

Thursday, April 17, 1997

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S3303–S3387*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 601–620, S. Res. 75, and S. Con. Res. 22. Pages S3348–49

**Measures Reported:** Reports were made as follows:  
S. 506, to clarify certain copyright provisions.  
S. 568, to make a technical correction to title 28, United States Code, relating to jurisdiction for lawsuits against terrorist states. Page S3348

#### Measures Passed:

**Chemical and Biological Weapons Threat Reduction Act:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 495, to provide criminal and civil penalties for the unlawful acquisition, transfer, or use of any chemical weapon or biological weapon, and to reduce the threat of acts of terrorism or armed aggression involving the use of any such weapon against the United States, its citizens, or Armed Forces, or those of any allied country and, by 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 45), the bill, as modified, was then passed. Pages S3327–43

**Chemical Weapons Convention—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the Convention on the Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, opened for signature and signed by the United States at Paris on January 13, 1993 (Treaty Doc. 103–21), on Wednesday, April 23, 1997. Pages S3324–27

**Authority for Committees:** All committees were authorized to file executive and legislative reports during the adjournment of the Senate on Friday, April 18, 1997, and Monday, April 21, 1997, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Page S3387

#### Appointments:

**Arms Control Observer Group:** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to S. Res. 105, adopted April 13, 1989, as amended by S. Res. 280, adopted October 8, 1994, announced the following appointments and designations to the Senate Arms

Control Observer Group: Senator Stevens, as Majority Administrative Co-Chairman, Senators Thurmond and Lugar, as Co-Chairmen for the Majority, and Senators Chafee, Cochran, Helms, Kyl, Lott, Nickles, Smith, Snowe, and Warner. Page S3386

**Commission on Maintaining United States Nuclear Weapons Expertise:** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 104–201, appointed the following individuals as members of the Commission on Maintaining United States Nuclear Weapons Expertise: Henry G. Chiles, Jr., of Virginia, and Robert A. Hoover, of Idaho.

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Susan R. Baron, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Corporation for Housing Partnerships for the term expiring October 27, 1997.

Charles A. Gueli, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences for a term expiring September 7, 1999.

Johnny H. Hayes, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2005.

Jeffrey A. Frankel, of California, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers. Page S3387

**Messages From the House:** Page S3346

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** Page S3346

**Communications:** Pages S3346–47

**Petitions:** Pages S3347–48

**Executive Reports of Committees:** Page S3348

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** Pages S3349–71

**Additional Cosponsors:** Page S3371

**Authority for Committees:** Pages S3379–80

**Additional Statements:** Pages S3380–86

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—45) Page S3343

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 5:37 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Monday, April 21, 1997, for a pro forma session.

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### CROP INSURANCE REFORM

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the Federal Crop and Revenue Insurance program of the Department of Agriculture, focusing on the adequacy of the administrative expense reimbursement paid by the Department of Agriculture's Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to participating insurance companies for selling and servicing crop insurance and the comparative cost to the government of delivering catastrophic crop insurance through the Department of Agriculture and the private sector, and to discuss alternative means to reimburse companies' administrative expenses for delivering crop insurance, after receiving testimony Robert A. Robinson, Director, Food and Agriculture Issues, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office; Kenneth D. Ackerman, Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture; John Joyce, National Crop Insurance Services, West Des Moines, Iowa, on behalf of the American Association of Crop Insurers; Richard C. Gibson, American Agrisure, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Robert E. Fulwider, West Liberty, Iowa, on behalf of the Independent Insurance Agents of America; Alan S. Walter, Agricultural Risk Management North America, Inc., Overland Park, Kansas; Frank Beurskens, Frank Beurskens Consulting, Inc., Bloomington, Illinois, on behalf of the National Grain and Feed Association; and David Lehman, Chicago Board of Trade, Chicago, Illinois.

### APPROPRIATIONS—SUPREME COURT/JUDICIARY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Supreme Court of the United States and the Judiciary, receiving testimony from Anthony M. Kennedy, and David H. Souter, each an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; and John G. Heyburn II, United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, April 24.

### APPROPRIATIONS—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Foreign Operations held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on Korea, Burma, and Hong Kong,

receiving testimony from Charles Cartman, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, May 6.

### APPROPRIATIONS—FOREST SERVICE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Forest Service, receiving testimony from James R. Lyons, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, and Michael P. Dombeck, Chief, Forest Service, both of the Department of Agriculture.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, April 24.

### APPROPRIATIONS—LAW ENFORCEMENT

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for law enforcement programs of the Department of the Treasury, receiving testimony from Raymond W. Kelly, Under Secretary for Enforcement, George Weise, Commissioner, United States Customs Service, John W. Magaw, Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Charles F. Rinkevich, Director, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Stanley E. Morris, Director, Office of Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Eljay B. Bowron, Director, United States Secret Service, and Valerie Lau, Inspector General, all of the Department of the Treasury.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

### AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness resumed hearings on S. 450, authorizing funds for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, focusing on the status of operational readiness of United States military forces, receiving testimony from Gen. Ronald H. Griffith, USA, Vice Chief of the Army; Adm. Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, USAF, Vice Chief of the Air Force; Gen. Richard I. Neal, USMC, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps; Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Schwartz, USA, Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood; Vice Adm. Herbert A. Browne, Jr., USN, Commanding Admiral, III Fleet; Lt. Gen. Carl E. Franklin, USAF, Commanding General, 9th Air Force; and Lt. Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, USMC, Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

## REVENUE RAISING PROPOSALS

*Committee on Finance:* Committee held hearings to examine certain revenue raising provisions of the Administration's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998, receiving testimony from Donald C. Lubick, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Tax Policy; Martin D. Ginsburg, Georgetown University Law Center, Fred T. Goldberg, Jr., Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom, Gary C. Hufbauer, Institute for International Economics, and C. Ellen MacNeil, Arthur Andersen, all of Washington, D.C.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

## CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded hearings on the ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, opened for signature and signed by the United States at Paris on January 13, 1993 (Treaty Doc. 103-21), after receiving testimony from Representative Goss; Ronald F. Lehman, former Director, United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; Edward J. O'Malley, former Assistant Director of Counterintelligence, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; and Gen. William Odom, former Director, National Security Agency, Department of Defense.

## IRAN WEAPONS PROLIFERATION

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs held hearings to examine United States policy with regard to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and missile programs in Iran, receiving testimony from Senator D'Amato; David Welch, Acting Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, and Robert J. Einhorn, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, both of the Department of State; R. James Woolsey, former Director of Central Intelligence; and Leonard S. Spector, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, D.C.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

## CHINESE ARMS PROLIFERATION

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services concluded hearings in closed session to examine China's proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related technologies, missile delivery systems, and advanced conventional weapons, after receiving testimony from Gordon Oehler, Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence for Nonproliferation and Director, DCI's Nonproliferation Center.

## D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring, and the District of Columbia concluded hearings to discuss improvement opportunities for public education in the District of Columbia, after receiving testimony from Julius W. Becton, Jr., Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, District of Columbia Public Schools; Bruce K. MacLaury, Chairman, District of Columbia Emergency Transitional Education Board of Trustees; Kevin P. Chavous, Chairman/Committee on Education, Libraries and Recreation, District of Columbia City Council; A. Lamar Alexander, Jr., former Secretary of Education; former Mayor Edward I. Koch, New York, New York; Jay P. Greene, University of Houston, Houston, Texas; and Jeanne Allen, Center for Education Reform, Kathleen Sylvester, Progressive Policy Institute, and Mark E.P. Roberts, all of Washington, D.C.

## BUSINESS MEETING

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

S. 506, to clarify and make technical corrections to certain copyright provisions;

S. 568, to make a technical correction to title 28, United States Code, relating to jurisdiction for lawsuits against terrorist states; and

The nominations of Donald M. Middlebrooks, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Jeffrey T. Miller, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Robert W. Pratt, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.

## JOB TRAINING

*Committee on Labor and Human Resources:* Subcommittee on Employment and Training concluded hearings to examine innovations in youth job training, focusing on Federal programs to assist at-risk youth improve their preparation for a career, after receiving testimony from Mary H. Silva, National Director, Office of Job Corps, Department of Labor; Allyson Peerman, Advanced Mirco Devices, and Richard Halpin, American Institute for Learning, both of Austin, Texas; Ralph DiBattista, Vinnell Corporation, St. Paul, Minnesota; Carmen Placido, Center for Employment Training, San Jose, California; Lorenzo D. Harrison, East Harlem Employment Service/STRIVE, New York, New York; and Jerome Ryan, Boston Alternative Education Alliance, Boston, Massachusetts.

## SENATE ELECTION INVESTIGATION

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution authorizing an investigation into alleged illegal and

improper activities affecting the outcome of a United States Senate election held in the State of Louisiana in November 1996.

### GULF WAR ILLNESSES

*Committee on Veterans Affairs:* Committee concluded hearings to examine the United States Government's response with regard to the disclosure of information on the possible exposure of United States and allied troops to chemical and biological weapons during

the Persian Gulf War and the handling of health care concerns of U.S. veterans, after receiving testimony from Gen. Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.).

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee will meet again on Wednesday, April 23.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Bills Introduced:** 47 public bills, H.R. 1358–1404; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 64 and H. Res. 120–123, were introduced. **Pages H1703–06**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 688, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to require at least 85 percent of funds appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund to be distributed to States for cooperative agreements for undertaking corrective action and for enforcement of subtitle I of such Act (H. Rept. 105–58 Part I).

**Page H1703**

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Kolbe to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1621**

**Journal:** By a recorded vote of 317 ayes to 100 noes, Roll No. 84, the House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of Wednesday, April 16.

**Page H1626**

**Words Stricken From the Record—Proceed in Order:** Objection was heard to the proposal of the Chair that certain words of Representative Lewis of Georgia be stricken from the record by unanimous consent. By a recorded vote of 227 ayes to 190 noes with 3 voting "present", Roll No. 82, the House voted to strike the words from the record. Subsequently, by a recorded vote of 223 ayes to 199 noes, Roll No. 83, the House agreed to table a motion that Representative Lewis of Georgia be allowed to proceed in order.

**Pages H1624–26**

**Member Sworn:** Representative-elect *Ciro D. Rodriguez* presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the oath of office by the Speaker.

**Pages H1626–27**

**Personal Privilege:** Representative *Gingrich* rose to a point of personal privilege and was recognized for one hour. **Pages H1627–29**

**21st Century Patent System Improvement Act:** The House completed all general debate and began consideration of amendments to H.R. 400, to amend title 35, United States Code, with respect to patents, and began consideration of amendments. Consideration of amendments will resume on Wednesday, April 23. **Pages H1629–55**

Agreed to the *Coble* amendment that includes technical changes; delays the publication of patent applications from small business concerns or independent inventors until 3 months after a second notification on the merits is made by the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO); retains the practice of charging small business and independent inventors a reduced application fee; separates operational and policy functions of PTO and creates an Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property Policy to develop patent and trademark policy; establishes an incentive program to train patent and trademark examiners; and strikes authority to accept gifts or donations of services. **Page H1669**

Rejected the *Rohrabacher* amendment in the nature of a substitute that sought to establish a 17-year patent term from the date the patent is granted or 20 years from the date the patent application is filed; provide that patent applications can be published only if the information is in the public domain in other countries at the time it is filed in the United States, the application has been filed with PTO for five years or longer and PTO determines that the public interest served by publication, or the inventor deliberately withholds publication of the patent; provide for patent examiner training; require that user fees be used only for the Patent and Trademark Office; and specify that contracts between marketing companies and inventors contain standardized

disclosures (rejected by a recorded vote of 178 ayes to 227 noes, Roll No. 85). **Page H1684**

H. Res. 116, the rule providing for the consideration of the bill was agreed to earlier by a voice vote. **Page H1629**

**Committee Resignations:** Read a letter from Representative Holden wherein he resigned from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; read a letter from Representative Lampson wherein he resigned from the Committee on Resources; and read a letter from Representative Doggett wherein he resigned from the Committee on Science. **Page H1684**

**Concerning Democracy in Zaire:** The House agreed to H. Res. 115, concerning the promotion of peace, stability, and democracy in Zaire. Agreed to the Royce amendment to the text; and agreed to the Royce amendment to the preamble. **Pages H1684–86**

**Committee Election:** Agreed to H. Res. 120 electing Representatives Holden and Lampson to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; Representative Tauscher to the Committee on Science; Representative Davis of Florida to the Committee on International Relations; Representative Rodriguez to the Committee on National Security; Representative Doggett to the Committee on Resources; and Representative Ford to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. **Page H1687**

**Bipartisan Task Force on Reform of the Ethics Process:** Agreed by unanimous consent that the order of the House of February 12, 1997 be extended through April 23, 1997. On February 12, in furtherance of the understanding concerning the establishment of the ethics task force, it was made in order that during the period beginning immediately and ending on April 11, 1997: (1) the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct may not receive, renew, initiate, or investigate a complaint against the official conduct of a member, officer, or employee of the House; (2) the Committee on Standard of Official Conduct may issue advisory opinions and perform other non-investigative functions; and (3) a resolution addressing the official conduct of a member, officer, or employee of the House that is proposed to be offered from the floor by a member other than the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader as a question of the privileges of the House shall once noticed pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of Rule IX, have precedence of all other questions except motions to adjourn only at a time or place designated by the chair in the legislative schedule within two legislative days after April 11, 1997. **Page H1687**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 3:00 p.m. on

