves Are Fighting Too Act of 2008; H.R. 4539, Department of Veterans Affairs Loan Guaranty Cost Reduction Act of 2007; H.R. 3646, To direct the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs and the Secretary of Labor to conduct a joint study on the fields of employment for which the greatest need for employees exists in various geographic areas; H.R. 5664, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update at least once every six years the plans and specifications for specially adapted housing furnished to veterans by the Secretary; H.R. 3798, National Guard Employment Protection Act of 2007; H.R. 3681, Veterans Benefits Awareness Act of 2007; H.R. 3393, Reservist Access to Justice Act of 2007; H.R. 3889, To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a longitudinal study of the vocational rehabilitation programs administered by the Secretary; and H.R. 5684, Veterans Education Improvement Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Representatives Filner, Buyer, Rodriguez, Stearns, Hayes, Davis of Alabama, Patrick J. Murphy of Pennsylvania and Yarmuth; Charles S. Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor; the following officials of the Department of Defense Thomas L. Bush, Principal Director, Manpower and Personnel; and Curtis L. Gilroy, Director, Accession Policy, Office of the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; Keith Pedigo, Associate Deputy Under Secretary, Policy and Program Management, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

#### EMERGENCY EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 5749, Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2008.

#### BRIEFING—BUDGET HUMINT

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget-HUMINT. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

#### BRIEFING—HOT SPOTS

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counter-Intelligence met in executive session to receive a briefing on Hot Spots. The Subcommittee was briefed by GEN Michael Hayden, USAF, Director, CIA; and LTG Michael Maples, USA, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

#### GREEN CAPITAL SEEDING INNOVATION AND THE FUTURE ECONOMY

*Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming:* Held a hearing entitled "Green Capital: Seeding Innovation and the Future Economy." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### Joint Meetings

#### FARM BILL EXTENSION ACT

*Conferees* met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call and will meet again on Thursday, April 17, 2008.

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) safety and modernization performance, 10 a.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine the United States Bureau of Reclamation, focusing on issues associated with aging water resource infrastructure, 2 p.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Finance:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Gustafson, of Virginia, Richard T. Morrison, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, and Elizabeth Crewson Paris, of the District of Columbia, all to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, and Eric M. Thorson, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, and Edwin Eck, of Montana, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board, both of the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration, to hold hearings to examine fusion centers, focusing on a recent progress report, 2 p.m., SD-342.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the National Indian Gaming Commission, 10:30 a.m., SD-562.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

#### House

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on Military Resale and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) overview, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Budget

Request for Missile Defense Program, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on H.R. 5244, Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia and the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, joint hearing on Between Feckless and Reckless: U.S. Policy Options to Prevent a Nuclear Iran, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 5464, A Child is Missing Alert and Recovery Center Act; H.R. 2352, School Safety Enhancements Act of 2007; H.R. 1783, Elder Justice Act, and H.R. 5352, Elder Abuse Victims Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 5541, Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act; H.R. 3522, to ratify a conveyance of a portion of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation to Rio Arriba County, State of New Mexico, pursuant to the settlement of litigation between the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County, State of New Mexico, to authorize issuance of a patent for said lands, and to change the exterior boundary of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation accordingly, and for other purposes; S. 2457, To provide for extensions of leases of certain land by Mashantucket Pequot (Western Tribe); H.R. 1575, Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

Reaffirmation Act; and H.R. 3490, Tuolumne Me-Wuk Land Transfer Act of 2007, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth,

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing on After the Beef Recall: Exploring Greater Transparency in the Meat Industry, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, hearing on Maintaining Public Lands for Hunting, Fishing, Ranching and Small Businesses, 9:30 a.m., and a markup of a measure Reauthorizing the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs, 1 p.m., 1539 Longworth.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on First in a Series: Greening Washington and the National Capital Region, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

### Joint Meetings

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe*: to hold hearings to examine Armenia and the United States, focusing on Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) negotiations on Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia's qualifications for assistance from the Millennium Challenge Account, 2 p.m., B-318, Rayburn Building.

*Conference*: meeting of conferees on H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, Time to be announced, SH-216.