

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House passed H.R. 2346, Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5459–S5541

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1036–1058, and S. Res. 149–151. **Pages S5501–02**

Measures Reported:

S. 1054, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. (S. Rept. No. 111–20). **Page S5501**

Measures Passed:

Commending South Charleston, West Virginia on 50th Annual Armed Forces Day: Committee on Armed Services was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 146, commending South Charleston, West Virginia, for celebrating its 50th annual Armed Forces Day on May 16, 2009, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5538**

World Press Freedom Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 149, expressing solidarity with the writers, journalists, and librarians of Cuba on World Press Freedom Day and calling for the immediate release of citizens of Cuba imprisoned for exercising rights associated with freedom of the press. **Page S5538**

Commemorating and Celebrating Fallen Officers in the State of Washington: Senate agreed to S. Res. 150, commemorating and celebrating the lives of Officer Kristine Marie Fairbanks, Deputy Anne Marie Jackson, and Sergeant Nelson Kai Ng who gave their lives in the service of the people of Washington State in 2008. **Pages S5538–39**

Measures Considered:

Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 627, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit

under an open end consumer credit plan, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S5468–94, S5496

Pending:

Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 1058, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5468**

Landrieu Modified Amendment No. 1079 (to Amendment No. 1058), to end abuse, promote disclosure, and provide protections to small businesses that rely on credit cards.

Pages S5468, S5471–74, S5488–92

Collins/Lieberman Modified Amendment No. 1107 (to Amendment No. 1058), to address stored value devices and cards. **Pages S5468, S5471**

Lincoln Amendment No. 1126 (to Amendment No. 1107), to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to the extension of certain limitations. **Pages S5474–88**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that no further amendments be in order to the bill, except a managers amendment which has been cleared by the managers and the two Leaders, and that Senate resume consideration of the bill at 10 a.m., on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 1058 (listed above); provided that if cloture is invoked on the amendment, Senate consider any pending germane amendments, and that upon disposition of those amendments, all post-cloture time be yielded back, and the substitute amendment, as amended, be agreed to, and Senate vote on passage of the bill; provided further that the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, be withdrawn.

Page S5494

House Messages:

Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act: Senate concurred in the amendments of the House of Representatives to S. 386, to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to federal assistance

and relief programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds, with an amendment. **Pages S5494–95**

Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act: Senate disagreed to the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, agreed to the request for a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Levin, Kennedy, Byrd, Lieberman, Reed, Akaka, Nelson (FL), Nelson (NE), Bayh, Webb, McCaskill, Udall (CO), Hagan, Begich, Burr, McCain, Inhofe, Sessions, Chambliss, Graham, Thune, Martinez, Wicker, Burr, Vitter, and Collins. **Pages S5495–96**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Philip H. Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European and Eurasian Affairs).

Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2013. **Page S5541**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Aneesh Chopra, of Virginia, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Capricia Penavic Marshall, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service.

39 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Navy.

Pages S5539–41

Messages from the House: **Pages S5499–S5500**

Measures Referred: **Page S5500**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S5500**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5500–01**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5501**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5502–04**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5504–30**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5497–99**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5530–37**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S5537**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5537**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5537**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:19 p.m., until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the re-

marks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5539.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine the proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for national intelligence program and military intelligence program, after receiving testimony from Dennis Blair, Director of National Intelligence; and James R. Clapper, Jr., Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported a bill providing supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and pandemic flu, with amendments.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2010 for the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Robert M. Gates, Secretary, and Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary (Comptroller) and Chief Financial Officer, both of the Department of Defense; and Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Raymond Edwin Mabus, Jr., of Mississippi, to be Secretary, and Robert O. Work, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary, both of the Department of the Navy, Andrew Charles Weber, of Virginia, to be Assistant to the Secretary for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs, Paul N. Stockton, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, Thomas R. Lamont, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Charles A. Blanchard, of Arizona, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

CARBON CAPTURE AND SEQUESTRATION PROGRAM

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1013, the Department of Energy Carbon Capture and Sequestration Program Amendments Act of 2009, after receiving testimony from Victor K. Der, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; Kit Batten, Science Advisor in the Office of the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior; Wyoming State Representative Thomas E. Lubnau II, Gillette; John Tombari, Schlumberger Carbon Services, Houston, Texas; Karl Moor, Southern Company, Atlanta, Georgia; A. Scott Anderson, Environmental Defense Fund, Austin, Texas; and Chiara Trabucchi, Industrial Economics Incorporated, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following items:

