

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### APPROPRIATIONS—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for Army and certain defense agencies' military construction programs, after receiving testimony from Robert M. Walker, Assistant Secretary of the Army; Gary Robinson, Command Engineer, U.S. Special Operations Command; Brig. Gen. Robert G. Claypool, USA, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense; Frederick N. Baillie, Executive Director of Business Management, Defense Logistics Agency; and Bruce M. Carnes, Deputy Director for Resource Management, Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 238 military nominations in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, S. 462, to reform and consolidate the public and assisted housing programs of the United States, and to redirect primary responsibility for these programs from the Federal Government to States and localities.

### AUTHORIZATION—HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, focusing on safety issues, after receiving testimony from Kelley S. Coyner, Deputy Administrator, and Alan Roberts, Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, both of the Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation; Robert Chipkevich, Chief, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Division, National Transportation Safety Board; Charlotte R. Lane, West Virginia Public Service Commission, Charleston; and Cynthia Hilton, Association of Waste Hazardous Materials Transporters, and Clifford J. Harvison, National Tank Truck Carriers, Inc., both of Alexandria, Virginia.

### ELECTRIC UTILITIES DEREGULATION

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee met to further discuss proposals to advance the goals

of deregulation and competition in the electric power industry, focusing on the effects of competition on fuel use and types of fuel generation, receiving testimony from Donald W. Niemiec, Union Pacific Resources Group, Fort Worth, Texas; Samuel K. Skinner, Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago, Illinois; Steven F. Leer, Arch Mineral Corporation, St. Louis, Missouri, on behalf of the National Mining Association; George Minter, Pacific Enterprises, Los Angeles, California; Brent Allen, Alpar Resources Inc., Perryton, Texas, on behalf of the Independent Petroleum Association of America; Lawrence W. Plitch, Wheelabrator Technologies Incorporated, Hampton, New Hampshire, on behalf of the Integrated Waste Services Association; Julie A. Keil, Portland General Electric Company, Portland, Oregon, on behalf of the Industry Coalition for Hydro-power; and Dede Hapner, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Francisco, California.

Committee will meet again on Thursday, May 22.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

The Document Agreed Among the States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe CFE of November 19, 1990, adopted at Vienna on May 31, 1996 ("the Flank Document"). The Flank Document is Annex A of the Final Document of the first CFE Review Conference (Treaty Doc. 105-5), with 14 conditions;

The nominations of Jeffrey Davidow, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation, Stuart E. Eizenstat, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs, Thomas R. Pickering, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Karen Shepherd, of Utah, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Letitia Chamber, of the District of Columbia, to be a Representative of the United States to the Fifty-first Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and Prezell R. Robinson, of North Carolina, and James Catherwood Hormel, of California, each to be an Alternate Representative of the United States to the Fifty-first Session of the United Nations, and certain Foreign Service Officers' appointment and promotion lists;

S. 342, to extend certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices;

S. Res. 58, to state the sense of the Senate that the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States and Japan is essential for furthering the security interest of the United States,

Japan, and the countries of the Asia-Pacific region, and that the people of Okinawa deserve recognition for their implementation;

S. Con. Res. 6, expressing concern for the continued deterioration of human rights in Afghanistan and emphasizing the need for a peaceful political settlement in that country, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. Con. Res. 21, congratulating the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the thirtieth anniversary of the reunification of that historic city.

### TELEVISION PROGRAMMING

*Committee on Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia concluded oversight hearings to discuss the influence of certain television programming on children's language development, reading skill, attention span, and attitudes toward violence, sexuality, and other behaviors, and the Federal Government's role in improving the content of programming, after receiving testimony from L. Brent Bozell III, Parents Television Council/Media Research Center, Alexandria, Virginia; Sarah S. Brown, National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, David Murray, Statistical Assessment Service, and Elayne Bennett, Best Friends Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.; Jane D. Brown, University of North Carolina School of Journalism and Mass Communications, Chapel Hill; Laurie Humphries, University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, on behalf of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; and Mary Anne Layden, Center for Cognitive Therapy/University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

The nomination of Joel I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice;

S. 536, to establish a program to support and encourage local communities that first demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce

substance abuse among youth, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 670, to eliminate the special transition rule for issuance of a certificate of citizenship for certain children born outside the United States.

### CRIMINAL USE OF GUNS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded hearings on S. 191, to require a five-year mandatory minimum sentence for any violent or drug trafficking felon having a firearm in his or her possession during the commission of a heinous crime, and to review the impact of the Supreme Court's 1995 decision in *Bailey v. United States* on federal drug and violent crime prosecutions, after receiving testimony from Senator Helms; Kevin Di Gregory, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, and Walter C. Holton, Jr., United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina, both of the Department of Justice; George J. Terwilliger III, McGuire, Woods, Battle, and Boothe, former Deputy Attorney General of the United States, and Thomas G. Hungar, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, both of Washington, D.C.; Paul F. Evans, Boston Police Department, Boston, Massachusetts; Katina M. Johnstone, New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, New York, New York; and Anthony M. Wilson, Chantilly, Virginia.

### GPO REFORM

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* Committee concluded hearings to review legislative recommendations on certain revisions to Title 44 of the U.S. Code which authorizes the Government Printing Office to provide permanent public access to Federal government information, after receiving testimony from Sally Katzen, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget; Richard L. Shiffrin, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice; Francis J. Buckley, Shaker Heights Public Library, Shaker Heights, Ohio; Ben Cooper, Printing Industries of America, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia; and Ronald G. Dunn, Information Industry Association, Washington, D.C.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Bills Introduced:** 25 public bills, H.R. 1553-1577; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 78 and H. Con. Res. 77, were introduced.

Pages H2444-45

**Reports Filed:** One Report was filed as follows:

H.R. 1385, to consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, amended (H. Rept. 105-93).

Page H2444