

The nominations of Gus P. Coldebella, of Massachusetts, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, James A. Williams, of Virginia, to be Administrator of General Services, Carol A. Dalton, Anthony C. Epstein, and Heidi M. Pasichow, all to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

FEMA

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery concluded a hearing to examine planning for post-catastrophe housing needs, focusing on whether the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed an effective strategy for housing large numbers of citizens displaced by a disaster, after receiving testimony from Harvey E. Johnson, Jr., Deputy Administrator, and David Garratt, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Disaster Assistance, both of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security; and Jan C. Opper, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Disaster Policy and Management, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery: Senators Landrieu (Chairman), Carper, Pryor, Domenici, and Stevens.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine hiring at the Department of Justice, focusing on an investigation into the hiring of attorneys for key career positions throughout the Department, after receiving testimony from Glenn A. Fine, Inspector General, Department of Justice.

GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN WATER RESOURCES COMPACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S.J. Res. 45, expressing the con-

sent and approval of Congress to an inter-state compact regarding water resources in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin, after receiving testimony from Senator Voinovich; Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle, Madison, on behalf of the Council of Great Lakes Governors; Mayor George Heartwell, Grand Rapids, Michigan, on behalf of the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence Cities Initiative; Kay L. Nelson, Northwest Indiana Forum, Portage, on behalf of the Business and Environmental Stakeholders of the State of Indiana; and Cameron Davis, Alliance for the Great Lakes, Chicago, Illinois.

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 3212, to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to provide for auditable, independent verification of ballots, to ensure the security of voting systems, after receiving testimony from Todd Rokita, Indiana Secretary of State, Indianapolis, on behalf of the National Association of Secretaries of State; Barbara R. Arnwine, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and Jim Dickson, American Association of People with Disabilities, both of Washington, D.C.; Juan E. Gilbert, Auburn University Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering, Auburn, Alabama; and Doug Lewis, National Association of Election Officials—The Election Center, Houston, Texas.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 3362, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 6651–6683; and 6 resolutions, H.

Con. Res. 398–399; and H. Res. 1390–1393, were introduced. **Pages H7627–29**

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H7629–30

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2339, to encourage research, development, and demonstration of technologies to facilitate the utilization of water produced in connection with the development of domestic energy resources, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–801);

H.R. 3957, to increase research, development, education, and technology transfer activities related to water use efficiency and conservation technologies and practices at the Environmental Protection Agency, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–802);

Conference report on H.R. 4137, to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965 (H. Rept. 110–803);

H.R. 6432, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the animal drug user fee program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–804);

H.R. 6433, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a program of fees relating to generic new animal drugs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–805);

H.R. 2851, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that dependent students who take a medically necessary leave of absence do not lose health insurance coverage, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–806, Pt. 1);

H. Res. 1388, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1338) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex (H. Rept. 110–807);

H. Res. 1389, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 4137) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965 (H. Rept. 110–808);

H.R. 6575, to require the Archivist of the United States to promulgate regulations to prevent the overclassification of information (H. Rept. 110–809); and

H.R. 6576, to require the Archivist of the United States to promulgate regulations regarding the use of information control designations (H. Rept. 110–810).
Pages H7353–H7517, H7626–27

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rabbi Peter E. Hyman, Temple Sholom, Broomall, Pennsylvania.
Page H7331

Discharge Petition: Representative Bachmann moved to discharge the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Science and Technology from the consideration of H.R. 6107, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish and implement a competitive oil and gas leasing program that will re-

sult in an environmentally sound program for the exploration, development, and production of the oil and gas resources of the Coastal Plain of Alaska, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 15).

Discharge Petition: Representative Porter moved to discharge the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Science and Technology, and the Committee on the Judiciary from the consideration of H.R. 6108, to provide for exploration, development, and production activities for mineral resources on the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 16).

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Providing for extensions of certain authorities of the Department of State: H.R. 6456, amended, to provide for extensions of certain authorities of the Department of State;
Page H7336

Commemorating Irena Sendler, a woman whose bravery saved the lives of thousands during the Holocaust and remembering her legacy of courage, selflessness, and hope: H. Con. Res. 361, to commemorate Irena Sendler, a woman whose bravery saved the lives of thousands during the Holocaust and remembering her legacy of courage, selflessness, and hope;
Pages H7336–38

Congratulating Albania and Croatia on being invited to begin accession talks with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and expressing support for continuing to enlarge the alliance: H. Res. 1266, amended, to congratulate Albania and Croatia on being invited to begin accession talks with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and expressing support for continuing to enlarge the alliance;
Pages H7338–40