Monday, April 21; and agreed that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23. **Page H1687**

**Calendar Wednesday:** Agreed that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, April 23. **Page H1687**

**Senate Messages:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1621.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1624–25, H1625–26, H1626, and H1683–84. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

*Committee on Agriculture:* Ordered reported amended H.R. 1342, to provide for a 1-year enrollment in the conservation reserve of land covered by expiring conservation reserve program contracts.

### NAFTA—REVIEW STATUS

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities held a hearing on the status of NAFTA with Canada and Mexico. Testimony was heard from August Schumacher, Jr., Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

### COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Risk Management and Specialty Crops concluded hearings on reform of the Commodity Exchange Act and provisions of H.R. 467, Commodity Exchange Act Amendments of 1997. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs held a hearing on Export Finance Agencies. Testimony was heard from Rita M. Rodriguez, Acting

President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank; Mildred O. Callear, Acting President and CEO, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency; and J. Joseph Grandmaison, Director, Trade and Development Agency.

#### LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on National Security continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

#### HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1997

*Committee on Banking and Financial Services:* Continued markup of H.R. 2, Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997.

Will continue April 23.

#### PROPOSED OZONE AND PARTICULATE MATTER NAAQS REVISIONS

*Committee on Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health and Environment and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations continued joint hearings on Review of EPA's Proposed Ozone and Particulate Matter NAAQS Revisions. Testimony was heard from Mary Nichols, Assistant Administrator, Air and Radiation, EPA; and Sally Katzen, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB.

Hearings continue April 24.

#### FOOD SAFETY IN THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families held a hearing on food safety in the School Lunch Program. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Mary Ann Keefe, Acting Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services; and Ken Clayton, Director, Agricultural Marketing Service; the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Fred Shank, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA; and Harold Margolis, M.D., Chief, Hepatitis Branch, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Center for Disease Control, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

#### U.N. PEACEKEEPING

*Committee on International Relations:* Continued hearings on "Does U.N. Peacekeeping Serve U.S. Interests?" (Part II). Testimony was heard from Princeton Lyman, Assistant Secretary, International Organizational Affairs, Department of State; and Edward L. Warner, Assistant Secretary, Strategy, Department of Defense.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 874, to provide that Oregon may not tax compensation paid to a resident of Washington for services as a Federal employee at a Federal hydroelectric facility located on the Columbia River; and H.R. 865, to provide that Kentucky may not tax compensation paid to a resident of Tennessee for services as a Federal employee at Fort Campbell, KY. Testimony was heard from Senator Thompson; Representatives Bryant, Linda Smith of Washington and Hastings of Washington; and public witnesses.

#### FAIR HOUSING REFORM AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH ACT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on the Constitution held a hearing on H.R. 589, Fair Housing Reform and Freedom of Speech Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Representative Bilbray; Paul Hancock, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice; Susan Golding, Mayor, San Diego, California; and public witnesses.

#### OVERSIGHT—FOREST SERVICE BUDGET

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held an oversight hearing on Forest Service Budget. Testimony was heard from James Lyons, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, USDA.

#### OVERSIGHT—CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Water and Power held an oversight hearing on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the fiscal year 1998 federal funding request for the program. Testimony was heard from John R. Garamendi, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior; Robert Perciasepe, Assistant Administrator, Water, EPA; Douglas P. Wheeler, Secretary for Resources, State of California; Lester Snow, Executive Director, CALFED Bay-Delta Program; and public witnesses.

**CIVILITY—HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

*Committee on Rules:* Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House held a hearing on Civility in the House of Representatives. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Dean, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania and Donald Wolfensberger, Guest Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

**FEDERAL AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ACT**

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Government Programs and Oversight and Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform and Paperwork Reduction concluded joint hearings on Federal Agency Compliance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act: Are Federal Agencies Using "Good Science" In Their Making? Testimony was heard from Jere Glover, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, SBA; Thomas Kelly, Chair, Small Business Advocacy, EPA; Robert Burt, Office of Regulatory Analysis, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT WITHIN VA**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on sexual harassment issues involving senior career managers within the VA. Testimony was heard from Ronnie Blumenthal, Director, Office of Federal Operations, EEOC; the following officials of the Veterans Administration: Hershel Gober, Deputy Secretary; Eugene A. Brickhouse, Assistant Secretary, Human Resources and Management; Gerald K. Hinch, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Equal Opportunity; Mary Lou Keener, General Counsel; Jule D. Moravec, Chief Network Officer, Veterans Health Administration; Leroy P. Gross, M.D., Director, Veterans Integrated Service Network #6, Veterans Health Administration; and William T. Merriman, Deputy Inspector General; certain current or former women employees of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Fayetteville, NC; and public witnesses.

**MEDICARE'S COVERAGE POLICY**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on Issues Relating to Medicare's Coverage Policy. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Bruce C. Vladeck, Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration; John M. Eisenberg, M.D., Administrator, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research; and Claude Lenfant, M.D., Director, National Heart, Blood and Lung Institute, NIH; and public witnesses.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1997**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

**Senate**

*Committee on Foreign Relations,* to hold hearings on the nomination of Thomas R. Pickering, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, 10 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Labor and Human Resources,* to hold hearings to examine proposals to improve the health status of children, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

**House**

*Committee on Government Reform and Oversight,* Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, hearing on "Oversight of the Debt Collection Improvement Act", 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

**CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD  
Week of April 21 through 26, 1997****Senate Chamber**

On *Monday*, Senate will meet in pro forma session.

On *Tuesday*, no legislative business is scheduled.

On *Wednesday*, Senate will consider the Chemical Weapons Convention (Treaty Doc. 103-21), and S. Res. 75, to advise and consent to the ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention, subject to certain conditions.

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

*(Senate will recess on Tuesday, April 22, 1997 from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for respective party conferences.)*

**Senate Committees**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* April 24, to hold hearings on U.S. agricultural export issues, 9 a.m., SR-332.

*Committee on Appropriations:* April 22, Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science and Technology Policy, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

April 22 and 24, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998, Tuesday, for the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m.; Thursday, for the Corp of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m.; SD-124.

April 22, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Agricultural Research Service, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, the Economic Research

Service, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, all of the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., SD-138.

April 22, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, 2:15 p.m., SD-192.

April 23, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on medical programs, 10 a.m., SD-192.

April 23, Subcommittee on District of Columbia, to hold hearings on an additional funding request for fiscal year 1997 by the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority for capital improvements to D.C. public schools and for public safety agencies, 10 a.m., SD-138.

April 24, Subcommittee on the Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Endowment for the Arts/National Endowment for the Humanities, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

April 24, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 2 p.m., S-146, Capitol.

*Committee on Armed Services:* April 22, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to resume hearings on S. 450, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, focusing on the Department of the Navy's ship-building development and procurement programs, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

April 23, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the Administration's proposal on NATO enlargement, 10 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* April 23, Subcommittee on Manufacturing and Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine the current state of manufacturing in the United States, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* April 24, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings on ozone and particulate matter standards proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* April 24, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to hold hearings to examine U.S. policy toward Hong Kong, 2 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* April 23, to hold hearings on S. 261, to provide for a biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* April 22, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition, to hold hearings to examine the antitrust implications of the British Airways and American Airlines Alliance, 2 p.m., SD-226.

April 23, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the national crisis of gangs, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Labor and Human Resources:* April 23, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds

for programs of the Higher Education Act, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

April 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine issues relating to vocational education, 10 a.m., SD-430.

April 25, Subcommittee on Public Health and Safety, to hold hearings to examine how the United States' health care workforce must evolve to meet future needs, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* April 24, to hold hearings to discuss revisions to Title 44, relating to the operations of the Government Printing Office, 9:30 a.m., SR-301.

*Committee on Small Business:* April 24, to hold hearings to review the Small Business Administration's non-credit programs, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* April 22, to hold hearings on S. 459, to authorize funds for and extend the Native American Programs Act of 1974, 9:30 a.m., SR-485.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* April 23 and 24, to hold closed hearings on intelligence matters, Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. and Thursday at 2 p.m., SH-219.

## House Chamber

*Monday,* No Legislative Business.

*Tuesday,* The House will not be in session.

