

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Bills introduced:** 10 public bills, H.R. 2607–2616; 3 private bills, H.R. 2617–2619; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 95, H. Con. Res. 167, and H. Res. 259–260, were introduced. **Pages H8437–38**

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

Conference report on H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–297);

H.R. 2607, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 (H. Rept. 105–298);

H. Res. 258, providing for consideration of H.R. 629, to grant the consent of the Congress to the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact (H. Rept. 105–299);

H.R. 708, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning grazing use of certain land within and adjacent to Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and to extend temporarily certain grazing privileges, amended (H. Rept. 105–300);

H.R. 1805, to amend the Auburn Indian Restoration Act to establish restrictions related to gaming on and use of land held in trust for the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California (H. Rept. 105–301);

Revised Subdivision of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 1998 (H. Rept. 105–302);

H.R. 2232, to provide for increased international broadcasting activities to China, amended (H. Rept. 105–303);

H. Res. 188, urging the executive branch to take action regarding the acquisition by Iran of C-802 cruise missiles (H. Rept. 105–304);

H.R. 2358, to provide for improved monitoring of human rights violations in the People's Republic of China, amended (H. Rept. 105–305);

H.R. 2469, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and other statutes to provide for improvements in the regulation of food ingredients, nutrient content claims, and health claims, amended (H. Rept. 105–306);

H.R. 1710, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to facilitate the development, clearance, and use of devices to maintain and improve the public health and quality of life of the citizens of the United States, amended (H. Rept. 105–307);

H.R. 2386, to implement the provisions of the Taiwan Relations Act concerning the stability and security of Taiwan and United States cooperation with Taiwan on the development and acquisition of defensive military articles, amended (H. Rept. 105–308 Part 1); and

H.R. 967, to prohibit the use of United States funds to provide for the participation of certain Chinese officials in international conferences, programs, and activities and to provide that certain Chinese officials shall be ineligible to receive visas and excluded from admission to the United States, amended (H. Rept. 105–309 part 1). **Pages H8323–61, H8437**

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

**Page H8321**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:44 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

**Pages H8322–23**

**Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:** Read a letter from the Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure wherein he transmitted copies of resolutions adopted by the committee on July 23—referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

**Page H8361**

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

H.R. 2206, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for homeless veterans;

**Pages H8362–67, H8397**

H.R. 2571, to authorize major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 1998; and

**Pages H8368–69**

H.R. 1703, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for improved and expedited procedures for resolving complaints of unlawful employment discrimination arising within the Department of Veterans Affairs. Agreed to amend the title.

**Pages H8369–73**

**Export-Import Bank Reauthorization:** By a yeas and nays vote of 378 yeas to 38 nays, Roll No. 492, the House passed H.R. 1370, to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Subsequently, S. 1026, a similar Senate-passed bill was passed in lieu after being amended to contain the text of H.R. 1370 as passed the House; and H.R. 1370 was laid on the table. Agreed that the House insist on its amendment and request a conference

with the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Leach, Castle, Bereuter, LaFalce, and Flake.

Pages H8373–83, H8395–97

**Agreed To:**

The Solomon amendment that prohibits Export-Import subsidies of exports to Russia if Russia transfers an SS–N–22 or SS–N–26 missile system to the People's Republic of China; and

Pages H8380–81

The Vento amendment that prohibits the use of Export-Import Bank assistance for exports to companies that employ child labor.

Pages H8381–83

**Rejected:**

The Rohrabacher amendment that sought to prohibit assistance to companies that are at least 50 percent owned by a foreign government or military of a foreign government; and

Pages H8373–77, H8395

The Rohrabacher amendment that sought to prohibit assistance to an entity owned by a government which is not chosen through free and fair democratic elections or which lacks an independent judiciary or for import from or export to a country with such a government.

Pages H8377–80, H8395

On September 30, the House completed general debate, began considering amendments to the bill, and agreed to H. Res. 255, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill.

Pages H8184–H8207

**Recess:** The House recessed at 4:07 p.m. and reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

Page H8383

**Agriculture Appropriations:** By a yea and nay vote of 399 yeas to 18 nays, Roll No. 491, the House agreed to the Conference Report on H.R. 2160, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

Pages H8385–94

Earlier, the House agreed to H. Res. 232, the rule waiving points of order against the conference report by a yea and nay vote of 367 yeas to 34 nays, Roll No. 490. Pursuant to the rule, H. Con. Res. 167, to correct a technical error in the enrollment of H.R. 2160, was adopted.

Pages H8383–85

**Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Appropriations Conference:** The House disagreed with the Senate amendments to H.R. 2267, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 and agreed to a conference. Appointed as conferees Representatives Rogers, Kolbe, Taylor of North Carolina, Regula, Forbes, Latham, Livingston, Mollohan, Skaggs, Dixon, and Obey.