S. 1005, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act to improve water and wastewater infrastructure in the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 849, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study on black carbon emissions;

H.R. 80, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to treat nonhuman primates as prohibited wildlife species under that Act, to make corrections in the provisions relating to captive wildlife offenses under that Act;

H.R. 388, to assist in the conservation of cranes by supporting and providing, through projects of persons and organizations with expertise in crane conservation, financial resources for the conservation programs of countries the activities of which directly or indirectly affect cranes and the ecosystems of cranes;

S. 529, to assist in the conservation of rare fields and rare canids by supporting and providing financial resources for the conservation programs of countries within the range of rare felid and rare canid populations and projects of persons with demonstrated expertise in the conservation of rare felid and rare canid populations;

H.R. 813, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 306 East Main Street in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the “J.

Herbert W. Small Federal Building and United States Courthouse”;

H.R. 837, to designate the Federal building located at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York, New York, as the “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building”;

Army Corps of Engineers Study Resolution: Miles City and Vicinity, Montana.

HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

Committee on Finance: Committee met in closed session to discuss expanding health care coverage.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jeffrey D. Feltman, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, and Robert Orris Blake, Jr., of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, who was introduced by Senator Whitehouse, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

MIDDLE EAST ROAD TO PEACE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Middle East, focusing on the road to peace, after receiving testimony from the Right Honorable Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Quartet Representative, London, United Kingdom.

DELIVERY REFORM

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine delivery reform, focusing on the roles of primary and specialty care in innovative new delivery models, after receiving testimony from Kenneth E. Thorpe, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; Richard A. Cooper, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia; Steven Schlossberg, American Urological Association, Norfolk, Virginia, on behalf of the Alliance of Specialty Medicine; Michael Nochomovitz, University Hospitals Medical Practices and University Hospitals Management Services Organization, Cleveland, Ohio; and Marsha Raulerson, American Academy of Pediatrics, Brewton, Alabama.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Larry J. Echo Hawk, of Utah, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 47 public bills, H.R. 2403–2449; and 13 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 127 and H. Res. 437–448 were introduced. **Pages H5663–67**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5667–68**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 689, to interchange the administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–108) and

H.R. 1170, to amend chapter 21 of title 38, United States Code, to establish a grant program to encourage the development of new assistive technologies for specially adapted housing, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–109).

H.R. 1088, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a one-year period for the training of new disabled veterans' outreach program specialists and local veterans' employment representatives by National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute (H. Rept. 111–110); and

H.R. 1089, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the enforcement through the Office of Special Counsel of the employment and unemployment rights of veterans and members of the Armed Forces employed by Federal executive agencies, with amendments (H. Rept. 111–111).

Page H5663

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Tauscher to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5585**

21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act: The House passed H.R. 2187, to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, by a recorded vote of 275 ayes to 155 noes, Roll No. 259. **Pages H5588–93**

Rejected the Thompson (PA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and Labor with instructions to report the bill back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 182 ayes to 247 noes, Roll No. 258. **Pages H5591–93**

Agreed to:

Giffords amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 111–106) that was debated on May 13th that specifies that local educational agencies receiving funds under the act may encourage schools receiving funds for projects to educate students about those projects,

including how they function, and their environmental, energy, sustainability, and other benefits (by a recorded vote of 334 ayes to 97 noes, Roll No. 255); **Page H5589**

Bright amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 111–106) that was debated on May 13th that requires the Secretary to reserve 5 percent of section 102 grant funds for grants to local educational agencies serving geographic areas with significant economic distress or recovering from a natural disaster (by a recorded vote of 433 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 256); and **Pages H5589–90**

Griffith amendment (No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 111–106) that was debated on May 13th that includes reducing the incidence and effects of asthma and other respiratory illnesses in children among the voluntary guidelines for high performing school buildings. It also adds reducing the incidence and effects of asthma and other respiratory illnesses to the list of demonstrable and expected benefits. The amendment includes the reduction and elimination of human exposure to airborne particles such as dust, sand, and pollens among the approved uses for grant funds used by local educational agencies (by a recorded vote of 433 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 257). **Pages H5590–91**

