

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 46 public bills, H.R. 1427–1472; 1 private bill, H.R. 1473; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 86–87 and H. Res. 141, were introduced.

Pages H2130–32

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Rodney H. Travis.

Page H2057

Constitutional Amendment for Tax Limitations: The House failed to pass H.J. Res. 37, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to tax limitations by a ye and nay vote of 229 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 90, with 2/3 required for passage.

Pages H2068–98

H. Res. 139, the rule that provided for consideration of the joint resolution was agreed to earlier by a voice vote.

Pages H2061–68

Tax Benefits for Military Personnel: The House passed H.R. 1376, to extend the tax benefits available with respect to services performed in a combat zone to services performed in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia/Montenegro) and certain other areas by a ye and nay vote of 424 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 91.

Pages H2098–H2101

Earlier, agreed by unanimous consent to consider H.R. 1376; that the amendment recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill be considered as adopted; and to lay H. Res. 140 on the table.

Page H2098

Fiftieth Anniversary of NATO: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 81, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony in honor of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and welcoming the three newest members of NATO, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Hungary, and the Czech Republic, into NATO.

Pages H2101–02

Honoring the Crew of the U.S.S. Alabama: The House agreed to H. Res. 123, recognizing and honoring the crewmembers of the U.S.S. *Alabama* (BB-60) and the U.S.S. *Alabama* Crewmen's Association.

Page H2102

Military Personnel Detained by the Government of Yugoslavia: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 83, expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its President Slobodan Milosevic release the three illegally detained United States servicemen and abide by the Geneva Convention protocols regarding

the treatment of both prisoners of war and innocent civilians. Agreed to amend the title. Pages H2101–04

Agreed to the Gilman amendment to strike all after the resolving clause and insert a new text and agreed to the Gilman amendment to strike the preamble and insert a new text. Pages H2103–04

Meeting Hour—Monday, April 19: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 19. Page H2104

Meeting Hour—Tuesday, April 20: Agreed that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20 for morning-hour debate. Page H2104

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on April 21. Page H2104

Senate Messages: Message received by the Senate today appears on page H2057.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two ye and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H2097–98 and H2101. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Committee Meetings

WATERSHED PROJECTS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Resource Conservation, and Credit held a hearing regarding Bexar-Medina-Atascosa Counties Small Watershed Project and H.R. 728, The Small Watershed Rehabilitation Amendments of 1999. Testimony was heard from Representative Bonilla; Danny D. Sells, Associate Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary held a continued appropriations hearing. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on NOAA. Testimony was heard from D. James Baker, Under Secretary, Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia held a hearing on Fiscal Year

2000 D.C. Budget and on the Mayor's Short-term Action Plan. Testimony was heard from Alice Rivlin, Chair, D.C. Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority; and the following officials of the District of Columbia: Anthony A. Williams, Mayor and Linda W. Cropp, Council Chair.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs held a hearing on the Secretary of State. Testimony was heard from Madeleine Albright, Secretary of State.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior continued appropriation hearings, with emphasis on Native Americans. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education continued hearings on appropriations. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies continued appropriations hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

NATO MILITARY OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on NATO military operations against the Republic of Yugoslavia. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: William S. Cohen, Secretary; and Gen. Henry H. Shelton, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

ENERGY LABORATORIES— COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROBLEMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Procurement held a hearing on recent counterintelligence problems at Department of Energy laboratories. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Notra Trulock III, Special Advisor, Intelligence Activities; Ernest J. Moniz, Under Secretary; and Edward J. Curran, Director, Office of Counterintelligence; and Elizabeth Molter, former Deputy Secretary, Department of Energy.

TRENDS IN MONEY LAUNDERING

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit and the Subcommittee on General Oversight and Investigations held a joint hearing on Trends in Money Laundering. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Elisabeth Bresee, Assistant Secretary, Enforcement; and Bonni G. Tischler, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Investigations, U.S. Customs Service; the following officials of the Department of Justice: Mary Lee Warren, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division; and Jodi Avergun, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern Division of New York; Donald Clemmer, Assistant Attorney General, State of Texas; and public witnesses.

HOMELESS HOUSING PROGRAMS CONSOLIDATION AND FLEXIBILITY ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 1073, Homeless Housing Programs Consolidation and Flexibility Act.

BOND PRICE COMPETITION IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials approved for full Committee action H.R. 1400, Bond Price Competition Improvement Act of 1999.

TRANSPLANTATION—INCREASE ORGAN SUPPLY

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment held a hearing on Putting Patients First: Increasing Organ Supply for Transplantation. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IMPEDIMENTS TO UNION DEMOCRACY

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations held a hearing on "Impediments to Union Democracy: Department of Labor Enforcement of Rank-and-File Rights and the Boilermakers Union". Testimony was heard from Bernard Anderson, Assistant Secretary, Employment Standards, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training, and Life-Long Learning held a hearing on H.R. 782, Older Americans Act Amendments of 1999. Testimony was heard from Jeanette Takamura, Assistant Secretary, Aging, Department of Health and Human Services; and Raymond Uhalde, Deputy Assistant

Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor.

TAX REFORM IN THE STATES

Committee on Government Reform: Continued hearings on Tax Reform in the States, Part 2, of a series on National Problems, Local Solution: Federalism at Work. Testimony was heard from George Pataki, Governor, State of New York.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACCESS ACT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 974, District of Columbia College Access Act.

