

a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 367 yeas to 40 nays, Roll No. 26; **Pages H520–23, H529–30**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: a bill to provide for an assessment of the extent of the invasion of Salt Cedar and Russian Olive on lands in the Western United States and efforts to date to control such invasion on public and private lands, including tribal lands, to establish a demonstration program to address the invasion of Salt Cedar and Russian Olive, and for other purposes. **Page H530**

Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2003: H.R. 2696, amended, to establish Institutes to demonstrate and promote the use of adaptive ecosystem management to reduce the risk of wildfires, and restore the health of fire-adapted forest and woodland ecosystems of the interior West; and **Pages H523–26**

Providing for the conveyance of land in Douglas County, Oregon: S. 714, to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of Bureau of Land Management land in Douglas County, Oregon, to the county to improve management of and recreational access to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 27. **Pages H526–27, H530**

Recess: The House recessed at 3 p.m. and reconvened at 6:33 p.m. **Page H527**

GAO Human Capital Reform Act of 2003: Agreed that it shall be in order at any time without intervention of any point of order to consider H.R. 2751, to provide new human capital flexibilities with respect to the GAO; that the bill shall be considered as read for amendment; that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Government Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted; that all points of order against the bill, as amended, are waived; and the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill, as amended, and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions. **Page H527**

Member Sworn—6th District of Kentucky: Representative-elect A.B. “Ben” Chandler presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the oath of office by the Speaker. Earlier, read a letter from the Clerk transmitting a copy of the original Certificate of Election received from the Honorable Trey Grayson, Secretary of State, Commonwealth of Kentucky, indicating that, on examination of the Official Abstracts of Votes on file in that office for the special election held on February 17, 2004, the Honorable A.B. “Ben” Chandler was

duly elected Representative in Congress for the Sixth Congressional District, Commonwealth of Kentucky. **Page H528**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H517.

Senate Referral: S. 1786 was referred to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means. **Page H562**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings today. There were no quorum calls. **Pages H528, H529–30, and H530**

Adjournment: The House met at 2:00 p.m. and adjourned at 12:00 a.m.

Committee Meetings

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES—NEED FOR DENTAL AND VISION BENEFITS

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization held an oversight hearing entitled “We’d Like to See You Smile: The Need for Dental and Vision Benefits for Federal Employees (H.R. 3751).” Testimony was heard from Abby Block, Deputy Associate Director, OPM; and public witnesses.

U.S. AND THE IRAQI MARSHLANDS: AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia held a hearing on United States and the Iraqi Marshlands: An Environmental Response. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Bureau for Asia and the Near East, AID, Department of State: Gordon West, Acting Assistant Administrator, and John Wilson, Senior Environmental Officer; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—SATELLITE HOME VIEWER IMPROVEMENT ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing entitled “Reauthorization of the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act.” Testimony was heard from Marybeth Peters, Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a modified closed rule providing two hours of debate in the House on H.R. 1997, Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2004, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of

a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying the resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The rule provides for consideration of the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules, if offered by Representative Lofgren or her designee, which shall be considered as read and shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment printed in part B of the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Chabot and Lofgren.

WORLD-WIDE THREATS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on World-wide Threats. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine certain legislative recommendations and concerns of wartime service-connected disabled veterans, after receiving testimony from Alan W. Bowers, Disabled American Veterans, Cold Spring, Kentucky.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the government of the District of Columbia, 9:30 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine policies and programs for preventing and responding to incidents of sexual assault in the armed services, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management, Office of Future Liabilities, and Office of Legacy Management, relating to the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry, focus-

ing on understanding the fund industry from the investor's perspective, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Full Committee, to continue hearings to examine proposals for improving the regulation of the housing government sponsored enterprises, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed homeland security budget request for fiscal year 2005, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine processor quotas, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, with Annexes, done at Montego Bay, December 10, 1982 (the "Convention"), and the Agreement Relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, with Annex, adopted at New York, July 28, 1994 (the "Agreement"), and signed by the United States, subject to ratification, on July 29, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-39), following 10:30 a.m. floor vote, S-116, Capitol.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Japanese tax treaty and the Sri Lanka tax protocol, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion, to hold hearings to examine USAID contracting policies, 3:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Government Reform Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Reorganization, to examine the key to homeland security relating to the new human resources system, 10 a.m., 2154 RHOB.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the President's fiscal year 2005 budget request, 9:30 a.m., SR-485.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Roger T. Benitez, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, 10 a.m., SD-226.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Secretary of Agriculture, 9:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on CIA, 10 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, on Secretary of Interior, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, on SSA, 10:15 a.m., and on Corporation for Public Broadcasting, 11:20 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative, on House of Representatives, 2:30 p.m., on GPO, 3:30 p.m., on GAO, 4 p.m., and on Library of Congress, 4:30 p.m., H-140 Capitol.