

Qaeda and to assist Afghanistan in building democracy and rebuilding its economy, after receiving testimony from Mark L. Schneider, International Crisis Group, Robert M. Perito, United States Institute of Peace, and David C. Isby, all of Washington, D.C.; and Thomas E. Gouttierre, University of Nebraska Center for Afghanistan Studies, Omaha.

DIPLOMA MILLS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine allegations relevant to the issuance of bogus degrees, focusing on tax payer dollars subsidizing diploma mills, and the development of a government-wide policy to identify and discourage the use of bogus degrees, after receiving testimony from Sally L. Stroup, Assistant Secretary of Education for Postsecondary Education; Stephen C. Benowitz, Associate Director, Human Resources Products and Services, Office of Personnel Management; Alan Contreras, Administrator, Oregon Student Assistance Commission Office of Degree Authorization, Eugene; Lieutenant Commander Claudia Gelzer, U.S. Coast Guard Detachment, Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs; and Andrew Coulombe, Ventura, California.

TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNANCE ACT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1715, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes, after receiving testimony from David W. Anderson, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, and William Sin-

clair, Director, Office of Self-Governance and Self-Determination, both of the Department of the Interior; D. Fred Matt, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Pablo, Montana; Philip Baker-Shenk, Holland and Knight, Washington, D.C.; and Geoffrey Strommer, Hobbs, Strauss, Dean, and Walker, Portland, Oregon.

SATELLITE HOME VIEWER EXTENSION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2013, to amend section 119 of title 17, United States Code, to extend satellite home viewer provisions, focusing on the statutory licensing regimes for over-the-air broadcast signals, royalty rates, and the transition to digital television, after receiving testimony from David O. Carson, General Counsel, Copyright Office, Library of Congress; Charles W. Ergen, EchoStar Communications Corporation, Littlewood, Colorado; Bruce T. Reese, Bonneville International Corporation, Salt Lake City, Utah, on behalf of the National Association of Broadcasters; Eddy W. Hartenstein, DIRECTV Group, Inc., El Segundo, California; Fritz Attaway, Motion Picture Association of America, Inc., Washington, D.C.; and John King, Vermont Public Television, Colchester.

INTELLIGENCE

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

Committee recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 4341–4357; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 421, and H. Res. 639–641 were introduced.

Pages H2917–18

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2918–19

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Con. Res. 414, expressing the sense of the Congress that, as Congress recognizes the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision, all Americans are encouraged to observe this anniversary with a commitment to continuing and building on the legacy of Brown (Rept. 108–485). **Page H2917**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative LaHood to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H2817**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Rev. Cynthia L. Hale, Pastor, Ray of Hope Christian Church in Decatur, Georgia. **Page H2817**

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements: The House passed H.R. 4279, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, by a yea-and-nay vote of 273 yeas to 152 nays, Roll No. 163. **Pages H2821–29, H2838–53**

Rejected the Stark motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the bill back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 202 yeas to 224 noes, Roll No. 162. **Pages H2850–52**

Rejected the Stark amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of H. Rept. 108–484, by a recorded vote of 197 yeas to 230 noes, Roll No. 161. **Pages H2844–50**

H. Res. 638, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a recorded vote of 224 yeas to 203 noes, Roll No. 158, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nays vote of 222 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 157. **Page H2835**

Permanent Extension of 10-Percent Individual Income Tax Rate Bracket bill: The House agreed to H. Res. 637, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4275, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 10-percent individual income tax rate bracket, by a voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nays vote of 221 yeas to 203 nays, Roll No. 156. **Pages H2829–35**

Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House agreed to table the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2660, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, offered by Representative George Miller (CA), by a recorded vote of 222 yeas to 205 noes, Roll No. 159. **Pages H2836–37**

Later Representative George Miller (CA) announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on the bill. **Page H2876**

Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-Cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act of 2004: The House passed H.R. 4280, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system, by a recorded vote of 229 yeas to 197 noes, Roll No. 166. **Pages H2853–74**

Rejected the Conyers motion to recommit the bill to the Committees on the Judiciary and Energy & Commerce with instructions to report the bill back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 193 yeas to 231 nays, Roll No. 165. **Pages H2869–73**