Pages H8394–95

Agreed to the Mollohan motion to instruct conferees to insist on the House position regarding

funding for programs under the Victims of Child Abuse Act in the Juvenile Justice Programs account.

Pages H8394–95

**Order of Business—Suspensions:** Agreed by unanimous consent that further consideration of remaining motions to suspend the rules postponed from Monday, September 29 be postponed until, Tuesday, October 7.

Page H8397

**Presidential Message—Line Item Veto Re Military Construction Appropriations:** Read a message from the President wherein he, in accordance with the Line Item Veto Act (P.L. 104–130), cancels the dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority contained in the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 1998 (P.L. 105–45; H.R. 2016)—referred to the Committees on the Budget and Appropriations (H. Doc. 105–147).

Page H8398

**National Monument Fairness Act:** The House completed general debate and began consideration of amendments to H.R. 1127, to amend the Antiquities Act to require an Act of Congress and the concurrence of the Governor and State legislature for the establishment by the President of national monuments in excess of 5,000 acres.

Pages H8398–H8413

**Rejected:**

The Miller of California amendment that sought to require that the President consult with the governor of an affected State and others at least 60 days prior to issuing a proclamation.

Pages H8410–11

**Pending:**

The Vento amendment was offered that seeks to provide a one year delay from the time the President announces a designation under the Antiquities Act to when that designation would actually take effect; and

Pages H8408–10

The Hanson amendment in the nature of a substitute was offered that seeks to require that a proclamation of the President that results in excess of 50,000 acres in a single State may not be issued until 30 days after the President has solicited written comments from the State's Governor and such proclamation shall cease to be effective 2 years after issuance unless the Congress has approved it by joint resolution.

Pages H8411–13

The House agreed to H. Res. 256, as amended, the rule that is providing for consideration of the bill on October 1.

Pages H8278–85

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H8384–85, H8394, and H8396–97. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** Met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### OVERSIGHT—OMB'S GPRA STRATEGIC PLAN

*Committee on Government Reform and Oversight:* Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology held a hearing on Oversight of OMB's GPRA Strategic Plan. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Paul L. Posner, Director, Budget Issues; and J. Christopher Mihm, Assistant Director, Federal Management and Workforce Issues, General Government Division; and Edward DeSeve, Acting Deputy Director, OMB.

### TUCKER ACT SHUFFLE RELIEF ACT; NATO SPECIAL IMMIGRANT AMENDMENTS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 992, amended, Tucker Act Shuffle Relief Act of 1997; and H.R. 429, NATO Special Immigrant Amendments of 1997.

### TEXAS LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL COMPACT ACT

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, an open rule on H.R. 629, Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Act, providing one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce. The rule permits the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to accord priority in recognition to those Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record prior to their consideration. The rule allows the Chairman to postpone recorded votes and to reduce to five minutes the voting time on any postponed question, provided that the voting time on the first in any series of questions is not less than 15 minutes. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Dan Schaefer of Colorado, Barton of Texas, and Hall of Texas.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1997

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry,* to hold hearings on the nomination of Sally Thompson, of Kansas, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Agriculture, and on other pending nominations, 9 a.m., SR-332.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,* Subcommittee on Securities to hold joint hearings with the Committee on Finance's Subcommittee on Social Security

and Family Policy and the Committee on Finance's Subcommittee on Health Care, to examine investment based alternatives to the current pay-as-you-go method of financing Social Security and Medicare, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,* to hold hearings on the nominations of Terry D. Garcia, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Raymond G. Kammer, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, both of the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings on S. 725, to convey the Collbran Reclamation Project to the Ute Water Conservancy District and the Collbran Conservancy District, S. 777, to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., H.R. 848, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of the AuSable Hydroelectric Project in New York, H.R. 1184, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of the Bear Creek Hydroelectric Project in the State of Washington, H.R. 1217, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Washington, S. 1230, to provide for Federal cooperation in non-Federal reclamation projects, and S. 841, to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, 2 p.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Finance,* Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy and Subcommittee on Health Care and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs' Subcommittee on Securities, to examine investment based alternatives to the current pay-as-you-go method of financing Social Security and Medicare, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations,* to hold hearings to examine the strategic rationale for NATO enlargement, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings on the Taxation Convention with Austria (Treaty Doc. 104-31), Tax Convention with Ireland (Treaty Doc. 105-31), Taxation Convention with Luxembourg (Treaty Doc. 104-33), Tax Convention with South Africa (Treaty Doc. 105-9), Tax Convention with Swiss Confederation (Treaty Doc. 105-8), Taxation Convention with Thailand (Treaty Doc. 105-2), Taxation Agreement with Turkey (Treaty Doc. 104-30), and Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Canada (Treaty Doc. 105-29), 2 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Governmental Affairs,* to resume hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing, 10 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* to hold hearings on improving citizens' access to justice, focusing on vindication of property rights, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Labor and Human Resources,* to hold hearings on the nomination of Charles N. Jeffress, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, 9:45 a.m., SD-430.