Rejected:

Kline (MN) amendment to amend the title of the bill (by a recorded vote of 149 ayes to 257 noes, Roll No. 260). **Pages H5593–94**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H5594**

H. Res. 427, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Wednesday, May 13th.

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Wednesday, May 13th:

Recognizing Armed Forces Day and the exemplary service of the members of the United States

Armed Forces: H. Res. 377, to recognize Armed Forces Day and the exemplary service of the members of the United States Armed Forces, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 420 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 263; **Page H5607**

Granting the congressional gold medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II: H.R. 347, to grant the congressional gold medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry

Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 411 yeas with none voting “no”, Roll No. 266; and **Page H5633**

Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Act of 2009: H.R. 1209, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861, America’s highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States, to honor the American military men and women who have been recipients of the Medal of Honor, and to promote awareness of what the Medal of Honor represents and how ordinary Americans, through courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism, can challenge fate and change the course of history. **Page H5633**

Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009: The House passed H.R. 2346, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 368 yeas to 60 nays, Roll No. 265. **Pages H5594–H5632**

Rejected the Rogers (KY) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 191 yeas to 237 nays, Roll No. 264. **Pages H5630–32**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment printed in H. Rept. 111–107 is considered as adopted. **Page H5608**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H5632**

H. Res. 434, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 247 yeas to 178 noes, Roll No. 262, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nays vote of 240 yeas to 188 nays, Roll No. 261. **Pages H5605–07**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of police officers who have fallen in the line of duty. **Page H5632**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, May 18th for morning hour debate, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 19th for morning hour debate and noon for legislative business. **Page H5635**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H5635.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yeas-and-nays votes and seven recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5589, H5590, H5590–91, H5592–93, H5593, H5593–94, H 5606, H5606–07, H5607, H5631, H5632, H5633. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Committee Meetings

HORTICULTURE/ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SAFETY STANDARDS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture held a hearing to review food safety standards for horticulture and organic agriculture. Testimony was heard from David W.K. Acheson, M.D., Associate Commissioner, Foods, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; David Shipman, Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL SERVICES, GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services, General Government and Related Agencies held a hearing on the District of Columbia. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the District of Columbia: Adrian Fenty, Mayor; Vincent Gray, Council Chairman; and Natwar Gandhi, Chief Financial Officer.

INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Park Service. Testimony was heard from Dan Wenk, Acting Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

NAVY BUDGET FY 2010; ARMY BUDGET 2010

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Navy. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Navy: B.F. Penn, Acting Secretary; ADM Gary Roughead, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; and GEN James T. Conway, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

The Committee also held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Army. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the

Department of the Army: Pete Geren, Secretary; and GEN George W. Casey, Jr., USA, Chief of Staff.

CHILD NUTRITION/OBESITY REDUCTION

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Health, Families and Communities held a hearing on Improving Child Nutrition Programs to Reduce Childhood Obesity. Testimony was heard from Representatives Castle and Woolsey; Michele Paterson, wife of David Paterson, Governor of New York; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY/ OVERSIGHT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled “How Should the Federal Government Oversee Insurance?” Testimony was heard from Baird Webel, Specialist in Financial Economics, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

U.S.-TURKEY PARTNERSHIP

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe held a hearing on The United States and Turkey: A Model Partnership. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT

Committee on Homeland Security: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2200, Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act.

OVERSIGHT—JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Held an oversight hearing on the Department of Justice. Testimony was heard from Eric H. Holder, The Attorney General.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 129, To authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California; H.R. 762, To validate final patent number 27–2005–0081, and for other purposes; H.R. 865, To convey the New River State Park campground located in Mount Rodgers National Recreation Area in the Jefferson National Forest in Carroll County, Virginia, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes; H.R. 1442, To provide for the sale of the Federal Government’s reversionary interest in approximately 60 acres of land in Salt Lake City, Utah, originally conveyed to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association under the Act of January 23, 1909; H.R. 1471, To expand the boundary of the Jimmy

Carter National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, to redesignate the unit as a National Historical Park, and or other purposes; and H.R. 1641, Cascadia Marine Trail Study Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Bishop of Georgia, and Matheson; Stephen P. Whitesell, Associate Director, Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Tony L. Ferguson, Acting Director, Lands and Realty Management, Forest Service, USDA; Representative Michael A. Cheokas, member, State Legislature, Georgia; and a public witness.

