

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 2996, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S9761–S9860

Measures Introduced: Twelve bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1703–1714, and S. Res. 285–287. **Page S9840**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals From the Concurrent Resolution, Fiscal Year 2010”. (S. Rept. No. 111–78)

S. 251, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to permit targeted interference with mobile radio services within prison facilities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 111–79)

S. 1670, to reform and modernize the limitations on exclusive rights relating to secondary transmissions of certain signals, with amendments. **Page S9839**

Measures Passed:

Enhanced Partnership With Pakistan Act: Senate passed S. 1707, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to promote an enhanced strategic partnership with Pakistan and its people. **Pages S9812–17**

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act: By 77 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. 298), Senate passed H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, agreeing to the committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S9769–S9812

Adopted:

Feinstein (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 2492, to provide funds for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund, with an offset. **Pages S9769, S9772**

Feinstein (for Risch/Crapo) Amendment No. 2501, to provide for the use of certain funds for the Upper Snake/South Fork River Area of Critical Concern. **Pages S9769, S9772**

Feinstein (for Carper) Amendment No. 2505, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study on black carbon emissions. **Pages S9769, S9772**

Feinstein (for Roberts) Amendment No. 2509, to encourage the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to reassess the cost-effectiveness of the buyout and relocation of residents of certain properties in Treece, Kansas. **Pages S9769, S9772**

Feinstein Amendment No. 2518, to make technical corrections to certain State and tribal assistance grants. **Pages S9769, S9773**

Feinstein Amendment No. 2519, to extend a special use permit for Drake’s Estero at Point Reyes National Seashore, California. **Pages S9769, S9773**

Feinstein (for Feingold) Amendment No. 2522, to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding the coordination of biobased product activities. **Pages S9769, S9773, S9775**

Feinstein (for Whitehouse) Modified Amendment No. 2534, to express the sense of the Senate that the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program is an effective way to address mercury pollution in the United States and should continue. **Pages S9769, S9773**

Feinstein (for Bingaman/Murkowski) Modified Amendment No. 2491, to modify the composition of the Board of Directors of the National Forest Foundation. **Pages S9769, S9773–74**

Feinstein (for Schumer/Durbin) Amendment No. 2495, to support the Pest and Disease Revolving Loan Fund. **Pages S9769, S9774**

Feinstein (for Tester) Amendment No. 2507, to limit the increase in cabin user fees, with an offset.

Pages S9769, S9774

Feinstein (for Bingaman) Modified Amendment No. 2493, to provide funds for the Flame Fund.

Pages S9769, S9774–75

Coburn Modified Amendment No. 2511, to prohibit no-bid contracts and grants.

Pages S9800–01

Coburn Amendment No. 2463, to require public disclosure of certain reports.

Pages S9799, S9801

Coburn Amendment No. 2523, to secure our borders and protect our environment.

Pages S9799, S9801–03

Isakson Further Modified Amendment No. 2504, to encourage the participation of the National Park Service in activities preserving the papers and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., under the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009.

Pages S9769, S9804

Feinstein (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 2535, to provide for the use of certain funds for an Indian estate planning assistance program.

Page S9804

Feinstein (for Bennett) Amendment No. 2527, to modify the definition of the term “Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area Map”.

Page S9804

Coburn Modified Amendment No. 2482, to protect property owners from being included without their knowledge or consent in the Federal preservation and promotion activities of any National Heritage Area.

Pages S9800, S9806

Dorgan/Conrad Amendment No. 2441, to provide for the inclusion of property in, or removal of property from, the Northern Plains Heritage Area.

Page S9807

Reid Amendment No. 2531, to make funds available for preliminary planning and design of a high-performance green building to consolidate the multiple offices and research facilities of the Environmental Protection Agency in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Pages S9794, S9807

Feinstein (for Inhofe) Amendment No. 2445, to provide for the expedited cleanup of the Tar Creek Superfund Site.

Page S9811

Rejected:

Vitter Amendment No. 2549, to ensure that the Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change (commonly known as the “White House Climate Change Czar”) is not directing actions of departments and agencies funded by this Act. (By 57 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 295), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S9784–94, S9806

Ensign motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions to report the same back to the Senate, with changes. (By 64 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 296), Senate tabled the motion.)

