

loan limits to protect students against disruptions in the private credit markets. **Page S1946–49**

Sununu Amendment No. 4221, to save lives, promote overall health care efficiency, and lower the cost for the delivery of health care services by facilitating the deployment and use of electronic prescribing technologies by physicians. **Pages S1949–50**

Murray (for Lincoln) Amendment No. 4194, to provide the Veterans Benefits Administration with additional resources to more effectively meet their increasing workload and to better address the unacceptably large claims backlog. **Pages S1950–53**

Alexander Amendment No. 4222, to take \$670,000 used by the EEOC in bringing actions against employers that require their employees to speak English, and instead use the money to teach English to adults through the Department of Education's English Literacy/Civics Education State Grant program. **Pages S1953–54**

Sessions Amendment No. 4231, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for border security, immigration enforcement, and criminal alien removal programs. **Pages S1955–59**

Cornyn Amendment No. 4242, to protect the family budget by providing for a budget point of order against legislation that increases income taxes on taxpayers, including hard-working middle-income families, entrepreneurs, and college students. **Pages S1961–62**

Conrad (for Pryor) Amendment No. 4181, to add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for Science Parks. **Pages S1962–66**

Allard Amendment No. 4246, to raise taxes by an unprecedented \$1.4 trillion for the purpose of fully funding 111 new or expanded federal spending programs. **Pages S1966–72**

Menendez Amendment No. 4259, to establish a reserve fund for immigration reform and enforcement. **Pages S1976–80**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the resolution at approximately 10:15 a.m., on Thursday, March 13, 2008, following the moment of silence, and that all statutory time be yielded back except for 30 minutes to be equally divided and controlled between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Budget for their use when Senate resumes consideration of the resolution. **Pages S1981, S2029**

Moment of Silence—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:15 a.m., on Thursday, March 13, 2008, there be a moment of silence to honor the 5 years of service and sacrifice of our troops and their families for the war in Iraq and also to remember those who are serving our nation in Afghanistan and throughout the world. **Page S2029**

Messages from the House: **Page S1998**

Measures Referred: **Page S1998**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S1998**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1999–S2000**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2000–09**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1996–98**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2009–28**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S2028**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2028–29**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2029**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:00 p.m., until 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 13, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2029.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: AIR FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Air Force, after receiving testimony from Michael W. Wynne, Secretary, and General T. Michael Moseley, Chief of Staff, both of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: FEDERAL JUDICIARY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the federal judiciary, after receiving testimony from Julia S. Gibbons, Judge, Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, and Chair, Committee on the Budget, Judicial Conference of the United States; and James C. Duff, Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

CURRENT READINESS OF U.S. ARMED FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support met to discuss the current readiness of the armed forces of the United States, receiving testimony from Lieutenant General James D. Thurman, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, Lieutenant General Richard F. Natonski, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policies, and Operations, Vice Admiral Michael K. Loose, USN, Deputy Chief, Naval Operations Fleet Readiness and

Logistics, and Lieutenant General Daniel J. Darnell, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine strategic forces programs in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from General Kevin P. Chilton, USAF, Commander, United States Strategic Command, Michael G. Vickers, Assistant Secretary for Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Major General Richard Webber, USAF, Assistant Deputy Chief, Operations, Plans and Requirements Headquarters, United States Air Force, and Rear Admiral Stephen Johnson, USN, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, United States Navy, all of the Department of Defense; and Thomas P. D'Agostino, Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded a hearing to examine technologies to combat weapons of mass destruction, after receiving testimony from James A. Tegnalia, Director, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and Major General Stephen V. Reeves, USA, Joint Program Executive Officer, Chemical and Biological Defense, both of the Department of Defense; and T. Jan Cerveny, Assistant Deputy Administrator, Nonproliferation Research and Development, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009, the future years defense program, and military installation, environmental, and base closure programs, after receiving testimony from Wayne Army, Deputy Under Secretary for Installations and Environment, Keith E. Eastin, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment, B.J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, and William C. Anderson, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for the strategic lift programs, and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Sue Payton, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, and General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF, Commander, United States Transportation Command, both of the Department of Defense.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, after receiving testimony from Alphonso Jackson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Michael Kelly, District of Columbia Housing Authority, and Hector Pinero, Related Management Company LLC, on behalf of the National Leased Housing Association, National Multi Housing Council, and National Apartment Association, both of Washington, D.C.; Diane Randall, Partnership for Strong Communities, West Hartford, Connecticut; Edgar O. Olsen, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; and Barbara Sard, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Brookline, Massachusetts.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism concluded a hearing to examine the gross domestic product as a measurement of national strength, after receiving testimony from J. Steven Landefeld, Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce; Robert H. Frank, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; Karen Davis, Commonwealth Fund, New York, New York; Katharine G. Abraham, University of Maryland, College Park; and Jonathan Rowe, West Marin Commons, Point Reyes Station, California.

