

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 20 public bills, H.R. 3035–3036, 3038–3055; 1 private bill, H.R. 3056; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 194 and H. Res. 324–325, were introduced. Page H9644–45

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 748, to amend the Act that established the Keweenaw National Historical Park to require the Secretary of the Interior to consider nominees of various local interests in appointing members of the Keweenaw National Historical Parks Advisory Commission, amended (H. Rept. 106–367);

H.R. 1615, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to extend the designation of a portion of the Lamprey River in New Hampshire as a recreational river to include an additional river segment (H. Rept. 106–368);

H.R. 2140, to improve protection and management of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area in the State of Georgia, amended (H. Rept. 106–369); and

H.R. 3037, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000 (H. Rept. 106–370).

Page H9644

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Biggert as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H9517

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Rev. Carl W. Rehling of Lothian, Maryland. Page H9517

Access for the Uninsured and Managed Care Improvement Act: The House passed H.R. 2723, to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage by a recorded vote of 275 ayes to 151 noes, Roll No. 490. Subsequently, the text of H.R. 2723 was added as new matter to H.R. 2990, Quality Care for the Uninsured Act. H.R. 2723 was then laid upon the table.

Pages H9523–H9636

Rejected:

The Boehner amendment that sought to prohibit gag rules, ensure access to emergency medical care, direct access to an OB/GYN, access to a pediatrician as a primary care provider, establish continuity of care, make health care lawsuit reform with limits on “non-economic damages”, and requires a patient

choice of provider option (rejected by a recorded vote of 145 ayes to 284 noes, Roll No. 487);

Pages H9535–64

The Goss amendment that sought to establish utilization review procedures, require a timely appeals process and external review of benefit disputes, allow patients to sue for denials that cause harm, provide protection for employers, allow choice of medical professionals, prohibit gag clauses, and expand access to clinical trials (rejected by a recorded vote of 193 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 488); and

Pages H9564–H9604

The Houghton amendment that sought to allow lawsuits in Federal court against the final decision-maker who fails to exercise ordinary care decisions including employers, caps non-economic damages and prohibits punitive damages (rejected by a recorded vote of 160 ayes to 269 noes, Roll No. 489).

Pages H9604–29

H. Res. 323 the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to on October 6. Pursuant to the rule, the amendments printed in Part A of H. Rept. 106–366 that make technical changes and clarify provisions to ensure that employers cannot be held liable unless they are making medical decisions, were considered as adopted.

Late Report: Conferees received permission to have until midnight on Friday, October 8, to file a conference report on H.R. 2561, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000. Page H9636

Legislative Program: Representative Lazio announced the Legislative Program for the week of October 11. Pages H9636–37

Meeting Hour—Friday, October 8: Agreed that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 8. Page H9637

Meeting Hour—Tuesday, October 12: Agreed that when the House adjourns on Friday, October 8, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12 for morning-hour debates. Page H9637

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of October 13.

Page H9637

Quorum calls—Votes: One yea and nay vote and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H9522–23, H9564, H9603–04, H9628–29, and H9635–36. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS SHORTAGES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Readiness held a hearing on spare and repair parts shortages. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: William J. Lynn, III, Under Secretary (Comptroller and Chief Financial Officer); Gen. John G. Coburn, USA, Commander, Army Materiel Command; Gen. George T. Babbitt, USAF, Commander, Air Force Materiel Command; Rear Adm. Daniel H. Stone, USN, Commander Defense Logistics Support Command, Defense Logistics Agency; Vice Adm. James Amerault, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Logistics); and Maj. Gen. Gary S. McKissock, USMC, Deputy Chief of Staff (Installations and Logistics), Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE THREATS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Research and Development held a hearing on electromagnetic pulse (EMP) threats to U.S. military and civilian infrastructure. Testimony was heard from Stanley J. Jakubiak, Deputy Chief, Command Center's Division, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense; Michael Bernardin, Provost for Theoretical Institute of Thermonuclear Studies, Los Alamos National Laboratory; Lowell Wood, member, Director's Technical Staff, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Hoover Institution; and a public witness.

PUHCA REPEAL

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on PUHCA Repeal: Is The Time Now? Testimony was heard from Isaac C. Hunt, Commissioner, SEC; Douglas W. Smith, General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

STUDENTS RESULTS ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Continued markup of H.R. 2, Students Results Act.

Will continue October 13.

MINIMUM WAGE IMPACT ON WELFARE TO WORK

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing on Examining the Impact of Minimum Wage on Welfare to Work. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD RUSSIA

Committee on International Relations: Continued hearings on U.S. Policy Toward Russia, Part II: Corrup-

tion in the Russian Government. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 3028, Trademark Cyberpiracy Prevention Act; and H.R. 1714, amended, Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 1887, amended, to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish the depiction of animal cruelty; and H.R. 1869, Stalking Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1999.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2994, Sugar Pine Dam and Reservoir Conveyance Act; H.R. 1696, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Griffith Project to the Southern Nevada Water Authority; H.R. 2674, providing for conveyance of the Palmetto Bend project to the State of Texas; H.R. 2984, Middle Loup Conveyance Act; H.R. 2974, Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project Facilities Conveyance Act of 1999; H.R. 2889, to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to provide for acquisition of water and water rights for Central Utah Project purposes, completion of Central Utah project facilities, and implementation of water conservation measures; and H.R. 1235, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts with the Solano County Water Agency, California, to use Solano Project facilities for impounding, storage, and carriage of nonproject water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and other beneficial purposes. Testimony was heard from Eluid Martinez, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

CRUISE SHIP SAFETY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Cruise Ship Safety. Testimony was heard from Rear Adm. Robert C. North, USCG, Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation; James E. Hall, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; and public witnesses.