

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:36 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 2, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1590.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Education, after receiving testimony from Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education.

APPROPRIATIONS—LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Library of Congress and the Open World Leadership Center, after receiving testimony from James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress, who was accompanied by several of his associates.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded hearings to examine Army Transformation and the future combat systems acquisition strategy in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007 and the future years defense program, after receiving testimony from Claude M. Bolton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology and Army Acquisition Executive; General Richard A. Cody, USA, Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army; Paul L. Francis, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; and David R. Graham, Deputy Director, Strategy Forces and Resources Division, Institute for Defense Analyses.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded hearings to examine active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007, after receiving testimony from David S. C. Chu, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Lieutenant General Franklin L. Hagenbeck, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, United States Army; Vice Admiral John C.

Harvey, Jr., USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, United States Navy; Lieutenant General H. P. Osman, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, United States Marine Corps; and Lieutenant General Roger A. Brady, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, United States Air Force.

REGULATORY RELIEF PROPOSALS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine regulatory relief proposals to remove regulatory burden from the banking industry, after receiving testimony from John M. Reich, Director, Office of Thrift Supervision, and Julie L. Williams, First Senior Deputy Comptroller and Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, both of the Department of the Treasury; Donald L. Kohn, Member, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Douglas H. Jones, Acting General Counsel, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; JoAnn M. Johnson, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; Gavin Gee, Idaho Department of Finance, Boise, on behalf of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors; Linda Jekel, Washington Department of Financial Institutions, Olympia, on behalf of the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors; H. Greg McClellan, MAX Federal Credit Union, Montgomery, Alabama, on behalf of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions; Bradley E. Rock, Bank of Smithtown, Smithtown, New York, on behalf of the American Bankers Association; Edmund Mierzwinski, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Travis Plunkett, Consumer Federation of America, Margot Saunders, National Consumer Law Center, and Steve Bartlett, The Financial Services Roundtable, all of Washington, D.C.; F. Weller Meyer, Acacia Federal Savings Bank, Falls Church, Virginia, on behalf of America's Community Bankers; Joe McGee, Legacy Community Federal Credit Union, Birmingham, Alabama, on behalf of the Credit Union National Association; and Terry Jorde, CountryBank USA, Cando, North Dakota, on behalf of Independent Community Bankers of America.

2007 BUDGET: HHS

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Michael O. Leavitt, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

WINTER STORMS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention and Prediction concluded a hearing to examine the role of the National Weather Service in forecasting and warning

for winter storms, after receiving testimony from Louis W. Uccellini, Director, National Centers for Environmental Prediction, National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, and Mayor Denise Michels, Nome, Alaska, on behalf of the Alaska Conference of Mayors.

U.S. TERRITORIES ECONOMIES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the state of the economies and fiscal affairs in the Territories of Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands, after receiving testimony from American Samoa Delegate Eni Faleomavaega, and American Samoa Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono, both of Vailoatai; Virgin Islands Delegate Donna M. Christensen, and Virgin Islands Governor Charles W. Turnbull, both of St. Croix; Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, and Guam Governor Felix Perez Camacho, both of Hagatna; Northern Mariana Islands Resident Representative Pedro A. Tenorio, Saipan; and David B. Cohen, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs.

FOREIGN GUEST WORKER TREE PLANTING CONTRACTS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine the role of the Forest Service and other Federal agencies in protecting the health and welfare of foreign guest workers carrying out tree planting and other service contracts on National Forest System lands, and to consider related Forest Service guidance and contract modifications issued in recent weeks, after receiving testimony from Mark Rey, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment; Victoria A. Lipnic, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment Standards Administration; D. Michael Dale, Northwest Workers' Justice Project, Portland, Oregon; Cassandra Moseley, University of Oregon Institute for a Sustainable Environment, Eugene; Lynn Jungwirth, Watershed Research and Training Center, Hayfork, California; and Cindy Wood, Wood's Fire and Emergency Services, Inc., Portola, California, on behalf of the National Wildfire Suppression Association.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the status of the Yucca Mountain Project, focusing on the proposed spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, after receiving testimony from Senators Reid and Ensign; William Wehrum, Acting Assistant Administrator

for Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Paul M. Golan, Acting Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Department of Energy; Robert R. Loux, Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, Office of the Governor, Carson City; Robert Fri, Resources for the Future, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the National Research Council; Allison M. MacFarlane, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge; and Dade W. Moeller, Dade Moeller and Associates, McLean, Virginia, on behalf of the Health Physics Society.

BUDGET: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Michael Chertoff, Secretary of Homeland Security.

PROTECTING AMERICA'S COMPETITIVE EDGE (PACE) ACT

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Education and Early Childhood Development held hearings to examine S. 2198, to ensure the United States successfully competes in the 21st century global economy, focusing on efforts to improve math and science and technology education, receiving testimony from Henry L. Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education; Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director, National Science Foundation; Thomas W. Rudin, The College Board, New York, New York; James B. Hunt, Jr., Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, former Governor of North Carolina; Peter O'Donnell, Jr., O'Donnell Foundation, Dallas, Texas, on behalf of the National Academies' Committee on Prospering in the Global Economy of the 21st Century; and Joshua R. Tagore, University High School of Science and Engineering, Hartford, Connecticut.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act relating to fighting the AIDS epidemic of today, after receiving testimony from Elizabeth Duke, Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings to examine the nominations of Norman Randy Smith, of Idaho, to be United States Circuit

Judge for the Ninth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Craig and Crapo, and Patrick Joseph Schiltz, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, who was introduced by Senator Coleman, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BORDER VIOLENCE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security held joint hearings with the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Citizenship to examine Federal strategies to end border violence, focusing on border-related violent crime, criminal networks that smuggle people and drugs across U.S. borders, and certain programs implemented to address these problems, receiving testimony from Paul K. Charlton, United States Attorney for the District of Arizona, Department of Justice; David Aguilar, Chief of Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, and Marcy Forman, Director of Investigations, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, both of the Department of Homeland Security; Sheriff Larry A. Dever,

Cochise County, Arizona; Sheriff A. D'Wayne Jernigan, Val Verde County, Texas, on behalf of the Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition; Lavoyger Durham, El Tule Ranch, Falfurrias, Texas; and T. J. Bonner, National Border Patrol Council, American Federation of Government Employees (AFL-CIO), Campo, California.

Hearing recessed subject to the call.

NOMINATION

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Eric M. Thorson, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Grassley, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 4824–4842; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 349; and H. Res. 701, 703–705 were introduced.

Pages H508–09

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H509–10

Reports Filed: Report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 702, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4167) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for uniform food safety warning notification requirements and for other purposes (H. Rept. 109–381).

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Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Porter to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

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Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Bishop Steven E. Wright, National Chaplain, the American Legion.

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Recess: The House recessed at 10:03 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Honorable Silvio Berlusconi, Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy. The House reconvened at 12:45 p.m., and agreed that the proceedings had during the Joint Meeting be printed in the Record.

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Joint Meeting to receive the Honorable Silvio Berlusconi, Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy: The House and Senate met in a joint session to receive the Honorable Silvio Berlusconi, Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy. He was escorted into the Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives Boehner, Blunt, Fossella, Gallegly, Mica, Tiberi, Young of Florida, Pelosi, Hoyer, Larson of Connecticut, Pascrell, Doyle, Ryan of Ohio, and Thompson; and Senators Frist, McConnell, Stevens, Santorum, Domenici, Durbin, Leahy, Clinton, and Menendez.

Pages H453–55

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

Honoring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor: H. Res. 357, to honor Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, by a yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 17; and

Pages H458–61, H466–67

Honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 97th anniversary: H. Con. Res. 335, to honor and praise the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 97th anniversary.

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