Recognizing the Special Olympics' 40th anniversary: H. Res. 1279, to recognize the Special Olympics' 40th anniversary;
Pages H7340–42

Calling on the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end abuses of the human rights of its citizens, to cease repression of Tibetan and Uighur citizens, and to end its support for the Governments of Sudan and Burma to ensure that the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games take place in an atmosphere that honors the Olympic traditions of freedom and openness: H. Res. 1370, amended, to call on the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end abuses of the human rights of its citizens, to cease repression of Tibetan and Uighur citizens, and to end its support for the Governments of Sudan and Burma to ensure that the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games take place in an atmosphere that honors the Olympic traditions of freedom and openness, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of

419 yeas to 1 nay with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 539;

Pages H7342–47, H7518–19

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Calling on the Government of the People’s Republic of China to immediately end abuses of the human rights of its citizens, to cease repression of Tibetan and Uighur people, and to end its support for the Governments of Sudan and Burma to ensure that the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games take place in an atmosphere that honors the Olympic traditions of freedom and openness.”

Page H7519

Expressing support for the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) and calling upon United Nations Member States and the international community to contribute the resources necessary to ensure the success of UNAMID:

H. Res. 1351, amended, to express support for the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) and to call upon United Nations Member States and the international community to contribute the resources necessary to ensure the success of UNAMID;

Pages H7347–50

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Expressing support for the United Nations/African Union Hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and calling upon United Nations Member States and the international community to contribute the resources necessary to ensure the success of UNAMID, including troops and essential tactical and utility helicopters.”

Page H7350

Temporarily extending the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965: S. 3352, to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H7352–53

Expressing support for the designation of August 2008 as “National Heat Stroke Awareness Month” to raise awareness and encourage prevention of heat stroke: H. Con. Res. 296, amended, to express support for the designation of August 2008 as “National Heat Stroke Awareness Month” to raise awareness and encourage prevention of heat stroke;

Pages H7531–33

Recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for primary lateral sclerosis, supporting the goals and ideals of the Hardy Brown Primary Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month: H. Res. 896, amended, to recognize the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for primary lateral sclerosis, supporting the goals and ideals of the Hardy Brown Primary Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month;

Pages H7533–34

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes,

and an eventual cure for primary lateral sclerosis, supporting the goals and ideals of Primary Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month, and for other purposes.”

Page H7534

Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2008: H.R. 6432, amended, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the animal drug user fee program;

Pages H7534–41

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the animal drug user fee program, to establish a program of fees relating to generic new animal drugs, to make certain technical corrections to the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007, and for other purposes.”

Page H7541

Michelle’s Law: H.R. 2851, amended, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that dependent students who take a medically necessary leave of absence do not lose health insurance coverage;

Pages H7541–46

Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act: H.R. 1108, amended, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 326 yeas to 102 nays, Roll No. 542;

Pages H7546–77, H7587

Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008: Conference report to accompany H.R. 4040, to establish consumer product safety standards and other safety requirements for children’s products and to reauthorize and modernize the Consumer Product Safety Commission, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 424 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 543.

Pages H7577–86, H7587–88

Agreed by unanimous consent that debate on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4040 be extended by 20 minutes, equally divided and controlled.

Commending the members of the Nevada Army National Guard and Air National Guard for their service to the State of Nevada and the United States: H. Con. Res. 358, amended, to commend the members of the Nevada Army National Guard and Air National Guard for their service to the State of Nevada and the United States;

Pages H7596–99

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Commending the members of the Nevada Army and Air National Guard and the Nevada Reserve members of the Armed Forces for their dedicated, unselfish, and professional service, commitment, and sacrifices to the State of Nevada and the United States during

more than five years of deployments to and in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.”

Pages H7598–99

Honoring Edward Day Cohota, Joseph L. Pierce, and other veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who fought in the United States Civil War: H. Res. 415, amended, to honor Edward Day Cohota, Joseph L. Pierce, and other veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who fought in the United States Civil War;

Pages H7599–H7600

Recognizing the service of the USS Farenholt and her men who served our Nation with valor and bravery in the South Pacific during World War II: H. Res. 1248, amended, to recognize the service of the USS *Farenholt* and her men who served our Nation with valor and bravery in the South Pacific during World War II;

Pages H7600–01

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Recognizing the service of the USS *Farenholt* and her crew who served the United States with valor and bravery in the South Pacific during World War II.”

Page H7601

Water Use Efficiency and Conservation Research Act: H.R. 3957, amended, to increase research, development, education, and technology transfer activities related to water use efficiency and conservation technologies and practices at the Environmental Protection Agency; and

Pages H7604–06

Produced Water Utilization Act of 2008: H.R. 2339, amended, to encourage research, development, and demonstration of technologies to facilitate the utilization of water produced in connection with the development of domestic energy resources.

