

pharmaceuticals, focusing on name-brand prescription drug prices, trade initiatives that promote innovation and ensure access to lifesaving medicines, importation of prescription drugs, drug counterfeiting, the Medicare Importation Study and Task Force, and making greater use of generics, receiving testimony from Grant D. Aldonas, Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; Josette Sheeran Shiner, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; William K. Hubbard, Associate Commissioner for Policy and Planning, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; John E. Calfee, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Gerard Anderson, Johns Hopkins University School of Bloomberg of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland.

Hearings recessed subject to the call of the chair.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of John D. Negroponte, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Iraq, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Brett M.

Kavanaugh, of Maryland, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cornyn, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

INDEPENDENT AGING

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities and challenges relating to assistive technologies for independent aging, focusing on how to accelerate and amplify the development of these technologies crucial to the nation's future security and economic well-being, after receiving testimony from Eric Dishman, Intel Corporation, Hillsboro, Oregon, on behalf of the Center for Aging Services Technologies; Martha E. Pollack, University of Michigan Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Ann Arbor; Lydia Lundberg, Elite Care-Oatfield Estates, Milwaukie, Oregon; Joseph F. Coughlin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Age Lab & New England University Transportation Center, Cambridge; Stephen McConnell, Alzheimer's Association, Washington, D.C.; and Ronald Seiler, University of Idaho Center on Disabilities and Human Development, Moscow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 7 public bills, H.R. 4218–4224; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 607, were introduced. **Pages H2405–06**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2406–07**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 607, providing for consideration of H.R. 4181, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the increased standard deduction, and the 15-percent individual income tax rate bracket expansion, for married taxpayers filing joint returns (H. Rept. 108–470);

H. Res. 516, a resolution supporting the goals of National Manufacturing Week, congratulating manufacturers and their employees for their contributions to growth and innovation, and recognizing the challenges facing the manufacturing sector, amended (H. Rept. 108–471); and

H.R. 3866, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide increased penalties for anabolic ster-

oid offenses near sports facilities, amended (H. Rept. 108–461 Pt. 2);

H.R. 1914. A bill to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement (H. Rept. 108–472 Pt. 1);

H.R. 2768. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Chief Justice John Marshall (H. Rept. 108–473 Pt. 1);

H.R. 3277. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 230th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center (H. Rept. 108–474 Pt. 1); and

H.R. 2179. A bill to enhance the authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission to investigate, punish, and deter securities laws violations, and to improve its ability to return funds to defrauded investors, and for other purposes, amended (H. Rept. 108–475 Pt. 1).

Page H2405

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Boozman to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. Page H2379

Recess: The House recessed at 12:57 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. Page H2382

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

Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building Re-designation Act: H.R. 3942, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7 Commercial Boulevard in Middletown, Rhode Island, as the "Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building", by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 395 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 131;

Pages H2384–85, H2392–93

Honoring the life and legacy of Melvin Jones: H. Res. 399, honoring the life and legacy of Melvin Jones and recognizing the contributions of Lions Clubs International, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 395 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 132; and

Pages H2385–87, H2393

Supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month: H. Res. 578, supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 391 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 133.

Pages H2388–92, H2394

Recess: The House recessed at 3:03 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Page H2392

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Tauzin wherein he resigned from the Select Committee on Homeland Security, effective immediately. Pages H2395–96

Committee Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Barton of Texas to the Select Committee on Homeland Security. Page H2396

Discharge Petition: Representative Edwards moved to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of H. Res. 584, to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum Survivor Benefit Plan basic annuity for surviving spouses age 62 and older, to provide for a one-year open season under that plan (Discharge Petition No. 8).

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H2383.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H2392–93, H2393, and H2394. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LABOR, HHD, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

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

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION EXAMINING SUCCESS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Education Reform held a hearing entitled "Examining Success in Vocational Education." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NUCLEAR SECURITY

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations held a hearing entitled "Nuclear Security: Can DOE Meet Physical Facility Security Requirements?" Testimony was heard from Robin M. Nazzaro, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Energy: Linton F. Brooks, Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration; and Glenn S. Podonsky, Director, Office of Security and Safety Performance Assurance; and a public witness.

INTERNAL REVENUE CODE— PERMANENTLY EXTEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a modified closed rule providing 1 hour of debate in the House on H.R. 4181, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the increased standard deduction, and the 15-percent individual income tax rate bracket expansion, for married taxpayers filing joint returns, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution shall be considered as adopted, and that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule provides for consideration of the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution, if offered by Representative Rangel of New York, or his designee, which shall be considered as read, and shall be separately 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 Weller, Gerlach and Rangel.