H. Res. 638, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to earlier by a recorded vote of 224 yeas to 203 nays, Roll No. 158. **Pages H2835–36**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, May 11:

Sense of the House regarding the military postal system: H. Res. 608, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Department of Defense should rectify deficiencies in the military postal system to ensure that members of the Armed Forces stationed overseas are able to receive and send mail in a timely manner as well as receive and send election ballots in time to be counted in the 2004 elections, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 160; **Pages H2837–38**

Recognizing the contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States: H. Con. Res. 352, recognizing the contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States and the benefits of working together with India towards promoting peace, prosperity, and freedom among all countries of the world, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 415 yeas to 2 nays and 2 voting “present”, Roll No. 164; **Page H2853**

Calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to release Father Thaddeus Nguyen Van Ly: H. Con. Res. 378, amended, calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Father Thaddeus Nguyen Van Ly, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 424 yeas with one voting nay, Roll No. 167; **Pages H2874–75**

Recognizing those who contributed to the war effort during World War II and celebrating the completion of the National World War II Memorial: H. Con. Res. 409, recognizing with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrating the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 422 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 168. **Pages H2875–76**

50th Anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision—Order of Business: The House agreed that it shall be in order at any time without intervention of any point of order to consider H. Con. Res. 414, expressing the sense of the Congress that, as Congress recognizes the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision, all Americans are encouraged to observe this anniversary with a commitment to continuing and building on the legacy of Brown; that the concurrent resolution be

considered as read for amendment; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for a division of the question except (1) 30 minutes of debate on the concurrent resolution equally divided and controlled by chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and (2) one motion to recommit.

Page H2874

Budget Resolution for FY 2005—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House debated the Pomeroy motion to instruct conferees on S. Con. Res. 95, original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009. Further proceedings were postponed. Pages H2876–82

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eight yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2834–35, H2835, H2835–36, H2836–37, H2837–38, H2850, H2851–52, H2852–53, H2853, H2873, H2873–74, H2874–75, and H2875. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m and adjourned at 12 midnight.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative held a hearing on the Library of Congress; the Architect of the Capitol; and the Capitol Visitor Center. Testimony was heard from James H. Billington, The Librarian of Congress; and Alan M. Hantman, Architect of the Capitol.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies held a hearing on Election Assistance Commission. Testimony was heard from Deforest B. Soaries, Chairman, Election Assistance Commission.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT; MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Armed Services: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 4323, To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide rapid acquisition authority to the Secretary of Defense to respond to combat emergencies; H.R. 4322, To provide for the establishment of the headquarters for the Department of Homeland Security in the District of Columbia, to require the transfer of administrative jurisdiction

over the Nebraska Avenue Naval Complex; and H.R. 4200, amended, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing on H.R. 4283, College Access and Opportunity Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DIGITAL MEDIA CONSUMERS' RIGHTS ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection held a hearing on H.R. 107, Digital Media Consumers' Rights Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from Representatives Boucher and Doolittle; and public witnesses.

NIH ETHICS CONCERNS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "NIH Ethics Concerns: Consulting Arrangements and Outside Awards." Testimony was heard from Elias Zerhouni, M.D., Director, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; and the following officials of the National Academy of Sciences: Bruce Alberts, President; and Norman R. Augustine, Co-Chair, Blue Ribbon Panel on Conflict of Interest Policies.

STOCK OPTION ACCOUNTING REFORM ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3574, Stock Option Accounting Reform Act.

COMMUNITY-BASED BANKS REGULATORY RELIEF

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled "Cutting Through the Red Tape: Regulatory Relief for America's Community-Based Banks." Testimony was heard from Wayne A. Abernathy, Assistant Secretary, Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; John M. Reich, Vice Chairman, FDIC; and public witnesses.

DC CIVIL COMMITMENT MODERNIZATION ACT; POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENHANCEMENT ACT; PAPERWORK AND REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS ACT

Committee on Government Reform: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 4302, District of Columbia Civil Commitment Modernization Act of 2004;