

Irreplaceable Collection of Legionella Samples. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Jim Vaught, Deputy Director, Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research, National Cancer Institute; and Janet K. A. Nicholson, Senior Advisor, Laboratory Science, Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Michel Moreland, Director, Veterans Integrated Services Network 4; Mona Melhem, Associate Chief of Staff and Vice President, Clinical Support Service Line Pittsburgh Healthcare System; Ali Sonel, Associate Chief of Staff (Research); Steven Graham, Director, Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Centers; and Cheryl Wanzie, Chief Technologist, all with the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.

#### TAKING RESPONSIBLE ACTION FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY ACT

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Held a hearing on H.R. 6707, Taking Responsible Action for Community Safety Act. Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Visclosky, Manzullo, Biggert, Bean, Roskam and Foster; the following officials of the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation: Charles D. Nottingham, Chairman; Francis P. Mulvey, Vice Chairman; and W. Douglas Buttrey, Board Member; the following officials of the State of Illinois: Elaine Nekritz, State Representative; and Tom Weisner, Mayor, Aurora; and public witnesses.

#### VETERANS MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3051, Heroes at Home Act of 2007; H.R. 6153, Veterans' Medical Personnel Recruitment and Retention Act of 2008; and H.R. 6629, Veterans Health Equity Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Representatives Salazar and Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas; Gerald M. Cross, M.D., Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

#### INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AND AL-QAEDA

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Intelligence Operations and Al-Qaeda. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

##### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense, business meeting to mark up Department of Defense appropriations for fiscal year 2009, 10 a.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold hearings to examine ways to improve consumer protection in the prepaid calling card market, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* to hold hearings to examine improving the Federal Bridge Program, focusing on an assessment of S. 3338, to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, and H.R. 3999, to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Subcommittee on Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality, to hold hearings to examine the quality and environmental impacts of bottled water, 3 p.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* business meeting to consider S. 3038, to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend the adoption incentives program, to authorize States to establish a relative guardianship program, to promote the adoption of children with special needs, S. 1070, to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and S. 1577, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require screening, including national criminal history background checks, of direct patient access employees of skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and other long-term care facilities and providers, and to provide for nationwide expansion of the pilot program for national and State background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Croatia adopted at Brussels on July 9, 2008, and signed that day on behalf of the United States and the other Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty (Treaty Doc.110-20), 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sung Y. Kim, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks, C. Steven McGann, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional

compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Kiribati, and Carol Ann Rodley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, 2 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine audits at the Defense Contract Audit Agency, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine managing the challenges of the Federal Government transition, focusing on assessing the readiness and planning for the transition and identifying critical needs for the new Administration to address, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine new strategies for combating violent crime, focusing on drawing lessons from recent experience, 10 a.m., SD-562.

## House

*Committee on Armed Services,* hearing on Security and Stability in Afghanistan and Iraq: Developments in U.S. Strategy and Operations and the Way Ahead, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on transforming the U.S. military's foreign language, cultural awareness, and regional expertise capabilities, 2:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology, hearing entitled "Sovereign Wealth Funds: New Challenges From a Changing Landscape," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* hearing entitled "Mismanagement, Missteps and Missed Benchmarks: Why the Virtual Fence Has Not Become a Reality," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* to mark up the following: Reauthorizing Antitrust Task Force; H.R. 6598, Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008; H.R. 4780, To enact title 51, United States Code, "National and Commercial Space Programs," as positive law; H.R. 6020, To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to protect the well-being of soldiers and their families, and for other purposes; H.R. 5882, To recapture employment-based immigrant visas lost to bureaucratic delays and to prevent losses of family- and employment-based immigrant visas in the future; H.R. 5924, Emergency Nursing Supply Relief Act; H.R. 5950, Detainee Basic Medical Care Act of 2008; and to consider a resolution and report recommending to the House of Representatives that Attorney General Michael B. Mukasey be cited for contempt of Congress, 10:15 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing and oversight hearing on H.R. 6479, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Establishment Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* to consider the following: the National Capital Security and Safety Act; H. Con. Res. 223, Honoring professional surveyors and recognize their contributions to society; H.

Con. Res. 351, Honoring the 225th Anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting in Nassau Hall, Princeton, New Jersey in 1783; H. Con. Res. 376, Congratulating the 2007-2008 National Basketball Association World Champions, the Boston Celtics, on an outstanding and historic season; H. Con. Res. 378, Expressing support for the designation of September 6, 2008, as Louisa Swain Day; H. Con. Res. 386, Recognizing and celebrating the 232nd Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; H. Res. 1000, To commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the naming of Pittsburgh as the culmination of the Forbes Campaign across Pennsylvania and the significance this event played in the making of America, in the settlement of the Continent, and in spreading the ideals of freedom and democracy throughout the world; H.R. 1356, Celebrating the 221st anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America, and for other purposes; a resolution to congratulate Michael Phelps, 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic champion swimmer, on winning eight gold medals in the 2008 Beijing Olympics and becoming one of the most decorated athletes in Olympic history; H.R. 6199, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 245 North Main Street in New City, New York as the "Kenneth Peter Zebrowski Post Office Building;" H.R. 6489, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 4th Street in Lake Oswego, Oregon, as the "Judie Hammerstad Post Office Building;" H.R. 6681, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Vine Street in New Lenox, Illinois, as the "Jacob M. Lowell Post Office Building;" and H.R. 6772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building," 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, an Oversight hearing on Sexual Assault in the Military—Part 2, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science and Technology,* Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on the Foundation for Developing New Energy Technologies: Basic Energy Research in the DOE Office of Science, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,* Subcommittee on Coast Guard, including Recruitment, Promotion, and Retention of Minority Personnel, hearing on Diversity in the Coast Guard, including Recruitment, Promotion, and Retention of Minority Personnel, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,* Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, executive, briefing on DOD: Personnel Security and Research Center, 2 p.m., H-405 Capitol.

*Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming,* hearing entitled "Investing in the Future: R & D Needs To Meet America's Energy and Climate Challenges," 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

## Joint Meetings

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* to hold hearings to examine Russia, Georgia, and the return of power politics, 1:30 p.m., HROB-2325.