BONNEVILLE UNIT CLEAN HYDROPOWER FACILITATION ACT

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on H.R. 2008, Bonneville Unit Clean Hydropower Facilitation Act. Testimony was heard from Reed Murray, Program Director, Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE CONTRACTOR WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled “Protecting the Public from Waste, Fraud, and Abuse: H.R. 1507, Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2009.” Testimony was heard from Rajesh De, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy, Department of Justice; Franz Gayl, Science and Technology Advisor to the Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies and Operations/Deputy Branch Head, U.S. Marine Corps, Department of Defense; Louis Fisher, Special Assistant to the Law Librarian of Congress, Library of Congress; Bunnatine H. Greenhouse, former Procurement Executive and Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense; Teresa Chambers, former Chief, U.S. Park Police, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

PROTECTING H1N1 FLU RESPONDERS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia held a hearing entitled “Protecting the Protectors: An Assessment of Front-line Federal Workers in Response to the H1N1 Flu.” Testimony was heard from Thomas Galassi, Director, Technical Support and Emergency Management, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor; David Weissman, Director, Division of Respiratory Disease Studies, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; Nancy Kichak,

Associate Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, OPM; Elaine Duke, Under Secretary, Management, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

FY 2010 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Committee on Science and Technology: Held a hearing on An Overview of the Federal R&D Budget for Fiscal Year 2010. Testimony was heard from John P. Holdren, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled “The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act and Small Business.” Testimony was heard from Nancy A. Bird, Acting Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISASTER RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on An Independent FEMA: Restoring the Nation’s Capabilities for Effective Emergency Management and Disaster Response. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRANSPORTATION’S HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on Reauthorization of the Department of Transportation’s Hazardous Materials Safety Program. Testimony was heard from Cynthia Douglass, Acting Deputy Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; Deborah Hersman, member, National Transportation Safety Board; and public witnesses.

VETERANS APPELLATE PROCESS

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on Examining Appellate Processes and Their Impacts on Veterans. Testimony was heard from Judge Bruce E. Kasold, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: James P. Terry, Chairman, Board of Veterans’ Appeals; and Ronald S. Burke, Director, Appeals Management Center, Veterans Benefits Administration; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on Federal Contract Compliance. Testimony was heard from Lorenzo Harrison, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor; Jan R. Frye, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs; representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

U.S. TRADE/INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on Investment Protections in U.S. Trade and Investment Agreements. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BRIEFING—INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT IN AFGHANISTAN

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Intelligence Support in Afghanistan. Testimony was heard from LTG Richard Zahner, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–2, U.S. Army, Department of Defense.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request on Defense Health Program Overview, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces, on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for Department of the Navy shipbuilding acquisition programs, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of May 18 through May 23, 2009

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at 10 a.m., Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 627, Credit Cardholders’ Bill of

Rights Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Dodd/Shelby Amendment No. 1058.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: May 19, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine funding and oversight of the Department of Energy, 10:15 a.m., SD-138.

May 19, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy military construction programs, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

May 20, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of State, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

May 21, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the National Institutes of Health, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

May 21, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Missile Defense Agency, 10:30 a.m., SD-124.

May 21, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 2 p.m., SD-124.

May 21, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Government Accountability Office, the Government Printing Office, and the Congressional Budget Office, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: May 19, to hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

May 20, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for military space programs; to be possibly followed by a closed session in SVC-217, 2 p.m., SR-232A.

May 20, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and the Future Years Defense Program for the Department of the Air Force, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: May 20, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: May 19, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of J. Randolph Babbitt, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and John D. Porcari, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Transportation, Rebecca M. Blank, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Lawrence E. Strickling, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, both of the Department of Commerce, and Aneesh Chopra, to be Chief Technology Officer, Office of Science and Technology Policy at the Executive Office of the President, 11 a.m., SR-253.