“CLINTON-GORE v. THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER”

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs and the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology held a joint hearing on “Clinton-Gore v. The American Taxpayer”. Testimony was heard from Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury; the following officials of the GAO; Nye Stevens, Director, Federal Management and Workforce Issues; and James R. White, Director, Tax Policy and Administrations Issues; Deidre A. Lee, Acting Director, Management, OMB; Anne F. Thomson Reed, Chief Information Office, USDA; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; CHILD SURVIVAL AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE PROGRAM

Committee on International Relations: Ordered reported amended H.R. 1211, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001.

The Committee also favorably considered the following measures and adopted a motion urging the Chairman to request that they be considered on the Suspension calendar: H.R. 1379, Western Hemisphere Drug Elimination Technical Corrections Act; H. Res. 128, amended, condemning the murder of human rights lawyer Rosemary Nelson and calling for the protection of defense attorneys in Northern Ireland; H. Con. Res. 54, amended, recognizing the historic significance of the first anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement; and H. Con. Res. 83, amended, expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its President Slobodan Milosevic release the three illegally detained United States servicemen and abide by the Geneva Convention protocols re-

garding the treatment of both prisoners of war and innocent civilians.

The Committee also held a hearing on The Child Survival and Infectious Disease Program: Achievements and Challenges for the Future. Testimony was heard from Barbara Turner, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Global Programs, AID, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency; Carol Bellamy, Executive Director, UNICEF; and public witnesses.

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE—PROPOSALS TO PARTIALLY FILL

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing on the Administration’s proposal to utilize 28 million barrels of federal royalty oil to partially fill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Testimony was heard from Rick Furiga, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Strategic Petroleum Reserve, Department of Energy; and Walter Cruickshank, Associate Director, Policy and Management Information Improvement, Mineral Management Service, Department of the Interior.

OVERSIGHT—MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING REGULATIONS

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on migratory bird hunting regulations to increase the harvest of Mid-Continent light geese. Testimony was heard from Representatives Peterson of Minnesota and Pickering; John Rogers, Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 834, to extend the authorization for the National Historic Preservation Fund. Testimony was heard from Delegate Norton; Robert Stanton, Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

NOAA BUDGET AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Authorization Request: NOAA Fleet Maintenance and Planning, Aircraft Services and NOAA Corps. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Commerce: Bob Taylor, Acting Deputy Director, NOAA Corps Operations; and George Ross, Assistant Inspector General, Audits; and public witnesses.

MELISSA VIRUS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Technology held a hearing on The Melissa Virus: Inoculating Our Information Technology from Emerging Threats. Testimony was heard from Raymond Kammer, Director, National Institutes of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; Michael A. Vatis, Director, National Infrastructure and Protection Center, FBI, Department of Justice; Keith Rhodes, Technical Director, Office of the Chief Scientist, GAO; and a public witness.

BEACHES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, CLEANUP, AND HEALTH ACT; RESOLUTIONS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Ordered reported amended H.E. 999, Beaches Environmental Assessment, Cleanup, and Health Act of 1999.

The Committee also approved 6 Corps of Engineers Survey resolutions.

BEACHES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, CLEANUP, AND HEALTH ACT; RESOLUTIONS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment approved for full Committee action amended H.R. 999, Beaches Environmental Assessment, Cleanup, and Health Act of 1999.

The Subcommittee also approved for full Committee action 6 Corps of Engineers Survey resolutions.

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
READINESS FOR YEAR 2000**

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on the readiness of the Department of Veterans Affairs for Year 2000, including emergency medical facility preparedness and coordination with FEMA. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Accounting and Information Management Division, GAO: Joel C. Willemssen, Director, Civil Agencies Information Systems; and Nabajyoti Barkakati, Technical Assistant Director, Office of the Chief Scientist; the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Michael Slachta, Jr., Deputy Assistant Inspector General, Auditing; Thomas Phelps, Project Manager, Central Office Audit Operations Division; Hershel Gober, Deputy Secretary; Ernest D. Castro, Year 2000 Program Manager; Sally L. Wallace, Program Manager, Year 2000, Veterans Benefits Administration; Leonard R. Bourget, Project Manager, Year 2000; and Steven Wexler, Chief, Biomedical Engineering, both with the Veterans Health Administration; William K. Hubbard, Acting Deputy

Commissioner, Policy, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; and a public witness.

SOCIAL SECURITY TRUSTEES' REPORT

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on the 1999 Social Security Trustees' Report. Testimony was heard from the following public members of the Social Security Board of Trustees: Stephen G. Kellison; and Marilyn Moon.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 19 through April 24, 1999

Senate Chamber

Senate expects to consider any cleared legislative or executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: April 21, to hold hearings to review the recent report on the Federal Crop Insurance Program by the Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture, 8:30 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Armed Services: April 20, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the science and technology program and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

April 21, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings on the readiness of the United States Navy and Marines operating forces, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 22, Subcommittee on International Trade and Finance, with the Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold joint hearings on issues relating to the official dollarization in emerging-market countries, 10 a.m., SD-538.

April 22, Subcommittee on Economic Policy, with the Subcommittee on International Trade and Finance, to hold joint hearings on issues relating to the official dollarization in emerging-market countries, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 21, to hold hearings on issues relating to telecommunications and internet access, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

April 21, Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for Technology Administration, Department of Commerce, 2 p.m., SR-253.

April 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine boxing industry regulations, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: April 20, to hold hearings on S. 25, to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the