

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Committee Meetings

REVIEW—NATIONAL FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to Review National Forest Land Management Planning. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: David Tenny, Deputy Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment; and Frederick Norbury, Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service; and public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2006

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006.

U.S. BOXING COMMISSION ACT; DRUG FREE SPORTS ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 1065, United States Boxing Commission Act; and H.R. 1862, Drug Free Sports Act.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Held a hearing on a Review of Community Health Centers: Issues and Opportunities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Elizabeth M. Duke, Health Resources and Services Administration; and Dennis Smith, Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE REFORM ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 1461, Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2005.

TAXPAYER PAPERWORK—INCREASING BURDEN

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs held a hearing entitled “Less is More: The Increasing Burden of Taxpayer Paperwork.” Testimony was heard from Mark W. Everson, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury; John D. Graham, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB; and public witnesses.

AGRO-TERRORISM THREAT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment held a hearing entitled “Evaluating the Threat of Agro-Terrorism.” Testimony was heard from Joseph W. Reardon, Food Administrator, Food and Drug Protection Division, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, State of North Carolina; and a public witness.

NORTHERN IRELAND—PEACE PROCESS

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats held a hearing on Northern Ireland: Prospects for the Peace Process. Testimony was heard from Mitchell B. Reiss, Special Envoy of the President and Secretary of State for the Northern Ireland Peace Process, Department of State.

LATIN AMERICA—TRANSPARENCY AND RULE OF LAW

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing on Transparency and Rule of Law in Latin America. Testimony was heard from Adolfo A. Franco, Assistant Administrator, Bureau of Latin America and the Caribbean, U. S. Agency for International Development; Jonathan D. Farrar, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Department of State; and Otto J. Reich, former Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 800, amended, Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act; H.R. 420, amended, Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2005; H. R. 554, amended, Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act; and H. J. Res. 10, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

MARSHALL ISLANDS—U.S. NUCLEAR LEGACY

Committee on Resources, and the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the Committee on International Relations held a joint oversight hearing entitled “The United States Nuclear Legacy in the Marshall Islands: Consideration of Issues Relating to the Changes Circumstances Petition.” Testimony was heard from Howard Krawitz, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; Steven V. Cary, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Health, Department of Energy; Andre Bouville, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; the following officials of The Republic of the Marshall Islands: Gerald

Zackios, Foreign Minister; and Judge James H. Plasman, Chairman, Nuclear Claims Tribunal; David Bearden, Analyst in Environmental Policy, CRS, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule providing 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 2528, making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. Under the rules of the House the bill shall be read for amendment by paragraph. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized appropriations or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill). The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representative Walsh.

U.S. JET TRANSPORT INDUSTRY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held an oversight hearing entitled "The U.S. Jet Transport Industry: Global Market Factors Affecting U.S. Producers." Testimony was heard from Joseph H. Bogosian, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Manufacturing, Department of Commerce; Ambassador Peter F. Allgeier, Deputy U. S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

VETERANS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 717, To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the scope of programs of education for which accelerated payments of educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill may be used; H.R. 745, Veterans Self-Employment Act of 2005; and H.R. 1207, Department of Veterans Affairs Work-Study Act of 2005. Testimony was heard from Representatives Simpson and Sodrel; Jack McCoy, Director, Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Alexander Keenan, Director, National Training Center, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; a representative of a veterans organization; and public witnesses.

IRAN BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence Analysis and Counter-Intelligence met in executive session to receive a Briefing on Iran. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

BRIEFING—CIA HUMINT TRAINING NEEDS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence Analysis and Counter-Intelligence met in executive session to receive a Briefing on CIA Humint Training Needs. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

KOSOVO

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): Committee concluded a hearing to examine human rights concerns in Kosovo, after receiving testimony from Soren Jessen-Petersen, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General and Head of United Nations Mission in Kosovo; and Charles L. English, Director, Office of South Central European Affairs, Department of State.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Commerce, 2 p.m., S-146, Capitol.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the U.S. Agency for International Development, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the report to Congress on international economic and exchange rate policies, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation, to hold hearings to examine aviation capacity and congestion challenges regarding summer 2005 and future demand, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, focusing on provisions relating to oil and gas, and incentives for innovative technology, and other related issues, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.