*Wednesday and Thursday,* Consideration of H. Res. 117, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules;

Consideration of 6 Suspensions:

1. H. Con. Res. 8, Expressing the Sense of Congress with Respect to the Significance of Maintaining the Health and Stability of Coral Reef Ecosystems;

2. H.R. 39, African Elephant Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1997;

3. H.R. 449, Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1997;

4. H.R. 688, Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Amendments Act of 1997;

5. H.R. 1276, Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act;

6. H.R. 1272, Fire Administration Authorization Act of 1997;

Complete consideration of H.R. 400, 21st Century Patent Improvement Act;

Consideration of H.R. 1271, FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act of 1997 (subject to a rule);

Consideration of H.R. 1273, National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1997 (subject to a rule);

Consideration of H.R. 1274, National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act of 1997 (subject to a rule);

Consideration of H.R. 1277, Department of Energy Civilian Research and Development Act of 1997 (subject to a rule); and

Consideration of H.R. 1278, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1997 (subject to a rule).

*Friday, No Votes Are Expected.*

### House Committees

*Committee on Agriculture*, April 23, Subcommittee on Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research, hearing on EPA's proposed air quality standard of PM 2.5 and its implications for agriculture, 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 24, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and the Subcommittee on Risk Management and Specialty Crops, hearing on the effectiveness of Agricultural Export Programs, 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations*, April 23, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, on Department of State Global Affairs, 10 a.m., on American Institute in Taiwan, 11 a.m., and on Members of Congress, 2 p.m., H-309 the Capitol.

April 23 and 24, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, on Congressional and public witnesses, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 23 and 24, Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, on Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, on Congressional and public witnesses, 9:30 a.m., H-144 Capitol.

*Committee on Banking and Financial Services*, April 23, to continue mark up of H.R. 2, Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997, 1 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Commerce*, April 23, Subcommittee on Health and Environment, hearing on Reauthorization of the Prescription Drug User Fee Act and FDA Reform, 2:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Health and Environment and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to continue joint hearings on EPA's Proposed Ozone and Particulate Matter NAAQS Revisions, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on Reauthorization of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and the Workforce*, April 23, Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training and Life-Long Learning, hearing on the Rising Price of a College Education, 1 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training and Life-Long Learning, to mark up the Employment, Training and Literacy Enhancement Act of 1997, 9:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Government Reform and Oversight*, April 23, Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, hearing on "Census 2000: How Should the Federal Government Measure Race and Ethnicity", 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 23, Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, National Resources, and Regulatory Affairs, to continue hearings on "EPA's Particulate Matter and

Ozone Rulemaking: Is EPA Above the Law", 10:30 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Civil Service, hearing on Federal Hiring from the Welfare Rolls, 9:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

April 24, Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, to continue hearings on Status of Efforts to Identify Gulf War Syndrome, Part VIII, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs and Criminal Justice, hearing on Department of Justice Retaliation Against Whistleblowers, 1 p.m., 2203 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Postal Service, oversight hearing of the U.S Postal Service, 1 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on the District of Columbia, hearing on Medicaid and Treasury Borrowing Sections of the Administration's National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Plan, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, April 23, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 911, Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 and H.R. 1167, Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 23, Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims, oversight hearing on regarding border security and deterring illegal entry into the United States, 9:30 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

*Committee on Resources*, April 24, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on the Administration's proposed buyouts of timber and mining lands (i.e. Headwaters Forest, CA and New World Mine Project, MT) using Mineral Leasing Act revenues, 1:30 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 24, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, oversight hearing on the future of hydrography, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

April 24, Subcommittee on Forests and Forests Health, to mark up H.R. 858, Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery and Economic Stability Act of 1997, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Science*, April 23, Subcommittee on Technology, hearing on Surface Transportation Research and Development, Part II, 1 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Basic Research, hearing on fiscal year 1998 budget request for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, 1 p.m., 2325 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, April 24, Subcommittee on Government Programs and Oversight, hearing on the Importance of Patent Term and Patent Application Disclosure Issues to Small Businesses: What Impact Will Proposed Changes in the Patent Laws Have on Small Businesses? 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, April 23, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on Meeting Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, April 23, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 867, Adoption Promotion Act of

1997, and H.R. 1048, Welfare Reform Technical Corrections Act of 1997, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 23, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing on the low-income housing tax credit, 1:30 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Medicare Provider-Sponsored Organizations, 1 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

April 24, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Unemployment Insurance Issues, 10:30 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

April 24, Subcommittee on Social Security, oversight hearing on the Disability Appeals Process, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, April 23, executive briefing on DEA regarding Mexico, 2 p.m., H-495 Capitol.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*  
10 a.m., Monday, April 21

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*  
3 p.m., Monday, April 21

Senate Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will meet in pro forma session.

House Chamber

**Program for Monday:** No legislative business.

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