May 21, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance, to hold hearings to examine health and product safety issues associated with imported drywall, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

May 21, Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for NASA, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: May 19, business meeting to consider any pending calendar business, 2:15 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: May 19, to hold hearings to examine business opportunities and climate policy, 10 a.m., SD-406.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Economic Development Administration, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: May 19, Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine oil and gas tax provisions, focusing on the President's Fiscal Year 2010 budget proposal, 10 a.m., SD-215.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine The United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: May 19, to hold hearings to examine challenges and opportunities for U.S.-China cooperation on climate change, 10:15 a.m., SD-419.

May 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pathways to a green global economic recovery, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

May 19, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

May 20, Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine developing a coordinated and sustainable strategy for Somalia, 9 a.m., SD-419.

May 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine developments on the ground in Pakistan and Afghanistan, 11 a.m., SVC-217.

May 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine foreign policy priorities in the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for international affairs, 1:30 p.m., SH-216.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine a new strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: May 19, business meeting to consider S. 982, to protect the

public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, and any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

May 20, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 717, to modernize cancer research, increase access to preventative cancer services, provide cancer treatment and survivorship initiatives, and any pending nominations, 2:30 p.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: May 19, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine public health challenges in our nation's capital, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine financial regulatory lessons from abroad, 2 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: May 21, to hold hearings to examine executive branch authority to acquire trust lands for Indian tribes, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: May 19, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, to hold hearings to examine protecting Americans, focusing on holding foreign manufacturers accountable, 10 a.m., SD-226.

May 19, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine the Discount Pricing Consumer Protection Act, focusing on a ban on vertical price fixing, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

May 20, Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and Border Security, to hold hearings to examine securing the border and America's points of entry, 10 a.m., SD-226.

May 20, Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold hearings to examine criminal prosecution as a deterrent to health care fraud, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

May 21, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 257, to amend title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, S. 448 and H.R. 985, 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, the nominations of Thomas E. Perez, of Maryland, to be Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Andre M. Davis, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, and committee's subcommittee assignments, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: May 21, business meeting to mark up pending legislation, 9:30 a.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: May 19, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephen Woolman Preston, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Robert S. Litt, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

Special Committee on Aging: May 20, to hold hearings to examine pension plans, 2 p.m., SR-432.

May 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the role of small business in stimulus contracting, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, May 21, hearing to review low carbon fuel standard proposals, 10:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, May 18, Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, executive, on National Intelligence Program and Military Intelligence Program, 5 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

May 19, Subcommittee on Financial Services, General Government and Related Agencies, on IRS, 10 a.m., and on National Archives, 2 p.m., room to be announced.

May 19, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on EPA, 9:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Department of Defense Overview, 10 a.m., H-143 Capitol.

May 20, Subcommittee on Defense, on Department of Defense, 12:30 p.m., 210 HVC.

May 20, Subcommittee on Financial Services, General Government, and Related Agencies, on OMB, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Air Force Budget, 10 a.m., H-143 Capitol.

May 20, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs, on U.S. Agency for International Development, 9:30 a.m.; on Millennium Challenge Corporation, 10:30 a.m.; and on Office of Global AIDS Coordinator, 11:30 a.m., room to be announced.

May 20, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on Member Requests, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Defense, on Defense Health Program, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

May 21, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA): Nuclear Nonproliferation and Weapons, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Financial Services, General Government and Related Agencies, on Treasury Department, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on U.S. Geological Survey, 1:30 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, May 19, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Air Force, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

May 19, Defense Acquisition Panel, hearing on Measuring Performance: Developing Good Acquisition Metrics, 8 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Seapower, and Expeditionary Forces, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the Department of the Navy Aviation Programs, 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization

Budget Request for Air Force Modernization Programs, 2:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Another Crossroads? Professional Military Education Twenty Years after the Goldwater-Nichols Act and the Skelton Panel, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the Military Services' Operations and Maintenance Funding, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for Department of Defense Science and Technology Programs, 10:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for Army Acquisition, Reset, and Modernization Programs, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request on Military Personnel Overview, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for National Security Space and Missile Defense Programs, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, May 21, hearing on the State of the Economy, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, May 19, hearing on Examining the Abusive and Deadly Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 20, hearing on The Obama Administration's Education Agenda, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 21, hearing on Increasing Student Aid Through Loan Reform, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, May 18, to mark up the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

