

BRIEFING—CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATIONS

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

SECURITY CLEARANCE REFORM

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management held a hearing on Security Clearance Reform. Testimony was heard from Brenda S. Farrell, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, GAO.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE—ROLE OF NATURAL GAS

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming: Held a hearing entitled “What’s Cooking with Gas: the Role of Natural Gas in Energy Independence and Global Warming Solutions.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

ENERGY CRISIS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways to solve the energy crisis, focusing on reducing dependence on foreign oil, creating new energy resources, and strengthening the nation’s economy, after receiving testimony from Ian Bowles, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Boston, Massachusetts; Dan W. Reicher, Google.org, Mountain View, California; Jonathan Koomey, Stanford University, Stanford, California; and Mark P. Mills, Digital Power Capital, Arlington, Virginia.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D938)

H.R. 1553, to amend the Public Health Service Act to advance medical research and treatments into pediatric cancers, ensure patients and families have access to information regarding pediatric cancers and current treatments for such cancers, establish a national childhood cancer registry, and promote public awareness of pediatric cancer. Signed on July 29, 2008. (Public Law 110–285)

H.R. 3890, to impose sanctions on officials of the State Peace and Development Council in Burma, to amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to prohibit the importation of gemstones and hardwoods from Burma, to promote a coordinated international effort to restore civilian democratic rule to Burma. Signed on July 29, 2008. (Public Law 110–286)

H.J. Res. 93, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. Signed on July 29, 2008. (Public Law 110–287)

S. 2766, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to address certain discharges incidental to the normal operation of a recreational vessel. Signed on July 29, 2008. (Public Law 110–288)

H.R. 3221, to provide needed housing reform. Signed on July 30, 2008. (Public Law 110–289)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2008

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the North Korean Six-Party Talks and implementation activities; to be immediately followed by closed session to examine certain intelligence matters in S–407, 9:30 a.m., SR–325.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the state of the nation’s transmission grid, focusing on the implementation of the transmission provisions of the Energy Policy Act (Public Law 109–58), including reliability, siting, and infrastructure investment, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider S. 906, to prohibit the sale, distribution, transfer, and export of elemental mercury, S. 3109, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system, S. 24, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require a health advisory and monitoring of drinking water for perchlorate, S. 150, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to protect the health of pregnant women, fetuses, infants, and children by requiring a health advisory and drinking water standard for perchlorate, S. 1911, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to protect the health of susceptible populations, including pregnant women, infants, and children, by requiring a health advisory, drinking water standard, and reference concentration for trichloroethylene vapor intrusion, S. 1933, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide grants to small public drinking water systems, S. 2549, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to provide guidance to Federal agencies on the development of criteria for identifying disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations, S. 642, to codify Executive Order 12898, relating to environmental justice, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to fully implement the recommendations of the Inspector General of the Agency and the Comptroller General of the United States, S. 199, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Amendments of 1996 to modify the grant program to improve sanitation in

rural and Native villages in the State of Alaska, S. 2994, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for the remediation of sediment contamination in areas of concern; and certain pending General Services Administration resolutions, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine health benefits in the tax code, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine ways to define the military's role towards foreign policy, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine the state of information technology planning in the federal government, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness to examine ways to ensure the delivery of donated goods to survivors of catastrophes, 1 p.m., 311 Cannon Building.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine reliance on smart power, focusing on reforming the foreign assistance bureaucracy, 2 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Indian health service management, focusing on lost property, wasteful spending and document fabrication, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 3155, to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, S. 2746, to amend section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act) to provide that statutory exemptions to the disclosure requirements of that Act shall specifically cite to the provision of that Act authorizing such exemptions, to ensure an open and deliberative process in Congress by providing for related legislative proposals to explicitly state such required citations, S. 3061, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008 through 2011 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, S. 2838, to amend chapter 1 of title 9 of United States Code with respect to arbitration, S. 3136, to encourage the entry of felony warrants into the NCIC database by States and provide additional resources for extradition, S. 1276, to establish a grant program to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic logbook systems, S. 3197, to amend title 11, United States Code, to exempt for a limited period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days, S. 3325, to enhance remedies for violations of intellectual property laws, S. 3296, to extend the authority of the United States Su-

preme Court Police to protect court officials off the Supreme Court Grounds and change the title of the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice, S. 2052, to allow for certiorari review of certain cases denied relief or review by the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, H.R. 5235, to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission, S. 3166, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to impose criminal penalties on individuals who assist aliens who have engaged in genocide, torture, or extrajudicial killings to enter the United States, S. Res. 620, designating the week of September 14-20, 2008, as National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week, to raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease, and to foster understanding of the impact polycystic kidney disease has on patients and future generations of their families, S. Res. 622, designating the week beginning September 7, 2008, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week", and S. Res. 624, designating August 2008 as "National Truancy Prevention Month", 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine consolidation in the Pennsylvania health insurance industry, 2:15 p.m., SD-226.