HARDROCK MINING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine hardrock mining, focusing on issues relating to abandoned mine lands and uranium mining, including federal funds spent to clean up abandoned hardrock mine sites since 1998, number of abandoned hardrock mine sites and hazards, and the value and coverage of financial assurances operators use to guarantee reclamation costs on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, after

receiving testimony from Robin M. Nazzaro, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Tony L. Ferguson, Director, Minerals and Geology Management, National Forest System, United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Henri Bisson, Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; David W. Geiser, Deputy Director for Legacy Management, Department of Energy; Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for Water, Environmental Protection Agency; Charles L. Miller, Director, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental, Management Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Bill Brancard, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, Santa Fe, on behalf of the Interstate Mining Compact Commission; former Representative Pat Williams, Western Progress, Missoula, Montana; Debra Struhsacker, Northwest Mining Association, Reno, Nevada; Joe Shirley, Jr., Navajo Nation, Window Rock, Arizona; David Ulibarri, Cibola County, Grants, New Mexico; and Fletcher T. Newton, Uranium One, Inc., Denver, Colorado, on behalf of the National Mining Association.

CURRENT FEDERAL ESTATE TAX SYSTEM

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine alternatives to the current federal estate tax system, after receiving testimony from Lily L. Batchelder, New York University School of Law, New York, New York; Joseph M. Dodge, Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee; and David G. Duff, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Toronto, Canada.

U.S. AND VIETNAM BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs concluded a hearing to examine the United States and Vietnam, focusing on the bilateral relationship, after receiving testimony from Christopher Hill, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Janet Nguyen, Board of Supervisors, Santa Ana, California; Do Hoang Diem, Vietnam Reform Party, San Jose, California; Sophie Richardson, Human Rights Watch, and Matthew P. Daley, US-ASEAN Business Council, both of Washington, D.C.; and Ann Mills Griffiths, National League of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Families, Arlington, Virginia.

PROTECTING FEDERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services,

and International Security concluded a hearing to examine agencies in peril, focusing on protecting federal information technology and securing sensitive information, including the status of agency performance of information security control activities as reported by major agencies and their inspectors general (IG), the effectiveness of information security at federal agencies, and opportunities to improve federal information security, after receiving testimony from Karen S. Evans, Administrator of E-Government and Information Technology, Office of Management and Budget; Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; Susan H. Swart, Chief Information Officer, Bureau of Information Resource Management, Department of State; Philip M. Heneghan, Chief Information Security Officer and Chief Privacy Officer, Bureau for Management, United States Agency for International Development; Darren B. Ash, Chief Information Officer, Deputy Executive Director for Information Services, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Robert T. Howard, Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Information and Technology; and Tim Bennett, Cyber Security Industry Alliance, Arlington, Virginia.

OVER-THE-COUNTER AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs concluded a joint hearing with the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control to examine the 51 million Americans born between 1965 and 1976, also known as "Generation X", focusing on the abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, including S. 2274, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prevent the abuse of dextromethorphan, after receiving testimony from Leonard J. Paulozzi, Medical Epidemiologist, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Nora D. Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Stephen J. Pasierb, Partnership for a Drug-Free America, New York, New York; Derek Clark, Clinton Substance Abuse Council, Clinton, Iowa; and Misty Fetko, New Albany, Ohio.

VOTER FRAUD AND DISENFRANCHISEMENT

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine issues relative to in-person voter fraud and voter disenfranchisement, after receiving testimony from Senators Leahy and Bond; Robin Carnahan, Missouri Secretary of State, Jefferson City; Robert A. Simms, Georgia Deputy

Secretary of State, Atlanta; David C. Iglesias, former United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico, Albuquerque; Jeffrey Milyo, University of Missouri-Columbia; and Justin Levitt, New York University School of Law Brennan Center for Justice, New York, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

DOCTORS AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG INFORMATION AND REVIEWS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine doctors and prescription drug information and reviews, and pharmaceutical industry marketing, after receiving testimony from Nora Dowd Eisenhower, Pennsylvania Department of Aging, Harrisburg; Jerry Avorn, Harvard Medical School, and Allan Coukell, Prescription Project, both of Boston, Massachusetts; Ambrose Carrejo, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Livermore, California, on behalf of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program; and Shahram Ahari, El Cerrito, California.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 7 public bills, H.R. 5595–5601; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 77; H. Con. Res. 316; and H. Res. 1039–1040, 1042–1044 were introduced. **Pages H1617–18**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1618–19**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1041, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3773) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence (H. Rept. 110–549). **Pages H1580, H1617**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Tierney to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H1541**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. W. James Thomas, II, Shiloh Church of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee. **Page H1541**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H1541, H1573**

Calendar Wednesday: On a call of committees pursuant to the Calendar Wednesday rule, no bills were called up for consideration. **Page H1542**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Dreier motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 5 yeas to 375 nays, Roll No. 124. **Pages H1542–43**

Privileged Resolution: The House agreed to table H. Res. 1039, raising a question of the privileges of the House, by a yea-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 125. **Pages H1543–44**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Shadegg motion to adjourn by a recorded vote of 14 yeas to 384 noes, Roll No. 126. **Pages H1545–46**

Point of Personal Privilege: Representative Hastings (WA) rose to a point of personal privilege and was recognized. **Pages H1546–52**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the LaHood motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 3 yeas to 382 nays, Roll No. 127. **Page H1552**

Privileged Resolution: The House agreed to table H. Res. 1040, raising a question of the privileges of the House, by a yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 128. **Pages H1552–53**

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, March 11th:

Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act: H.R. 5563, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 277 yeas to 140 nays, Roll No. 131. **Pages H1560–61**

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 316, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, by a yea-and-nay vote of 211 yeas to 204 nays, Roll No. 132. **Pages H1573–74**

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