

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 24 public bills, H.R. 1475–1498; 1 private bill, H.R. 1499; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 88–89 and H. Res. 144, were introduced.

Pages H2201–02

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: Conference report on H.R. 800, to provide for education flexibility partnerships (H. Rept. 106–100);

H. Res. 142, providing for consideration of H.R. 1184, to authorize appropriations for carrying out the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 (H. Rept. 106–101); and

H. Res. 143, waiving points of order against the conference report on H.R. 800, to provide for education flexibility partnerships (H. Rept. 106–102).

Pages H2144–48, H2201

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Bass to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H2139

Recess: The House recessed at 1:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m. Page H2144

Private Calendar: Agreed to dispense with the call of the Private Calendar. Page H2144

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

Thrift Savings Plan Changes: H.R. 208, amended, to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow for the contribution of certain rollover distributions to accounts in the Thrift Savings Plan, to eliminate certain waiting-period requirements for participating in the Thrift Savings Plan; Pages H2161–64

1st Anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement: H. Con. Res. 54, amended, recognizing the historic significance of the first anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement; Pages H2171–76

International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Assistance Appropriations: H.R. 1379, amended, to amend the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, to make a technical correction relating to an emergency supplemental appropriation for international narcotics control and law enforcement assistance. Agreed to amend the title; Pages H2176–77

Honoring Rosa Parks with A Gold Medal on Behalf of the Congress: H.R. 573, amended, to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation (passed by a ye and

nay vote of 424 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 92). Subsequently, the House passed S. 531, a similar Senate-passed bill—clearing the measure for the President. H.R. 573 was then laid on the table; and

Pages H2150–61, H2177–78

Condemning the Murder of Rosemary Nelson: H. Res. 128, amended, condemning the murder of human rights lawyer Rosemary Nelson and calling for the protection of defense attorneys in Northern Ireland (passed by a ye and nay vote of 421 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 93). Pages H2164–71, H2178–79

Presidential Message—Climate Control Activities: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted his account of all Federal agency climate change programs and activities—referred to the Committees on Appropriations, International Relations, Science, Commerce, and Ways and Means.

Page H2179

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate appears on page H2139.

Referrals: S. 249, was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce; S. 426 and S. 430, were referred to the Committee on Resources, and S. 453 was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Page H2200

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two ye and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H2177–78 and H2178–79. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

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

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was

heard from Togo D. West, Jr., Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

BANK SECRECY ACT—REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on General Oversight and Investigations and the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a joint hearing on reporting requirements under the Bank Secrecy Act of 1970 and related statutes. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: James E. Johnson, Under Secretary, Enforcement; and Bonni G. Tischler, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Investigations, U.S. Customs Service; Mary Lee Warren, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Richard A. Small, Assistant Director, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; Christie A. Sciacca, Associate Director, Division of Supervision, FDIC; and public witnesses.

WORK INCENTIVES IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 1180, Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999.

ENERGY LABORATORIES—SECURITY—GAO PERSPECTIVE

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Security at the Department of Energy's Laboratories: The Perspective of the General Accounting Office. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Energy, Resources, and Science Issues, GAO: Victor S. Rezendes, Director; William F. Fenzel, John R. Schulze and Gary R. Boss, all Assistant Directors.

EMPLOYER HEALTH PLAN ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, hearing on Employer Health Plan Accountability: Do Participants Have Adequate Protections? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REGULATORY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 1074, Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999.

BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Began markup of H.R. 833, Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1999.

Will continue tomorrow.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 791, Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Study Act of 1999; and H.R. 1104, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the United States for the construction of a visitor center. Testimony was heard from Denis Galvin, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; John W. Carlin, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration; and public witnesses.

CONFERENCE REPORT-EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY PARTNERSHIP ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 11 to 0, a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 800, Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999, and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Chairman Goodling and Representative Castle.

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION ACT

Committee On Rules: Granted, by a vote of 10 to 0, an open rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 1184, Earthquake Hazards Reduction Authorization Act of 1999. The rule waives clause 4(a) of rule XIII (requiring a three day layover of the committee report) against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. The rule provides that the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be open for amendment by section. The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule allows for the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce voting time to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Sensenbrenner and Representative Smith of Michigan.

Joint Meetings

EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY PARTNERSHIP ACT

Conferees, on Thursday, April 15, agreed to file a conference report on H.R. 800, to provide for education flexibility partnerships.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1999

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to review the recent report on the Federal Crop Insurance Program by the Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture, 8:30 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings on issues relating to the Defense Health Program, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings on the readiness of the United States Navy and Marines operating forces, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on ship acquisition programs and policy and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for Technology Administration, Department of Commerce, and S. 795, to amend the Fastener Quality Act to strengthen the protection against the sale of mismarked, misrepresented, and counterfeit fasteners and eliminate unnecessary requirements, 2 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings on whether the United States has the natural gas supply and infrastructure necessary to meet projected demand, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, to hold oversight hearings to review the Memorandum of Understanding signed by multiple agencies regarding the Lewis and Clark bicentennial celebration, 2 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to mark up proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal years 2000-2001 for foreign assistance programs, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine NATO's 50th anniversary summit, 2 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings on S. 746, to provide for analysis of major rules, to promote the public's right to know the costs and benefits of major rules, and to increase the accountability of quality of Government, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings on S. 401, to provide for business development and trade promotion

for native Americans, and for other purposes, 9:30 a.m., SR-485.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings on privacy issues surrounding the internet, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights, business meeting to consider S. J. Res. 14, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, 1 p.m., SD-226.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: to hold hearings on the threat of corruption to United States Law Enforcement along the Southwest border, 2 p.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Kosovo Supplemental, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

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

Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies, on Department of Veterans Affairs, 9:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, hearing on the Administration's Fiscal Year 2000 authorizations for the international financial institutions and related programs, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Commerce, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1400, Bond Price Competition Improvement Act of 1999; H.R. 459, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for FERC Project No. 9401, the Mt. Hope Waterpower Project; H.R. 1378, to authorize appropriations for carrying out pipeline safety activities under chapter 601 of title 49, United States Code; and H.R. 45, Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Federal Prison Industries, 1:30 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing on the following H.R. 987, Workplace Preservation Act; the Safety and Health Audit Promotion Act; the Safety and Health Audit Promotion and Whistleblower Improvement Act; and the Models of Safety and Health Excellence Act, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, hearing on the Situation in Kosovo, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, joint hearing on the Embattled State of U.S.-China Relations: Assessing the Zhu Rongji Visit, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, to continue markup of H.R. 833, Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1999; and to mark up H.R. 771, to amend rule 30 of the Federal Rules of Civil