

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Vernon Bernard Parker, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights.

APPROPRIATIONS: AIR FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Air Force, after receiving testimony from James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force; and General John P. Jumper, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

AERIAL FIRE FIGHTING SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests held oversight hearings to examine issues uncovered as a result of the Blue Ribbon Panel's report of findings on Aerial Fire Fighting Safety and responses to the report, after receiving testimony from Tony Kern, Assistant Director of Aviation, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Larry Hamilton, National Director, Office of Fire and Aviation, Bureau of Land Management, National Interagency Fire Center, Department of the Interior; James Hall, Hall and Associates, Washington, D.C., former Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, and James B.

Hull, Texas Forest Service, College Station, both on behalf of the Blue Ribbon Fact Finding Panel on Aviation; William R. Broadwell, Aerial Firefighting Industry Association, Springfield, Virginia; and Duane A. Powers, Hawkins and Powers Aviation, Inc., Greybull, Wyoming.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2004 for United States foreign assistance concerning security and economic assistance programs to the Near East, East Asia and the Pacific, and South Asia, focusing on the development of child survival programs, Economic Support Fund, Freedom Support Act, International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Program, Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining, and Related Programs, Peace Corps, Refugees, Foreign Military Financing, International Military Education and Training Program, voluntary peacekeeping activities, and Title II food assistance grants, receiving testimony from William J. Burns, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Christina B. Rocca, Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, and James A. Kelly, Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, all of the Department of State; and Wendy Chamberlin, Assistant Administrator for Asia and the Near East, United States Agency for International Development.

Hearings will continue on Wednesday, April 2.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 1440–1455; 2 private bills, H.R. 1456–1457; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 43; H. Con. Res. 118–123, and H. Res. 163–164, were introduced.

Pages H2400–01

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2401–02

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Otter to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. Page H2313

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Ed Sears, Pastor, Grace Baptist Temple of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Page H2313

Child Abduction Prevention Act Rule: The House agreed to H. Res. 160, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 1104, to prevent child abduction by voice vote. Earlier agreed to order the previous question by yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 86. Pages H2319–25

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

Supporting Efforts To Recognize the Problem of Child Abuse and Neglect: H. Res. 113, amended, recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem. Pages H2316–19

National Runaway Prevention Month: H. Res. 57, recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of “National Runaway Prevention Month”;

Pages H2325–27

150th Anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854: H. Con. Res. 44, to express support for the celebration in 2004 of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854;

Pages H2327–30

Michael J. Healy Post Office Building in Bridgeview, Illinois: H.R. 825, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the “Michael J. Healy Post Office Building”;

Pages H2330–31

Floyd Spence Post Office Building in Lexington, South Carolina: H.R. 917, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the “Floyd Spence Post Office Building”; and

Pages H2331–33

James R. Merry Post Office in Linesville, Pennsylvania: H.R. 981, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, as the “James R. Merry Post Office”.

Pages H2333–34

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House completed debate on the following motions to suspend the rules. Further proceedings were postponed until Thursday, March 27.

Public Need for Fasting and Prayer: H. Res. 153, recognizing the public need for fasting and prayer in order to secure the blessings and protection of Providence for the people of the United States and our Armed Forces during the conflict in Iraq and under the threat of terrorism at home; and

Pages H2334–36

Treatment of Prisoners of War Held by Iraqi Authorities: H. Con. Res. 118, concerning the treatment of members of the Armed Forces held as prisoner of war by Iraqi authorities.

Pages H2336–44

Recess: The House recessed at 1:22 p.m. and reconvened at 2:16 p.m.

Page H2336

Recess: The House recessed at 2:17 p.m. and reconvened at 5:32 p.m.

Page H2336

Expenses of Standing and Select Committees: The House agreed to H. Res. 163, providing amounts from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives for continuing expenses of standing and select committees of the House from April 1, 2003, through April 11, 2003.

Pages H2344–45

Keeping Children and Families Safe Act: The House passed H.R. 14, to amend the Child Abuse

Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act. Subsequently the House passed S. 342, a similar Senate passed measure, after amending it to contain the text of H.R. 14, as passed the House. H.R. 14 was then laid on the table.

Pages H2345–52

The bill was considered pursuant to the order of the House of March 25 and pursuant to that order, the amendment recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill (H. Rept. 108–26) modified by the amendments placed at the desk were considered as adopted. After passage of H.R. 14, the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker’s table S. 342, stricken all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill and inserted in lieu thereof the provisions of H.R. 14, as passed the House.

Pages H2352–60, H2363–72

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of the House today. There were no quorum calls.

Pages H2324–25

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Committee Meetings

U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE—ARTIFICIAL BARRIERS

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review Artificial Barriers to United States Agricultural Trade and Foreign Food Assistance. Testimony was heard from Speaker Hastert; Representative Wolf; and public witnesses.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies held a hearing on State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Deborah J. Daniels, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice; and Carl R. Peed, Director, Community Oriented Policing Services.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Secretary of State. Testimony was heard from Colin L. Powell, Secretary of State.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Les Brownlee, Under Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary; Maj. Gen. Robert H. Griffin,