

END-OF-LIFE/PALLIATIVE CARE

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways to respect Americans' legal and medical care choices at the end of life, after receiving testimony from W.A. Drew Edmondson, Oklahoma Attorney General, Oklahoma City; Joan Curran, Gundersen Lutheran Health System, La-Crosse, Wisconsin; Joseph D. O'Connor, American

Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging, Bloomington, Indiana; Diane E. Meier, Mount Sinai School of Medicine Departments of Geriatrics and Medicine, New York, New York; Joan M. Teno, Brown University Warren Alpert School of Medicine, Providence, Rhode Island; and Patricia A. Bomba, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, Rochester, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 28 public bills, H.R. 7032–7059; and 12 resolutions, H.J. Res. 99; H. Con. Res. 425–428; and H. Res. 1492–1498, were introduced. **Pages H9423–25**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H9425–26**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3202, to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to extend comparability pay adjustments to members of the Foreign Service assigned to posts abroad, and to amend the provision relating to the death gratuity payable to surviving dependents of Foreign Service employees who die as a result of injuries sustained in the performance of duty abroad, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–877, Pt. 1);

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” (H. Rept. 110–878);

H. Res. 1490, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 110–879);

H. Res. 1491, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 110–880);

H.R. 6849, to amend the commodity provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to permit producers to aggregate base acres and reconstitute farms to avoid the prohibition on receiving direct payments, counter-cyclical payments, or average crop revenue election payments when the sum of the base acres of a farm is 10 acres or less, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–881); and

H.R. 1497, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to extend its protections to plants illegally harvested outside of the United States, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–882). **Page H9423**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Pastor to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H9087**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of all those who lost their lives in the October 1983 bombing of the United States Marine Corps Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. **Page H9217**

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

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009: S. 3001, amended, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy and to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 392 yeas to 39 nays, Roll No. 631;

Pages H9090–H9216, H9231

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide alternative minimum tax relief for individuals for 2008: H.R. 7005, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide alternative minimum tax relief for individuals for 2008, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 393 yeas to 30 nays, Roll No. 634;

Pages H9306–11, H9364–65

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide disaster assistance relief: H.R. 7006, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide disaster assistance relief, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 635;

Pages H9312–19, H9365

Amending the commodity provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008: H.R. 6849, amended, to amend the commodity provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to permit producers to aggregate base acres and reconstitute farms to avoid the prohibition on receiving direct payments, counter-cyclical payments, or average

crop revenue election payments when the sum of the base acres of a farm is 10 acres or less;

Pages H9319–21

Elevating the Inspector General of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to an Inspector General appointed pursuant to section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978: H.R. 6406, amended, to elevate the Inspector General of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to an Inspector General appointed pursuant to section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978;

Pages H9321–23

Providing for agreement by the House of Representatives to the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2095, with an amendment: H. Res. 1492, to provide for agreement by the House of Representatives to the Senate amendment to the bill 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;

Pages H9325–64

J. James Exon Federal Bureau of Investigation Building Designation Act: 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”—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H9366–67

Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Okeechobee Hurricane of September 1928 and its associated tragic loss of life: H. Res. 1376, amended, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Okeechobee Hurricane of September 1928 and its associated tragic loss of life;

Pages H9367–69

Veterans’ Mental Health and Other Care Improvements Act of 2008: S. 2162, amended, to improve the treatment and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance use disorders;

Pages H9369–87

Veterans’ Benefits Improvement Act of 2008: H.R. 3023, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and enhance compensation and pension, housing, labor and education, and insurance benefits for veterans; and

Pages H9387–H9405

Amending title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the amount of the Medal of Honor special pension provided under that title by up to \$1,000: H.R. 6980, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the amount of the Medal of Honor special pension provided under that title by up to \$1,000.

Pages H9405–06

Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009: The House agreed to the Senate amendment with an amendment, made in order by the rule and printed in H. Rept. 110–875, to H.R. 2638, to make appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, by a yeand-nay vote of 370 yeas to 58 nays with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 632.

Pages H9231–H9305

H. Res. 1488, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill, was agreed to by a yeand-nay vote of 228 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 630, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeand-nay vote of 231 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 629.

Pages H9218–31

A point of order was raised against the consideration of H. Res. 1488 and it was agreed to proceed with consideration of the resolution by a yeand-nay vote of 242 yeas to 168 nays, Roll No. 628.

Pages H9218–20

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, September 23rd:

Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education Amendments of 2008: H.R. 5265, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research with respect to various forms of muscular dystrophy, including Becker, congenital, distal, Duchenne, Emery-Dreifuss facioscapulohumeral, limb-girdle, myotonic, and oculopharyngeal, muscular dystrophies, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 418 yeas to 2 noes, Roll No. 633 and

Pages H9305–06

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Establishment Resolution: H. Res. 1451, to establish the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission in the House of Representatives.

Page H9306

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Monday, September 22nd:

United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008: S. 2606, to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeand-nay vote of 418 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 636—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H9365–66

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

Solemnly commemorating the 25th anniversary of the tragic October 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon and remembering those who lost their

lives and those who were injured: H. Res. 1421, amended, to solemnly commemorate the 25th anniversary of the tragic October 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon and to remember those who lost their lives and those who were injured and **Pages H9216–18**

First Lieutenant Noah Harris Ellijay Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 6847, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 Industrial Boulevard in Ellijay, Georgia, as the “First Lieutenant Noah Harris Ellijay Post Office Building”. **Pages H9323–25**

Order of Procedure: The House agreed by unanimous consent that the motions to suspend the rules relating to the following measures be considered as adopted in the form considered by the House on Monday, September 22nd, or Tuesday, September 23rd, as applicable:

Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act: H.R. 160, amended, to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812; **Page H9406**

Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2008: H.R. 2933, amended, to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act; **Page H9406**

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park Boundary Expansion and Redesignation Act of 2008: H.R. 4828, amended, to amend the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site Act of 1991 to expand the boundaries of the historic site; **Page H9406**

Establishing a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to promote research of appropriate technologies for heavy duty plug-in hybrid vehicles: H.R. 6323, amended, to establish a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to promote research of appropriate technologies for heavy duty plug-in hybrid vehicles; **Page H9406**

National Pain Care Policy Act of 2008: H.R. 2994, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to pain care; and **Page H9406**

Comprehensive Tuberculosis Elimination Act of 2008: H.R. 1532, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis. **Page H9406**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H9087 and H9231.

Senate Referrals: S. 1382 and S. 2932 were held at the desk; S. Con. Res. 101 was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor; S. 3328 and S. 2816 were referred to the Committee on Homeland Security; S. 1810 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; and S. 1255 was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary. **Page H9420**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eight yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9220, H9229–30, H9230, H9231, H9305, H9305–06, H9364–65, H9365, and H9365–66. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:41 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held an oversight hearing on Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Architect of the Capitol: Stephen T. Ayers, Acting Architect; Bernard Ungar, CVC Project Executive; and Terrie S. Rouse, CEO, Visitor Services; Phillip D. Morse, Sr., Chief, U.S. Capitol Police; Bill Livingood, House Sergeant at Arms; and Terrell Dorn, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO.

AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on Consideration for an American Grand Strategy. Testimony was heard from GEN Jack Keane, USA (Ret.), former Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE RELEASES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on Hazardous Substance Releases and Reporting under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA). Testimony was heard from Susan P. Bodine, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, EPA; Mark E. Rey, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, USDA; Anu Mittal, Director, National Resources and Environment, GAO; and a public witness.