Page S9806

Coburn Amendment No. 2483, to help preserve America’s national parks and other public land treasures by reducing maintenance backlogs that threaten the health and safety of visitors. (By 79 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. 297), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S9799–S9800, S9803–04, S9807

Withdrawn:

Carper Amendment No. 2456, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study on black carbon emissions.

Pages S9775, S9769

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Cloture Motion—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the previously scheduled votes on the motion to invoke cloture on the committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, be withdrawn.

Pages S9761, S9769

Chair sustained a point of order against Collins Amendment No. 2498, to provide that no funds may be used for the administrative expenses of any official identified by the President to serve in a position without express statutory authorization and which is responsible for the interagency development or coordination of any rule, regulation, or policy unless the President certifies to Congress that such official will respond to all reasonable requests to testify before, or provide information to, any congressional committee with jurisdiction over such matters, and such official submits certain reports biannually to Congress, as being in violation of Rule XVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, which prohibits legislation on an appropriation bill, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S9769, S9799

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Feinstein, Byrd, Leahy, Dorgan, Mikulski, Kohl, Johnson, Reed, Nelson (NE), Tester, Inouye, Alexander, Cochran, Bennett, Gregg, Murkowski, Collins, and Bond.

Page S9812

Fiscal Year 2010 Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act: Senate passed H.R. 3607, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9856

Reserve Officers Association Modernization Act: Senate passed S. 1599, to amend title 36, United States Code, to include in the Federal charter of the

Reserve Officers Association leadership positions newly added in its constitution and bylaws.

Page S9856

Military Officers Association of America: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 832, to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and the bill was then passed.

Pages S9856–57

Sidney M. Aronovitz United States Courthouse: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2913, to designate the United States courthouse located at 301 Simonton Street in Key West, Florida, as the “Sidney M. Aronovitz United States Courthouse”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9857

Ralph Regula Federal Building and United States Courthouse: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1687, to designate the federally occupied building located at McKinley Avenue and Third Street, SW., Canton, Ohio, as the “Ralph Regula Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9857

Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2053, to designate the United States courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the “Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9857

William O. Lipinski Federal Building: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2498, to designate the Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the “William O. Lipinski Federal Building”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9857

Galveston Historical Foundation: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2121, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Galveston, Texas, to the Galveston Historical Foundation, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S9857

Fatalities in Storms and Floods in the State of Georgia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 286, expressing condolences to the families of the individuals killed during unusual storms and floods in the State of

Georgia between September 18 and September 21, 2009, and expressing gratitude to all of the emergency personnel who continue to work with unyielding determination to meet the needs of Georgia’s residents.

Page S9858

Measures Considered:

Department of Defense Appropriations Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.R. 3326, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010.

Pages S9817–32

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 9:30 a.m., on Friday, September 25, 2009.

Page S9859

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Peggy E. Gustafson, of Illinois, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration. (Prior to this action, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration.)

Jonathan B. Jarvis, of California, to be Director of the National Park Service.

Pages S9860, S9859

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Frederick D. Barton, of Maine, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Bill Delahunt, of Massachusetts, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Elaine Schuster, of Florida, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Christopher H. Smith, of New Jersey, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Mary Burce Warlick, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia.

Wellington E. Webb, of Colorado, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Jide J. Zeitlin, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador.

Jide J. Zeitlin, of New York, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the

Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform.

Islam A. Siddiqui, of Virginia, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

A routine list in the Foreign Service.

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Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Pages S9855–56

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—298) **Page S9806, S9807, S9812**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:12 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, September 25, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9859.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 2,559 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

MISSILE DEFENSE IN EUROPE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's decision on missile defense in Europe, after receiving testimony from Michele A. Flournoy, Under Secretary for Policy, General James E. Cartwright, USMC, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Lieutenant General Patrick J. O'Reilly, USA, Director, Missile Defense Agency, all of the Department of Defense.

EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, one year later, focusing on the status of efforts to address transparency and accountability issues, after receiving testimony from Herbert M. Allison, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Financial Stability, Neil Barofsky, Special Inspector General, Troubled Asset Relief Program, both of the Department of the Treasury; Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; and Elizabeth Warren, Chairman, Congressional Oversight Panel.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee continued consideration of an original bill entitled, "America's Healthy Future Act of 2009", but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call and will meet again on Friday, September 25, 2009.

GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine the government, focusing on performance, including key management practices in an agency which managers' reported use of performance information has improved, looking at agencies with relatively low use of performance information and the factors that contribute to this condition, and review the role the President and Congress can play in promoting a results-oriented and collaborative culture in the federal government, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey D. Zients, Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget; Bernice Steinhardt, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; W. Craig Fugate, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior; Michelle Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator and the Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and Paul L. Posner, George Mason University Public Administration Program, Clifton, Virginia.

U.S. DIPLOMATIC READINESS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government

Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine a review of United States diplomatic readiness, focusing on the staffing and foreign language challenges facing the foreign service, after receiving testimony from Nancy J. Powell, Director General, Foreign Service, Department of State; Jess T. Ford, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; and Ronald E. Neumann, American Academy of Diplomacy, and Susan Rockwell Johnson, American Foreign Service Association, both of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1670, to reform and modernize the limitations on exclusive rights relating to secondary trans-

missions of certain signals, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Paul Joseph Fishman, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey, Jenny A. Durkan, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, Florence T. Nakakuni, to be United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii, Deborah K. R. Gilg, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska, and Ignacia S. Moreno, of New York, to be Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 3639–3648; and 8 resolutions, H. Res. 770–771, 773–778 were introduced.

Pages H9961–62

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H9962

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Conference report on H.R. 2918, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010 (H. Rept. 111–265) and

H. Res. 772, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2918) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010 (H. Rept. 111–266).

Pages H9924–46, H9961

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Barrett (SC), wherein he resigned from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, effective today.

Page H9901–02

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 770, electing a minority member to a standing committee: Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: Representative McCaul.

Page H9902

Providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules: The House agreed to H. Res. 766, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 735, after it was agreed to order the previous question without objection.

Pages H9905–07

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the fol-

lowing measure which was debated on Tuesday, September 22nd:

Expressing support for designation of September 23, 2009, as “National Job Corps Day”: H. Con. Res. 163, to express support for designation of September 23, 2009, as “National Job Corps Day”, by a 2/3 recorded vote of 413 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 736.

Page H9907

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

Medicare Premium Fairness Act: H.R. 3631, to amend title XVIII to provide for the application of a consistent Medicare part B premium for all Medicare beneficiaries in a budget neutral manner for 2010, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 18 nays, Roll No. 737.

Pages H9908–15

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H9901.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 41 was referred to the Committee on House Administration.

Page H9960

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9906–07, H9907, H9915. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DOD—SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Committee on Armed Services: Defense Acquisition Reform Panel held a hearing on DOD Supply Chain Management: Can the Department Identify and

Meet Its Supply Needs Efficiently? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: MG Gary T. McCoy, USAF, Commander, Air Force Global Logistics Support Center; and Nancy Heimbaugh, Senior Procurement Executive and Director, Acquisition Management, Defense Logistics Agency; and William M. Solis, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management Team, GAO.

PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABLE BROADBAND NETWORK

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet held a hearing entitled “A National Interoperable Broadband Network for Public Safety: Recent Developments.” Testimony was heard from William Bratton, Chief of Police, Police Department, Los Angeles, California; and public witnesses.

SYSTEMIC RISK AND RESOLUTION ISSUES

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled “Experts’ Perspectives on Systemic Risk and Resolution Issues.” Testimony was heard from Paul Volcker, former Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; Arthur Levitt, Jr., former Chairman, SEC; and public witnesses.

SECURITIZATION OF LIFE INSURANCE SETTLEMENTS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled “Recent Innovations in Securitization.” Testimony was heard from Paula Dubberly, Associate Director, Division of Corporation Finance, SEC; Susan E. Voss, Commissioner, Department of Insurance, State of Iowa; and public witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY’S INTELLIGENCE ROLE

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment held a hearing entitled “I&A Reconciled: Defining a Homeland Security Intelligence Role.” Testimony was heard from Bart Johnson, Acting Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Ordered reported the following measures: H. Con. Res. 186, Supporting the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month; H. Res. 725, Congratulating the Chula Vista Park View Little League team of Chula Vista, California, for winning the 2009 Little League World Series Championship; H. Res. 734, as amended, Expressing the support for and honoring September 17, 2009 as “Constitution Day”; H. Res. 693, Honoring the life and accomplishments of Jim Johnson and extending the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family on the occasion of his death; H.R. 3547, To designate the facility of

the United States Postal Service located at 936 South 250 East in Provo, Utah, as the “Rex E. Lee Post Office Building”; and H. Res. 16, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Life Insurance Awareness Month.