May 18, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled "Auto Safety: Existing Mandates and Emerging Issues," 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, May 19, hearing entitled "Capital Loss, Corruption and the Role of Western Financial Institutions," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "Approaches to Improving Credit Rating Agency Regulation," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "H.R. 2351, Credit Union Share Insurance Stabilization Act," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled "The Section 8 Voucher Reform Act," 2:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, May 20, to mark up the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, May 21, hearing on Military and Overseas Voting: Obstacles and Potential Solutions, 10 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, May 20, oversight hearing on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on Unfairness in Federal Cocaine Sentencing: Is It Time To Crack the 100 to 1 Disparity? and to consider the following bills: H.R. 1459, Fairness in Cocaine Sentencing Act of 2009; H.R. 1466, Major Drug Trafficking Prosecution Act of 2009; H.R. 265, Drug Sentencing Reform and Cocaine Kingpin Trafficking Act of 2009; H.R. 2178, Crack-Cocaine Equitable Sentencing Act of 2009; and H.R. 18, Powder-Crack Cocaine Penalty Equalization Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, May 19, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, oversight hearing on Implementation of Public Law 110-229 to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 20, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, oversight hearing on advance of the 61st meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) to be held in Madeira, Portugal June 22-26, 1 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 21, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, oversight hearing on the Future of the Forest Economy, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, May 19, Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, hearing entitled "The State of Federal Information Security," 9 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled "ONDCP's Fiscal Year 2010 National Drug Control Budget and the Priorities, Objectives, and Policies of the Office of National Drug Control Policy under the New Administration," 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia, to consider the following bills: H.R. 22, To amend chapter 89 of 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; and H.R. 1345, District of Columbia Hatch Act Reform Act of 2009, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 21, full Committee, oversight hearing entitled "The Future of the V-22 Osprey: Costs, Capabilities, and Challenges," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing entitled "Stakeholders' Views on the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)," 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, May 18, Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House, hearing on H.R. 2297, The White House Conference on Food and Nutrition, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, May 19, hearing on NASA's Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Request, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing on the Science of Insolvency, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

May 20, full Committee, to consider pending business, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, May 20, hearing entitled "Heroes of Small Business," 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

May 21, Subcommittee on Regulations and Healthcare, hearing entitled "Impacts of Outstanding Regulatory Policy on Small Biofuels Producers and Family Farmers," 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, May 19, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on Recommendations of the National Committee on Levee Safety, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Aviation Consumer Issues: Emergency Contingency Planning and Outlook for Summer Travel, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

May 20, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Piracy Against U.S.-Flagged Vessels: Lessons Learned, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, May 19, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on VA Medical Care: The Crown Jewel and Best Kept Secret, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

May 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Gulf War Illness Research: Is Enough Being Done? 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

May 20, full Committee, hearing on the Growing Needs of Women Veterans: Is the VA Ready? 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

May 21, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1037, Pilot College Work Study Programs for Veterans Act of 2009; H.R. 1098, Veterans Worker Retraining Act of 2009; H.R. 1168, Veterans Retraining Act of 2009; H.R. 1172, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a list of organizations that provide scholarships to veterans and their survivors; H.R. 1821, Equity for Injured Veterans Act of 2009; H.R. 1879, National Guard Employment Protection Act of 2009; and H.R. 2180, To amend title 38, United States Code, to waive housing loan fees for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities called to active service, 1 p.m., 340 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, May 19, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing on Social Security Administration's (SSA's) employment support programs for disability beneficiaries including the Ticket to Work Program, 2 p.m. 1100 Longworth.

May 21, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on issues involving tax-exempt and taxable governmental bonds, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, May 19, Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, hearing on GAO's upcoming report on security clearance reform, "Personnel Security Clearances," 10 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: May 20, to hold hearings to examine oil and the economy, focusing on the impact of rising global demand on the United States recovery, 10 a.m., 210, Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, May 18

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 p.m., Friday, May 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 1 p.m.

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