

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information resumed hearings to examine the need for a national strategy and policies to protect the critical infrastructures of the United States, receiving testimony from former Senator Nunn and Jamie S. Gorelick, each a Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee to the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection; and Lt. Gen. David J. Kelley, Director, and Brig. Gen. James Hylton, Director of Operations, both of the Defense Information Systems Agency, Department of Defense.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

RETIREMENT SECURITY

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee held hearings to examine retirement security and the need for defined pension plans for American workers, focusing on S. 957, to establish a Pension ProSave system which improves the retirement income security of millions of American workers by encouraging employers to make pension contributions on behalf of employees, by facilitating pension portability, by preserving and increasing retirement savings, and by simplifying pension law, receiving testimony from Representative Pomeroy; David M. Strauss, Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation; Ron E. Merolli, National Life of Vermont, Montpelier; James E. Turpin, Turpin and Associates, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on behalf of the American

Society of Pension Actuaries; John M. Kimpel, Fidelity Investments, Boston, Massachusetts, on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Joseph S. Perkins, American Association of Retired Persons, Danvers, Massachusetts; Michael Calabrese, Center for National Policy, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Pensions 2000 Committee; and Michael Garretson, Milwaukee, Oregon, on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-USA.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the medical, chemical, and biological warfare preparedness program of the Department of Defense, focusing on lessons learned from Persian Gulf War illnesses, after receiving testimony from Bernard Rostker, Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary for Gulf War Illnesses, and Gary A. Christopherson, Acting Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, both of the Department of Defense; Rear Adm. Michael L. Cowan, Deputy Director for Medical Readiness, Joint Staff; Randolph F. Wykoff, Associate Commissioner for Operations, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Mark E. Gebicke, Director, Military Operations and Capabilities Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, General Accounting Office; and Melissa A. McDiarmid, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 3467–3482; 1 private bill, H.R. 3483; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 244–246 and H. Res. 386–387, were introduced. Pages H1235–36

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H.R. 2864, to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a program under which employers may consult with State officials respecting compliance with occupational safety and health requirements, amended (H. Rept. 105–444);

H.R. 2877, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, amended (H. Rept. 105–445);

H.R. 3096, to correct a provision relating to termination of benefits for convicted persons, amended (H. Rept. 105–446);

H.R. 3039, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to guarantee loans to provide multifamily transitional housing for homeless veterans, and, amended (H. Rept. 105–447);

H.R. 3213, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify enforcement of veterans' employment rights with respect to a State as an employer or a private employer, to extend veterans' employment and reemployment rights to members of the uniformed services employed abroad by United States companies, amended (H. Rept. 105–448);

H. Res. 388 providing for consideration of H.R. 2870, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests (H. Rept. 105–449); and

H.R. 3412, to amend and make technical corrections in title III of the Small Business Investment Act, amended (H. Rept. 105-450). **Page H1235**

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

Page H1169

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of Monday, March 16 by a ye and nay vote of 359 yeas to 38 nays, Roll No. 54.

Pages H1173, H1207

Recess: The House recessed at 1:07 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Page H1173

Electing Speaker Pro Tempore: The House agreed to H. Res. 386, electing the Honorable Richard K. Arme of Texas to act as Speaker pro tempore during the absence of the Speaker.

Page H1173

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

OSHA Compliance Assistance Authorization Act: H.R. 2864, amended, to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a program under which employers may consult with State officials respecting compliance with occupational safety and health requirements;

Pages H1176-77

OSHA Act of 1970 Amendment: H.R. 2877, amended, to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970;

Pages H1177-79

National Race for the Cure: H. Con. Res. 238, amended, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a breast cancer survivors event sponsored by the National Race for the Cure;

Pages H1179-81

Human Rights in China: H. Res. 364, amended, urging the introduction and passage of a resolution on the human rights situation in the People's Republic of China at the 54th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (agreed to by a ye and nay vote of 397 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 54);

Pages H1181-92, H1208-09

Democracy in Botswana: H. Res. 373, commending democracy in Botswana; and

Pages H1192-93

Elections in Cambodia: H. Res. 361, amended, calling for free and impartial elections in Cambodia (agreed to by ye and nay vote of 393 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 55).

Pages H1193-96, H1209-10

Suspensions—Votes Postponed: The House completed debate and postponed votes until Wednesday, March 18 on the following suspensions:

Human Rights in Northern Ireland: The House completed general debate on H. Con. Res. 152, amended, expressing the sense of the Congress that all parties to the multiparty peace talks regarding

Northern Ireland should condemn violence and fully integrate internationally recognized human rights standards and adequately address outstanding human rights violations as part of the peace process; and

Pages H1196-H1201

Repression in Kosova: H. Con. Res. 235, amended, calling for an end to the violent repression of the legitimate rights of the people of Kosova.

Pages H1201-06

Member Sworn: Representative-elect Lois Capps presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the oath of office by Speaker pro tempore Arme.

Pages H1207-08

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three ye and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1207, H1208-09, and H1209-10. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Natural Resources and Environment. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: James R. Lyons, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment; Pearlie S. Reed, Chief, Lawrence E. Clark, Deputy Chief, Programs, and Fee Busby, Deputy Chief, Science and Technology, all with the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Stephen B. Dewhurst, Budget Officer.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development met in executive session to hold a hearing on Atomic Energy Defense Activities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Victor H. Reis, Assistant Secretary, Defense Programs; and Rose E. Gottmoeller, Director, Office of Nonproliferation and National Security.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on the Smithsonian and on the Bureau of Land Management. Testimony was heard from I. Michael Hayman, Chairman, Smithsonian Institution; and Patrick Shea, Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.