

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

9/11 COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the 9/11 Commission intelligence recommendations, focusing on the quality of analysis, effective information-sharing among agencies, protecting civil liberties, assuring clarity of authority for clandestine operations, and reforming Congressional oversight, after receiving testimony from Richard A. Posner, Judge of the Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit; John J. Hamre, Center For Strategic and International Studies, Washington, D.C., former Under Secretary of Defense; and Dale Watson, former Executive Director of Terrorism and Counter-Intelligence, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

INSURANCE INDUSTRY

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the condition and regulation of the insurance industry, after receiving testimony from Gregory Serio, New York Department of Insurance, Albany, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Arthur F. Ryan, Prudential Financial, Newark, New Jersey, on behalf of the American Council of Life Insurers; William H. McCartney, United Services Automobile Association Group, San Antonio, Texas; J. Robert Hunter, Consumer Federation of America, and Brian K. Atchinson, Insurance Marketplace Standards Association, both of Washington, D.C.; Alan F. Liebowitz, OMNIA (Bermuda), Ltd., Purchase, New York, on behalf of the American Bankers Insurance Association; Albert R. Counselman, Riggs, Counselman, Michaels, Downes, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, on behalf of the Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers; Thomas B. Ahart, Ahart, Frinzi, and Smith Insurance, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, on behalf of the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America, Inc.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2541, to reauthorize and restructure the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, with amendments;

S. 2393, to improve aviation security, with an amendment;

S. 1798, to provide for comprehensive fire safety standards for upholstered furniture, mattresses, bed-

clothing, and candles, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2820, to ensure the availability of certain spectrum for public safety entities by amending the Communications Act of 1934 to establish January 1, 2009, as the date by which the transition to digital television shall be completed, with amendments;

S. 1963, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to protect the privacy right of subscribers to wireless communication services, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1380, to distribute universal service support equitably throughout rural America;

S. 2145, to regulate the unauthorized installation of computer software, to require clear disclosure to computer users of certain computer software features that may pose a threat to user privacy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2647, to establish a national ocean policy, to set forth the missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to ensure effective interagency coordination, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2489, to establish a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to integrate Federal coastal and ocean mapping activities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 480, to provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996; and

The nominations of Deborah P. Majoras, of Virginia, and Jon D. Leibowitz, of Maryland, both to be Federal Trade Commissioners, sundry nominations for promotion in the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Lloyd O. Pierson, an Assistant Administrator for Africa, United States Agency for International Development, and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation, after the nominee, who was introduced by Representative Royce, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill to reform the intelligence community and the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2686, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to improve the Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 518, to increase the supply of pancreatic islet cells for research, to provide better coordination of Federal efforts and information on islet cell transplantation, and to collect the data necessary to move islet cell transplantation from an experimental procedure to a standard therapy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2283, to extend Federal funding for operation of State high risk health insurance pools, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1217, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2815, to give a preference regarding States that require schools to allow students to self-administer medication to treat that student's asthma or anaphylaxis;

S. 2526, to reauthorize the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 389, expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to prostate cancer information; and

An original bill entitled "Elder Justice Act"; and

The nominations of Jonathan Baron, of Maryland, Elizabeth Bryan, of Texas, James R. Davis, of Mississippi, Frank H. Handy, of Florida, Eric Hanushek, of California, Caroline Hoxby, of Massachusetts, Roberto Lopez, of Texas, Richard Milgram, of New Mexico, Sally Shaywitz, of Connecticut, Joseph Torgesen, of Florida, Herbert Walberg, of Illinois, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences, Herman Belz, of Maryland, Craig Haffner, of California, James Hunter, of Virginia, Tamar Jacoby, of New Jersey, Harvey Klehr, of Georgia, Thomas Lindsay, of Texas, Iris Love, of Vermont, Thomas Mallon, of Connecticut, and Ricardo Quinones, of California, each to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, Beverly Allen, of Georgia, Gail Daly, of Texas, Donald Leslie, of Wisconsin, Amy Owen, of Utah, Sandra Pickett, of Texas, Renee Swartz of New Jersey, and Kim Wang, of California, each to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board, James Ballinger, of Arizona, Gerald Schwarz, of Washington, and Terence Teachout, of New York, each to be a Member of the National

