

amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, by a <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> ye-and-nay vote of 343 yeas to 55 nays, Roll No. 910.

**Pages H13319–20**

**Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act of 2009:** The House passed H.R. 3961, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reform the Medicare SGR payment system for physicians, by a recorded vote of 243 yeas to 183 noes, Roll No. 909.

**Pages H13289–H13319**

Agreed to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair on a point of order sustained against the Gingrey motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a ye-and-nay vote of 251 yeas to 177 nays, Roll No. 907.

**Pages H13308–17**

Rejected the Cantor motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 177 yeas to 252 noes, Roll No. 908.

**Pages H13317–19**

Pursuant to section 4 of the rule, in the engrossment of H.R. 3961, the Clerk shall (1) add the text of H.R. 2920, as passed by the House, as new matter at the end of H.R. 3961; (2) conform the title of H.R. 3961 to reflect the addition to the engrossment of the text of H.R. 2920; (3) assign appropriate designations to provisions within the engrossment; and (4) conform provisions for short titles within the engrossment.

H. Res. 903, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on November 7, 2009.

**Supporting the observance of National Diabetes Month:** The House agreed to discharge and agree to H. Res. 914, to support the observance of National Diabetes Month.

**Pages H13320–21**

**Permitting each current member of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance to serve for 3 terms:** The House agreed to discharge and agree to S. 1860, to permit each current member of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance to serve for 3 terms.

**Page H13321**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 3 p.m. on Monday, November 23, 2009, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H. Con. Res. 214, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

**Page H13321**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H13322.

**Senate Referral:** S. 1963 was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

**Page H13340**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Six ye-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H13280, H13280–81, H13281, H13288, H13289, H13316–17, H13318–19, H13319, H13320. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### RECOVERY ACT RURAL BROADBAND PROGRAM

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to review rural broadband programs funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Testimony was heard from Jonathan S. Adelstein, Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, USDA; and Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary, Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce.

### U.S. MEXICAN BORDER SECURITY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Confronting the Cartels: Addressing U.S.-Mexican Border Security. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Mariko Silver, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy; Jayson P. Ahern, Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and John Morton, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

### IMPROVING LITERACY SKILLS

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education held a hearing on Improving the Literacy Skills of Children and Young Adults. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 515, Radioactive Import Deterrence Act; and H.R. 1084, Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation Act.

### ONLINE/OFFLINE CONSUMER INFORMATION COLLECTION

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection and the Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet held a joint hearing on Exploring the

Offline and Online Collection and Use of Consumer Information. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **COMMITTEE PRINT—FINANCIAL STABILITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2009**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Continued consideration of the Committee Print of the Financial Stability Improvement Act of 2009.

#### **LIFTING CUBAN TRAVEL BAN**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Held a hearing on Is it Time to Lift the Ban on Travel to Cuba? Testimony was heard from GEN Barry R. McCaffrey, USA (ret.); Ambassador James Cason, former Chief of Missions, U.S. Interests Section, Havana, Cuba; and public witnesses.

#### **MIDDLE EAST POLITICAL/RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia held a hearing on the State of Political and Religious Freedom in the Middle East. Testimony was heard from Michael H. Posner, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Department of State.

#### **AL-QA'IDA THREAT ASSESSMENT**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment held a hearing entitled "Reassessing the Evolving al-Qa'ida Threat to the Homeland." Testimony was heard from LTG David W. Barno (ret.), Director, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

#### **CORPORATE MONITORING TRANSPARENCY**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on Transparency and Integrity in Corporate Monitoring. Testimony was heard from Eileen Larence, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, GAO; and public witnesses.

#### **TRACKING STIMULUS DOLLARS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Held a hearing entitled "Tracking the Money: How Recovery Act Recipients Account for the Use of Stimulus Dollars." Testimony was heard from Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller, GAO; Earl E. Devaney, Chairman, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board; Anthony Wilder Miller, Deputy Secretary, Department of Education; and John D. Porcari, Deputy Secretary, Department of Transportation.

#### **AFGHAN ELECTIONS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held a hearing entitled "Afghan Elections: What Happened and Where Do We Go From Here?" Testimony was heard from J. Alexander Thier, Director, Afghanistan and Pakistan Center for Post-Conflict Peace and Stability Operations, U.S. Institute of Peace; Ambassador Peter W. Galbraith, former U. S. Diplomat and former Deputy UN Special Representative for Afghanistan; and public witnesses.

#### **GLOBAL SPACE CAPABILITIES**

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on the Growth of Global Space Capabilities: What's Happening and Why It Matters. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a hearing on the Research and Development Portfolio to Support the Priorities of the Department of Transportation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Polly Trottenberg, Assistant Secretary, Transportation Policy; and Peter Appel, Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration; and public witnesses.

#### **SBA OVERSIGHT**

*Committee on Small Business:* Held a hearing entitled "Oversight of the Small Business Administration and its Programs." Testimony was heard from Karen Mills, Administrator, SBA; and Gregory Kutz, Managing Director, Forensics Audits and Special Investigations, GAO.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACT OF 2009**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 4016, Hazardous Material Transportation Safety Act of 2009.

#### **ADAPTIVE HOUSING GRANTS**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on Adaptive Housing Grants. Testimony was heard from Mark Bologna, Director, Loan Guarantee Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

## INCREASING DEMANDS ON FOOD BANKS AND CHARITIES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Oversight, and the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support held a joint hearing to review the effect of the economic downturn and increased unemployment on the demand for hunger-relief assistance at food banks and other charities. Testimony was heard from Representatives McGovern, Boozman, and Moran of Kansas; and public witnesses.

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY CLAIMS BACKLOGS

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on Clearing the Disability Claims Backlogs: The Social Security Administration's Progress and New Challenges Arising From the Recession. Testimony was heard from Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner, SSA; Barbara B. Kennelly, Acting Chair, Social Security Advisory Board; Patrick O'Connell, Inspector General, SSA; and public witnesses.

## BRIEFING—SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

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

## *Joint Meetings*

### FINANCIAL REGULATORY REFORM

*Joint Economic Committee:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine financial regulatory reform, fo-

cus on protecting taxpayers and the economy, after receiving testimony from Timothy F. Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Finance:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary, Mary John Miller, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary, and Charles Collins, of Maryland, to be Deputy Under Secretary, all of the Department of the Treasury; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider the nominations of Michael W. Punke, of Montana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, Islam A. Siddiqui, of Virginia, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, Michael F. Mundaca, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Jim R. Esquea, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary, Ellen Gloninger Murray, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary, and Bryan Hayes Samuels, of Illinois, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, all of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-215.

### House

No committee meetings are scheduled.