CONFERENCE REPORT—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2010

Committee on Rules: Committee granted, by a non-record vote, a rule for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2918, the “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2010.” The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervention of any motion except one hour of debate and one motion to recommit, if applicable. Testimony was heard from Representatives Wasserman Schultz and Jordan.

BIOLOGIC DRUGS DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a hearing on the Potential Need for Measurement Standards to Facilitate the Research and Development of Biologic Drugs. Testimony was received from Steven Kozlowski, Director, Office of Biotechnology Products, Office of Pharmaceutical Science, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; Willie May, Director, Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory, National Institute of Standards of Technology, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL LAWS SPURRING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology held a hearing entitled “The Roles of Federal Labs in Spurring Innovation and Entrepreneurship Across the U.S.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of NASA: Cynthia Lee, Associate Director, Langley Research Center; and Bruce Underwood, Technical Manager, Wallops Space Flight Facility; Paul G. Sebesta, Center Director, National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, Agricultural Research Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Ordered reported the following: H.R. 3619, as amended, Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2009; H.R. 3618, Clean Hull Act of 2009; H.R. 3305, To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 224 South Boulder Avenue in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the “H. Dale Cook Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; H. Con. Res. 138, Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, Texas; H.

Res. 465, as amended, Recognizing the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association on the occasion of its 10th anniversary; H.R. 719, as amended, Commending Russ Meyer on his induction into the National Aviation Hall of Fame; H.R. 1700, as amended, National Women's History Museum Act of 2009. The Committee also approved GSA Capital Investment Program Resolutions.

HONORING THE FALLEN

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on Honoring the Fallen: How Can We Better Serve America's Veterans and Their Families? Testimony was heard from Max Cleland, Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission; Katherine Stevenson, Assistant Director, Business Services, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; the following officials of the Departments of Veterans Affairs: John C. Metzler, Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, and Steve L. Muro, Acting Under Secretary, Memorial Affairs, both with the National Cemetery Administration; representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 294, Veteran-Owned Small Business Promotion Act of 2009; H.R. 1169, To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of assistance provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disabled veterans for specially adapted housing and automobiles and adapted equipment; H.R. 1182, Military Spouses Residency Relief Act; H.R. 2416, To require the Department of Veterans Affairs to use purchases of goods or services through the Federal supply schedules for the purpose of meeting certain contracting goals for participation by small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, including veterans with service-connected disabilities; H.R. 2461, Veterans Small Business Verification Act; H.R. 2614, Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education Reauthorization Act of 2009; H.R. 2696, Servicemembers Rights Protection Act; H.R. 2874, Helping Active Duty Deployed Act of 2009; H.R. 2928, To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an apprenticeship and on-job training program under the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Program; H.R. 3223, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the Department of Veterans Affairs contracting goals and references for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans; H.R. 3554, National Guard Education Equity Act; H.R. 3561, To amend title 38, United

States Code, to increase the amount of educational assistance provided to certain veterans for flight training; H.R. 3577, Education Assistance to Realign New Eligibilities for Dependents (EARNED) Act of 2009; and other draft legislation. Testimony was heard from Representatives Filner, Rodriguez, Carter, Miller of North Carolina, Loeb sack, and Connolly of Virginia; Keith M. Wilson, Director, Office of Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

SOLAR HEATS UP

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming: Held a hearing entitled "Solar Heats Up: Accelerating Widespread Deployment." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

NEWSPAPERS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of newspapers, focusing on the impact on the economy and democracy, after receiving testimony from Tom Rosentiel, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, and Denise Rolark Barnes, The Washington Informer, both of Washington, D.C.; Paul Starr, Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton, New Jersey; and John Sturm, Newspaper Association of America, Arlington, Virginia.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2918, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Finance: business meeting to continue consideration of an original bill entitled "America's Healthy Future Act of 2009", Time to be announced, SH-216.

House

Committee on Financial Services, hearing on H.R. 1207, Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2009, 9 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Friday, September 25

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, September 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 3326, Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

(At 3:30 p.m., Senator-Designate Paul Kirk, of Massachusetts, will be administered the oath of office by the Vice President.)

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2918—Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2010 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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Congressional Record

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