Council on the Arts, Maria Otero, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace, John Hager, to be an Assistant Secretary of Education for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Young Woo Kang, of Indiana, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability, Juan Olivarez, William Hiller, and Richard Wagner, of Florida, each to be a Member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board, Arden Bement, Jr., of Indiana, to be Director of the National Science Foundation, and sundry nominations for promotion in the Public Health Service.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 556, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1438, to provide for equitable compensation of the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation in settlement of claims of the Tribe concerning the contribution of the Tribe to the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 2605, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the heads of other Federal agencies to carry out an agreement resolving major issues relating to the adjudication of water rights in the Snake River Basin, Idaho, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Also, Committee approved the issuance of various subpoenas pursuant to the In re Tribal Lobbying Matters, et al. investigation.

NATIVE AMERICAN CODE TALKERS

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing on the contributions of Native American code talkers in American military history, after receiving testimony from Gordon H. Mansfield, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Brigadier General John S. Brown, USA (Ret.), U.S. Army Center of Military History; Clarence Wolf Guts, and John Yellow Bird Steele, both of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Pine Ridge, South Dakota; Don Loudner, American Indian Veterans of the United States, Mitchell, South Dakota; Robin Roberts, USMC (Ret.), Sac Fox Tribe, and Samson Keahna, Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa, both of Tama, Iowa; Gregory E. Pyle, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Durant; Melvin Kerchee, Jr., Comanche Nation, Lawton, Oklahoma; and William C. Meadows, Southwest Missouri State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Springfield.

COUNTER-TERRORISM

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine counterterrorism legislation and proposals, including the USA PATRIOT ACT (P.L. 107-56), and S. 1709, to amend the USA PATRIOT ACT to place reasonable limitations on the use of surveillance and the issuance of search warrants, (the SAFE Act), after receiving testimony from Senators Craig and Durbin; former Representative Bob Barr; James B. Comey, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice; and Daniel P. Collins, Munger, Tolles, and Olson, LLP, Los Angeles, Cali-

fornia, former Associate Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Christopher A. Boyko, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, who was introduced by Senator DeWine and Representative LaTourette, and Beryl A. Howell, of the District of Columbia, who was introduced by Senator Leahy, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 5119-5128; and; 11 resolutions, Con. Res. 495-496, and H. Res. 784, 786-793 were introduced.

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Additional Cosponsors:

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Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4555, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend provisions relating to mammography quality standards, amended (H. Rept. 108-694); and

H. Res. 785, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 108-695).

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Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Rev. Austin DeLoach, Jr., Pastor, Southside Baptist Church in Lakeland, Georgia.

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Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for FY05: The House passed H.R. 5025, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and Independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, by a yea and nay vote of 397 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 465. The bill was also considered on Tuesday, September 14, Wednesday, September 15, and Tuesday, September 21.

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Agreed Tuesday, September 14, to limit further amendments offered and the time for debate on such amendments.

The unanimous consent agreement was amended on Wednesday, September 15 to strike any provision

for the amendment by Representative Flake regarding Cuba.

A separate vote was demanded on the Stenholm amendment that prohibits the use of funds to implement any suspension of issuance of obligations of the U.S. for purchase by the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, to implement any suspension of issuance of obligations of the U.S. for purchase by the Thrift Savings Fund for the Government Securities Investment Fund, or to implement any sale or redemption of securities, obligations, or other invested assets of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund before maturity, which was agreed to yesterday, September 21, by a voice vote (agreed to by a recorded vote of 404 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 463);

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Rejected the Obey motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report it back to the House promptly with an amendment, by a yea and nay vote of 201 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 464.

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Agreed to:

Lee amendment that prohibits the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce the amendments made to the Code of Federal Regulations relating to specific licenses for U.S. academic institutions;

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Waters amendment (no. 12 printed in the Congressional Record of September 15) that prohibits the use of funds to implement any sanction imposed by the U.S. on private commercial sales of agricultural commodities, medicine, or medical supplies to Cuba (agreed to by voice vote, after agreeing to vitiate the request for a recorded vote); and

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