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

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine aging in rural America, focusing on preserving elderly citizens access to health care, 10:30 a.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Armed Services, to continue hearings on Implications of the Supreme Court's Boumediene Decision for Detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba: Administration Perspectives, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to continue hearings on A New U.S. Grand Strategy (Part 2), 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces, hearing on Navy Destroyer Acquisition Programs, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Workforce Projects, hearing on The Growing Income Gap in the American Middle Class, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on H.R. 6594, James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The Recent Salmonella Outbreak: Lessons Learned and Consequences to Industry and Public Health," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to continue markup of H.R. 6078, Green Resources for Energy Efficient Neighborhoods Act of 2008; and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 5244, Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2008; and H.R. 840, Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade, hearing on Foreign Aid and the Fight Against Terrorism and Proliferation: Leveraging Foreign Aid to Achieve U.S. Policy Goals, 10:30 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing on Energy in the Americas, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on H.R. 5884, Sunshine in Litigation Act of 2008, 10:30 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, to consider a resolution authorizing the Chairman to issue a subpoena to compel the testimony of Christopher Coates, 12 p.m., followed by a hearing on H.R. 5607, State Secret Protection Act of 2008, 12:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 6598, Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008; and H.R. 6597, Animal Cruelty Statistics Act of 2008, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 6020, To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to protect the well-being of soldiers and their families, and for other purposes; H.R. 5882, To recapture employment-based immigrant visas lost to bureaucratic delays and to prevent losses of family- and employment-based immigrant visas in the future; and H.R. 5924, Emergency Nursing Supply Relief Act; and to request information on a private relief measure, 2:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, oversight hearing on Sexual Assault in the Military, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, hearing on Oversight of the Federal Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Program, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, hearing entitled "Cost and Confidentiality: The Unforeseen Challenges of Electronic Health Records in Small Specialty Practices, 10 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to mark up the following; the Disaster Response, Recovery, and Mitigation Enhancement Act of 2008; H.R. 6460, Great Lakes Legacy Reauthorization Act of 2008; H.R. 6364, Puget Sound Recovery Act of 2008; a measure to prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from granting authority to a motor carrier domiciled in Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border unless expressly authorized by Congress; H.R. 5788, Halting Airplane Noise to Give Us Peace Act of 2008; H.R. 6627, Smith-

sonian Institution Facilities Authorization Act of 2008; S.J. Res 35, a Joint resolution to amend Public Law 108-331 to provide for the construction and related activities in support of the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS) project in Arizona; H.R. 6524, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to take certain actions with respect to parcels of real property located in Eastlake, Ohio, and Koochiching County, Minnesota, and for other purposes; H.R. 6370, Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act of 2008; S. 2837, to designate the United States courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New York, as the "Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse;" S. 3009, To designate the Federal Bureau of Investigation building under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "J. James Exon Federal Bureau of Investigation Building;" S. 2403, to designate the new Federal Courthouse, located in the 700 block of East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, as the "Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., Federal Courthouse;" H.R. 4131, To designate a portion of California State Route 91 located in Los Angeles County, California, as the "Juanita Millender-McDonald Highway;" a resolution honoring the heritage of the United States Coast Guard; H. Res. 1224, Commending the Tennessee Valley Authority on its 75th anniversary; H. Res. 1376, Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Okeechobee Hurricane of September 1928 and its associated tragic loss of life; and other pending business, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Billions Spent on "Miscellaneous" Expenditures: Inadequate Controls at the VA, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Racial Disproportionality in Foster Care, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Revisions to Executive Order 12333, 10 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence, executive, briefing on Hot Spots, 8:45 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled "Renewing America's Future: Energy Visions of Tomorrow, Today," 1:30 a.m., 2325 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness to examine ways to ensure the delivery of donated goods to survivors of catastrophes, 1 p.m., 311, Cannon Building.