Pages H7606–08

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 398, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 213 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 537.

Pages H7517–18

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Commodity Markets Transparency and Accountability Act of 2008: H.R. 6604, amended, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to bring greater transparency and accountability to commodity markets, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 276 yeas to 151 nays, Roll No. 540.

Pages H7519–30

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, July 29th:

Veterans Disability Benefits Claims Modernization Act of 2008: H.R. 5892, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to modernize the disability benefits claims processing system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure the accurate and timely delivery of compensation to veterans and their families and survivors, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 429 yeas with none voting “no”, Roll No. 538;

Page H7518

Amending title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from collecting certain copayments from veterans who are catastrophically disabled: H.R. 6445, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from collecting certain copayments from veterans who are catastrophically disabled, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 541;

Page H7531

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from collecting certain copayments from veterans who are catastrophically disabled, and for other purposes.”

Page H7531

Department of Homeland Security Component Privacy Officer Act of 2008: H.R. 5170, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for a privacy official within each component of the Department of Homeland Security;

Page H7596

Homeland Security Network Defense and Accountability Act of 2008: H.R. 5983, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the information security of the Department of Homeland Security;

Page H7596

Next Generation Radiation Screening Act of 2008: H.R. 5531, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to clarify criteria for certification relating to advanced spectroscopic portal monitors;

Page H7596

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to clarify criteria for certification relating to Advanced Spectroscopic Portal monitors, and for other purposes.”

Page H7596

Improving Public Access to Documents Act of 2008: H.R. 6193, amended, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer policies, procedures, and programs to promote the implementation of the Controlled Unclassified Information Framework applicable to unclassified information that is homeland security information, terrorism information, weapons of mass destruction information and other information within the scope of the information sharing environment established

under section 1016 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 485);

Page H7596

Reducing Over-Classification Act of 2008: H.R. 4806, amended, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to prevent the over-classification of homeland security and other information and to promote the sharing of unclassified homeland security and other information; **Page H7596**

Homeland Security Open Source Information Enhancement Act of 2008: H.R. 3815, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to make full and efficient use of open source information to develop and disseminate open source homeland security information products; **Page H7596**

Reducing Information Control Designations Act: H.R. 6576, amended, to require the Archivist of the United States to promulgate regulations regarding the use of information control designations; and

Page H7596

Providing that Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer shall be given the option of receiving their pay stubs electronically: H.R. 6073, to provide that Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer shall be given the option of receiving their pay stubs electronically. **Page H7596**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Condemning the persecution of Baha'is in Iran: H. Res. 1008, amended, to condemn the persecution of Baha'is in Iran; **Pages H7350–52**

Employee Verification Amendment Act of 2008: H.R. 6633, to evaluate and extend the basic pilot program for employment eligibility confirmation and to ensure the protection of Social Security beneficiaries; and **Pages H7588–96**

Honoring the service of the Navy and Coast Guard veterans who served on the Landing Ship Tank (LST) amphibious landing craft during World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, Operation Desert Storm, and global operations through 2002 and recognizing the essential role played by LST amphibious craft during these conflicts: H. Res. 1316, to honor the service of the Navy and Coast Guard veterans who served on the Landing Ship Tank (LST) amphibious landing craft during World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, Operation Desert Storm, and global operations through 2002 and to recognize the essential role

played by LST amphibious craft during these conflicts. **Pages H7601–04**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency and related measures declared with respect to Lebanon are to continue in effect beyond August 1, 2008—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–140).

Page H7608

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H7630–31.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7517–18, H7518, H7518–19, H7530, H7531, H7587, and H7587–88. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

RURAL ELECTRICITY RELIABILITY

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research held a hearing to review electricity reliability in rural America. Testimony was heard from Jim Andrew, Administrator, Rural Development Electric Programs, USDA; Cynthia A. Marlette, General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy; Former Representative Glenn English of Oklahoma; Jim Nichols, former Minnesota State Senator and former Secretary of Agriculture, State of Minnesota; and public witnesses.

FRESH PRODUCE TRACEABILITY

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture held a hearing to review legal and technological capacity for full traceability in fresh produce. Testimony was heard from Representatives DeGette and Putnam; the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: David W.K. Acheson, M.D., Associate Commissioner, Food Protection, FDA; and Lonnie J. King, Director, D.V.M., National Center for Zoonotic, Vector-Borne, and Enteric Diseases, Center for Disease Control; and public witnesses.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense met in executive session and approved for full Committee action the Defense Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009.