

Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 111-52).
Pages H7190, H7221-22

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7149, H7166.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 30 was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor and S. Res. 202 and S. Res. 203 were held at the desk.

Pages H7149, H7166

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eleven yea-and-nay votes and 18 recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7153-54, H7161, H7166-67, H7167-68, H7173, H7173-74, H7174-75, H7175, H7176-77, H7177-78, H7178, H7222-23, H7223, H7223-24, H7224-25, H7225, H7225-26, H7226-27, H7227, H7228, H7228-29, H7229, H7230, H7230-31, H7231, H7233, H7234, H7234-35, H7235. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12 a.m. on Thursday, June 25th.

Committee Meetings

FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FAIR DISCLOSURE AND PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2009

Committee on Education and Labor: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2989, 401(k) Fair Disclosure and Pension Security Act of 2009.

HEALTHCARE REFORM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: and the Subcommittee on Health continued hearings on draft health reform legislation. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services; Representative Conyers; Joseph Vitale, Chairman, Committee on Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens, State Senate, New Jersey; Jay Webber, State Assembly, New Jersey; Michael O. Leavitt, former Secretary of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

U.S.-AFRICA TRADE RELATIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health of the Committee on Foreign Affairs held a joint hearing

on U.S.-Africa Trade Relations: Creating a Platform for Economic Growth. Testimony was heard from Florizelle Liser, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; Leocadia L. Zak, Acting Director, Trade and Development Agency; Holly Vineyard, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Africa, the Middle East and Asia, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

REGULATOR RESTRUCTURING

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "Regulatory Restructuring: Enhancing Consumer Financial Products Regulation." Testimony was heard from Representative Delahunt; William Francis Galvin, Secretary, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

U.S.-RUSSIA NUCLEAR ARMS REDUCTION

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on the July Summit and Beyond: Prospects for U.S.-Russia Nuclear Arms Reduction. Testimony was heard from William J. Perry, former Secretary of Defense; Thomas Graham, Jr., former Special Representative to the President for Arms Control, Non-Proliferation, and Disarmament, and Legal Advisor to SALT II, START I and II; and Keith B. Payne, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Forces Policy.

HOMELAND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment held a hearing entitled "FY2010 Budget for the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security." Testimony was heard from Bart Johnson, Acting Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

RESOLUTION ADVERSELY REPORTED REGARDING TRANSMISSION TO THE HOUSE MATERIAL RELATING TO DETAINEES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported adversely H. Res. 537, Requesting that the President and directing that the Attorney General transmit to the House of Representative all information in their possession relating to specific communications regarding detainees and foreign persons suspected of terrorism.

PUERTO RICO DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2009

Committee on Natural Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 2499, Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2009. Testimony was heard from Representatives Burton of Indiana and Grayson; the following officials of the

Government of Puerto Rico; Luis G. Fortino, Governor; the following members of the Senate: Ruben Angel Berrios Martinez; Thomas Rivera Schatz, President, Jose L. Dalmau Santiago, Minority Leader; and Eduardo Bhatia Gautier; the following officials of the House; Jennifer Gonzalez Colon, Speaker; and Hector Lerrer Rios, and Carlos Romero-Barcelo, former Governor.

AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN OVERSIGHT—NEW INTERAGENCY STRATEGY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: and the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Afghanistan and Pakistan: Oversight of a New Interagency Strategy.” Testimony was heard from Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke, U.S. Special Representative to Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State; and GEN Wallace Gregson, Assistant Secretary, Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of Defense.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 22, To amend chapter 89, title 5, United States Code, to allow the United States Postal Service to pay its share of contributions for annuitants’ health benefits out of the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing entitled “FEHBP’s Prescription Drug Benefits: Deal or No Deal?” Testimony was heard from the following officials of OPM: Patrick McFarland, Inspector General; and Nancy Kichak, Associate Director, Human Resources Policy Division; John Dicken, Director, Health Care, GAO; and public witnesses.

THE “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010”

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a record vote of 8–3, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2996, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule makes in order the following amendments: (1) the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report; (2) the

amendments printed in part B of the report; (3) not to exceed three of the amendments printed in part C of the report, if offered by Representative Flake of Arizona or his designee; (4) not to exceed one of the amendments printed in part D of the report, if offered by Representative Campbell of California or his designee; and (5) not to exceed one of the amendments printed in part E of the report, if offered by Representative Hensarling of Texas or his designee. The rule provides that each such amendment shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule also provides that the amendments printed in part B, C, D, or E of the report may be offered only at the appropriate point in the reading. The rule provides that for those amendments reported from the Committee of the Whole, the question of their adoption shall be put to the House en gros and without intervening demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides that after consideration of the bill for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees each may offer one pro forma amendment to the bill for the purpose of debate, which shall be controlled by the proponent. The rule provides that the Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee and that the Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill (as described in clause 9 or rule XVIII). Finally, the rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 2996, the Chair may reduce to two minutes the minimum time for electronic voting under clause 6 of rule XVIII and clauses 8 and 9 or rule XX. Testimony was heard from Chairman Dicks, Representatives Kanjorski; Hinojosa; Simpson; Buyer; Conaway; Garrett of New Jersey; King of Iowa; Nunes; McCaul of Texas; Jordan of Ohio; Lamborn and Roe of Tennessee.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science and Technology: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 2965, Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009; H.R. 2729, To authorize the designation of National Environmental Research Parks by the Secretary of Energy, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1622, To provide for a program of research, development, and demonstration on natural gas vehicles.

SMALL GROUP HEALTHCARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled “Health IT Adoption and the New Challenges Faced by Solo and Small Group Healthcare Practices.” Testimony was heard from David Blumenthal, M.D., National Coordinator, Health IT, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit approved for full Committee action the Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009

VETERANS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2379, Veterans Group Life Insurance Improvement Act of 2009; H.R. 2713, Disabled Veterans Life Insurance Enhancement Act; H.R. 2968, to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the required reduction in the amount of the accelerated death benefit payable to certain terminally-ill persons insured under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance or Veterans' Group Life Insurance; H.R. 2774, Families of Veterans Financial Security Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Buyer, Donnelly, Halvorson, and Kirkpatrick of Arizona; Thomas M. Lostowka, Director, VA Regional Office and Insurance Center, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; a representative of a veterans organizations; and a public witness.

HEALTH REFORM PROPOSALS

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on Health Reform in the 21st Century: Proposals to Reform the Health System. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BRIEFING—SIGNIFICATION NOTIFICATION

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

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to mark up proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies and Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, 3 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: closed business meeting to mark up the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Raphael William Bostic, of California, and David H. Stevens, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, time to be announced, room to be announced.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine impacts of highway trust fund insolvency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine the impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining on water quality in Appalachia, 3:30 p.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Maria Otero, to be Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs, and Philip L. Verveer, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Communications and Information Policy in the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs and U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, both of the Department of State, 11 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to continue consideration of Affordable Health Choices Act, subcommittee assignments, and any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SR-325.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 797, to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Technical and Legal Assistance Act of 2000, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve the prosecution of, and response to, crimes in Indian country, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine “The Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act”, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 257, to amend title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, H.R. 985 and S. 448, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 396, for the relief of Marcos Antonio Sanchez-Diaz, and the nominations of B. Todd Jones, to be United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, and John P. Kacavas,