NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Anthony W. Ryan, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Markets, Phillip L. Swagel, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy, Dean A. Pinkert, of Virginia, who was introduced by Representative Rangel, and Irving A. Williamson, of New York, both to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, and Mark Warshawsky, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board, Social Security Administration, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

IMPROPER PAYMENTS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management and Accountability concluded a hearing to examine the successes and shortcomings of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002, focusing on the progress agencies have made in their improper payment reporting, the challenges that remain, and the total amount of improper payments recouped through recovery auditing, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; and Clay Johnson III, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

MARKETPLACE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine enforcement of criminal insider trading and hedge fund activity, after receiving testimony from Gary J. Aguirre, former Investigator, Walter J. Stachnik, Inspector General, Robert B. Hanson, Branch Chief, Mark Kreitman, Assistant Director, Paul R. Berger, former Associate Director, and Linda C. Thomsen, Director, each of the Division of Enforcement, Eric Ribelin, Branch Chief, Office of Market Surveillance, all of U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Ronald J. Tenpas, Associate Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice; and Richard Blumenthal, Connecticut Attorney General, Hartford.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 39 public bills, H.R. 6338–6376; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 497–498; and H. Res. 1088–1091 were introduced. **Pages H8742–44**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8744–45**

Reports Filed: A report was filed on Wednesday, November 15, as follows:

H.R. 4591, to implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants to the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–714);

Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4997, to permanently authorize amendments made by the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 for the purpose of permitting waivers of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to certain international medical graduates, with amendments (H. Rept. 109–715);

H.R. 3248, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to assist family caregivers in accessing affordable and high-quality respite care, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–716);

H.R. 5782, to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, to provide for enhanced reliability in the transportation of the Nation's energy products by pipeline, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–717, Pt. 1 and Pt. 2);

H. Res. 1092, providing for consideration of H.R. 6346, to extend certain trade preference programs, to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Vietnam, to modify temporarily certain rates of duty and make other technical amendments to the trade laws (H. Rept. 109–718); and

H. Res. 1093, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to the same day consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 109–719).

Page H8742

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bishop of Utah to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8675**

MINER Act Technical Study Panel—Appointment: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader of the House (Mr. Boehner) and the Majority Leader of the Senate (Mr. Frist), pursuant to Public Law 109–236, the appointment of Thomas P. Mucho of Pennsylvania to serve as a member of the MINER Act Technical Study Panel. **Page H8679**

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

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Members of the House should actively engage with employers and the American public at large to encourage the hiring of members and former members of the Armed Forces who were wounded in service and are facing a transition to civilian life: H. Res. 1070, amended, to express the sense of the House of Representatives that Members of the House should actively engage with employers and the American public at large to encourage the hiring of members and former members of the Armed Forces who were wounded in service and are facing a transition to civilian life, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 524; **Pages H8679–81, H8702**

Designating Room H–139 of the Capitol as the ''Henry J. Hyde Room'': H. Res. 1087, to designate Room H–139 of the Capitol as the ''Henry J. Hyde Room''; **Pages H8681–82**

Extending through December 31, 2008, the authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept and expend funds contributed by non-Federal public entities to expedite the processing of permits: H.R. 6316, to extend through December 31, 2008, the authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept and expend funds contributed by non-Federal public entities to expedite the processing of permits; **Pages H8683–84**

Supporting the goals and ideals of National High School Seniors Voter Registration Day: H. Con. Res. 73, to support the goals and ideals of National High School Seniors Voter Registration Day; **Pages H8684–85**

Amending title 35, United States Code, to allow the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office to waive statutory provisions governing patents and trademarks in certain emergencies: H.R. 4742, to amend title 35, United States Code, to allow the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office to waive statutory provisions governing patents and trademarks in certain emergencies; **Pages H8685–86**

Amending title 18, United States Code, to prevent and repress the misuse of the Red Cresent distinctive emblem and the Third Protocol (Red Crystal) distinctive emblem: H.R. 6338, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and repress the misuse of the Red Cresent distinctive emblem and the Third Protocol (Red Crystal) distinctive emblem; **Pages H8692–93**

Southern Idaho Bureau of Reclamation Repayment Act of 2006: H.R. 5666, amended, to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the A & B Irrigation District in the State of Idaho; **Pages H8693–94**

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail Designation Act: H.R. 5466, amended, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail; **Pages H8694–95**

Authorizing certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc.: S. 1219, to authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc.—c1earing the measure for the President; **Pages H8695–96**

More Water and More Energy Act of 2006: H.R. 5110, amended, to facilitate the use for irrigation and other purposes of water produced in connection with development of energy resources; **Pages H8696–97**

Lowell National Historical Park Boundary Adjustment Act: H.R. 395, to adjust the boundary of Lowell National Historical Park; **Pages H8697–98**

Providing for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II: Concur in Senate amendments to H.R. 1492, to provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II—clearing the measure for the President; and **Pages H8698–H8700**

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the Tax Court may review claims for equitable innocent spouse relief and to suspend the running on the period of limitations while such claims are pending: H.R. 6111, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the Tax Court may review claims for equitable innocent spouse relief and to suspend the running on the period of limitations while such claims are pending. **Pages H8700–01**

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Nonprofit Athletic Organization Protection Act of 2006: Amended, to provide immunity for nonprofit athletic organizations in lawsuits arising from claims of ordinary negligence relating to the passage, adoption, or failure to adopt rules of play for athletic competitions and practices, by less than a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 187 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 525. **Pages H8686–92, H8702–03**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:56 p.m. and reconvened at 2:04 p.m. **Page H8701**

Henry J. Hyde United States and India Nuclear Cooperation Promotion Act of 2006—Motion To Go to Conference: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment and agreed to a conference on H.R. 5682, to exempt from certain requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India. **Page H8701**

Agreed to the Lantos motion to instruct conferees after agreeing to order the previous question. **Page H8701**

Appointed as conferees: Messrs. Hyde, Boehner, and Lantos. **Page H8702**

Agreed by unanimous consent to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 495, to authorize the printing as a House document of "United States House of Representatives, The Committee on Ways and Means: A History, 1789–2006". **Page H8703**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:41 p.m. and reconvened at 9:42 p.m. **Page H8715**

Senate Message: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H8678–79.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 119 was referred to the Committee on Agriculture; S. 994 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; S. 3759 was referred to the Committee on Armed Services; S. 4014 was referred to the Committee on International Relations; S. 4073 was referred to the Committee on Veteran Affairs; and S. Con. Res. 101 and S. 2028 were held at the desk. **Page H8715**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8702 and H8702–03. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT—ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims concluded oversight hearings entitled "The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act: Are We Fulfilling the Promise We Made to Cold War Veterans When We Created the Program?" (Part V). Testimony was heard from Shelby Hallmark, Director, Office of Worker's Compensation Programs, Department of Labor; John Howard, M.D., Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Health and Human Services; and Daniel Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, GAO.

BRIEFING—INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION ARCHITECTURE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Intelligence Collection Architecture. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

TO EXTEND CERTAIN TRADE PREFERENCE PROGRAMS, TO AUTHORIZE THE EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO THE PRODUCTS OF VIETNAM, TO MODIFY TEMPORARILY CERTAIN RATES OF DUTY AND MAKE OTHER TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE TRADE LAWS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing 1 hour of debate in the House on H.R. 6346, to extend certain trade preference programs, to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Vietnam, to modify temporarily certain rates of duty and make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Thomas of California.

SAME-DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain