

regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, and to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, was appended to the engrossment of H.R. 1268; and the title of H.R. 1268 was conformed to reflect the addition of the text of H.R. 418. Conformed so as to read: making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence. **Page H1526**

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

*Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986:* H.R. 1270, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nay vote of 431 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 80;

**Pages H1526–27, H1545–46**

*Expressing concern regarding the recent passage of the anti-secession law in the People's Republic of China:* H. Con. Res. 98, expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the recent passage of the anti-secession law by the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nay vote of 424 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 81; and

**Pages H1527–29, H1546**

*Protection of Incapacitated Persons Act of 2005:* H.R. 1332, amended, to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for the removal to Federal court of certain State court cases involving the rights of incapacitated persons. **Pages H1599–H1604**

**Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed:** The House completed debate on the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further consideration of the measures will resume tomorrow, March 17:

*Expressing concern regarding the continued violations of human rights and civil liberties of the Syrian and Lebanese people by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic:* H. Con. Res. 18, amended, expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the continuing gross violations of human rights and civil liberties of the Syrian and Lebanese people by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic; and

**Pages H1529–32**

*Expressing concern regarding the occupation of the Republic of Lebanon by the Syrian Arab Re-*

*public:* H. Con. Res. 32, amended, expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the occupation of the Republic of Lebanon by the Syrian Arab Republic. **Pages H1532–36**

**Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006:** The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 95, Establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010. Further consideration will resume tomorrow, March 17.

**Pages H1547–59, H1559–98**

Agreed that during further consideration of the bill, the Hensarling amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–19) may be considered out of the specified order. **Page H1559**

Began consideration of the Hensarling amendment in the nature of a substitute (Republican Study Committee) No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–19, that replaces the current 19 functional categories with four functions: Defense, Homeland Security, Non-Defense Discretionary and Mandatory Spending, and Interest; and accepts the Iraq Operations Reserve Fund and creates a new “rainy day” fund for non-military emergencies. Further consideration will resume tomorrow, March 17. **Pages H1587–98**

H. Res. 154, the rule providing for consideration of the measure was agreed to by a yeas-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 196 noes, Roll No. 79, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nay vote of 230 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 78. **Pages H1536–45**

**Committee Election:** The House agreed to H. Res. 161, electing Representative Matsui to the Committee on Rules. **Page H1547**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate appears on page H1511.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Four yeas-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1518, H1524–25, H1525–26, H1544, H1545, H1545–46, and H1546. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12 midnight.

## Committee Meetings

### U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH CUBA

*Committee on Agriculture:* Held a hearing to Review United States Agricultural Trade with Cuba. Testimony was heard from Robert W. Werner, Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

## AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agricultural, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs. Testimony was heard from William T. Hawks, Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, USDA.

## ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Energy—Nuclear Waste Disposal and Environmental Management. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Theodore J. Garrish, Deputy Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; and Paul Golan, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Environmental Management.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the Department of Energy—Fossil Energy. Testimony was heard from Mark Maddox, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

## SCIENCE, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Science, The Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the DEA. Testimony was heard from Karen P. Tandy, Administrator, DEA, Department of Justice.

## NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FISCAL YEAR 2006

*Committee on Armed Services:* Continued hearings on the Fiscal Year 2006 National Defense Authorization budget request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Air Force: Pete Teets, Acting Secretary; and GEN John P. Jumper, USAF, Chief of Staff.

## MILITARY RECRUITING/PERSONNEL NEEDS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on Recruiting, Retention and Military Personnel Policy, and Benefits and Compensation Overview. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Charles S. Abell, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; LTG F. L. Hagenbeck, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, G-1, Department of the Army; VADM Gerald Hoewing, USN,

Chief of Naval Personnel, Department of the Navy; LTG Roger A. Brady, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, Department of the Air Force; LTG H. P. Osman, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps.

## NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FISCAL YEAR 2006

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2006 National Defense Authorization budget request—Future Combat Systems, Modularity, and Force Protection Initiatives. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Paul L. Francis, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management; Sharon Pickup, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management; and Janet St. Laurent, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management; and the following officials of the Department of Defense: Claude M. Bolton, Jr., Assistant Secretary, Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, Department of the Army; LTG David F. Melcher, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G8 (Programming, Materiel Integration, and Management) LTG James J. Lovelace, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G3 (Operations and Requirements); and LTG James N. Mattis, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Combat Development, U.S. Marine Corps.

## SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Ordered reported H.R. 525, Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2005.

## E-RATE PROBLEMS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Problems with the E-rate Program: GAO Review of FCC Management and Oversight. Testimony was heard from Mark L. Goldstein, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and the following officials of the FCC: Jeffrey Carlisle, Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau; and Thomas Bennett, Assistant Inspector General for USF Oversight.

## INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing entitled “How Internet Protocol-Enabled Services Are Changing the Face of Communications: A Look at the Voice Marketplace.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Financial Services:* Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 458, Military Personnel

Financial Services Protection Act; H.R. 749, amended, Expanded Access to Financial Services Act of 2005; H.R. 280, Brownfields Redevelopment Enhancement Act; H.R. 804, to exclude from consideration as income certain payments under the national flood insurance program; H.R. 1057, amended, True American Heroes Act; and H.R. 902, amended, Presidential \$1 Coin Act.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; OVERSIGHT PLAN; GSA STREAMLINING**

*Committee on Government Reform:* Ordered reported the following measures: H. Res. 142, Supporting the goals and ideals of a “Rotary International Day” and celebrating and honoring Rotary International on the occasion of its centennial anniversary; and H. Res. 148, Supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month.

The Committee also approved an Oversight Plan for the 109th Congress.

The Committee also held a hearing entitled “Service Oriented Streamlining: Rethinking the Way GSA Does Business.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GSA: Stephen A. Perry, Administrator; and Eugene Waszily, Assistant Inspector General, Auditing; Deidre Lee, Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

#### **OVERSIGHT—ENERGY DEMANDS**

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Energy and Resources held an oversight hearing entitled “Energy Demands in the 21st Century: Are Congress and the Executive Branch Meeting the Challenge?” Testimony was heard from Jim Wells, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; Guy Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; and a public witness.

#### **ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES**

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance, and Accountability held a hearing entitled “Strengthening Travel Reimbursement Procedures for Army National Guard Soldiers.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Patrick T. Shine, Director, Military and Civilian Pay Services, Defense Finance and Accounting Service; Roy Wallace, Director, Plans and Resources, Department of the Army; and John Argodale, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Financial Operations, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller; and Gregory D. Kutz, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO.

#### **COMMITTEE FUNDING**

*Committee on House Administration:* Met to consider funding requests for the following Committees: Transportation and Infrastructure; Science; Veterans Affairs; Government Reform; House Administration; Homeland Security, Education and the Workforce; Energy and Commerce; Standards of Official Conduct; Ways and Means; Resources; and the Select Committee on Intelligence.

#### **U.S. LIBYAN RELATIONS**

*Committee on International Relations:* Held a hearing on Libya: Progress on the Path Toward Cautious Re-engagement. Testimony was heard from William J. Burns, Acting Under Secretary, Political Affairs, Department of State.

#### **OVERSIGHT—NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN RIGHTS**

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations held an oversight hearing on Northern Ireland Human Rights: Update on the Cory Collusion Inquiry Reports. Testimony was heard from Mitchell Reiss, Special Envoy of the President and The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Department of State; and public witnesses.

#### **BANKRUPTCY REFORM; JEFF GANNON INVESTIGATION**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Ordered reported S. 256, Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005.

The Committee adversely reported H. Res. 136, Directing the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit to the House of Representatives not later than 14 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution documents in the possession of those officials relating to the security investigations and background checks relating to granting access to the White House of James D. Guckert (also known as Jeff Gannon).

#### **OVERSIGHT—U.S. ENERGY AND MINERAL NEEDS SECURITY AND POLICY**

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing on U.S. Energy and Mineral Needs Security and Policy: Impacts of Sustained Increases in Global Energy and Mineral Consumption by Emerging Economics Such as China and India. Testimony was heard from Guy F. Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Dave Menzie, Chief, International Minerals Section, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Jeffrey Logan, China Program Manager, International Energy Agency; and public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 410, Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership act of 2005; H.R. 599, Federal Lands Restoration Enhancement, Public Education, and Information Resources Act of 2005, and H.R. 975, Trail Responsibility and Accountability for the Improvement of Lands Act. Testimony was heard from Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, USDA; Kim Thorsen, Assistant Director, Office of Law Enforcement and Security, Department of the Interior; Joe Donandson, Mayor, Flagstaff, Arizona; and public witnesses.

**PROTECTION OF INCAPACITATED PERSONS ACT OF 2005**

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing one hour of debate in the House on H.R. 1334, Protection of Incapacitated Persons Act of 2005, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit.

**SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE**

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules committee. The rule applies the waiver to any special rule reported on the legislative day of March 17, 2005, providing for consideration of a bill relating to the rights of an incapacitated person or persons.

**FUTURE OF AERONAUTICS AT NASA**

*Committee on Science:* Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on the Future of Aeronautics at NASA. Testimony was heard from J. Victor LeBacqz, Associate Administrator, Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, NASA; and public witnesses.

**REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS ACT**

*Committee on Small Business:* Held a hearing entitled "The RFA at 25: Needed Improvements for Small Business Regulatory Relief." Testimony was heard from Thomas Sullivan, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, SBA; and public witnesses.

**OVERSIGHT—MEMBER PROJECTS REQUESTS**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Member Project Requests for the Water Resources Development Act of 2005. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kanjorski, Shays, Pallone, Rohrabacher, Castle, Foley, McGovern, Hinojosa, Allen, Wilson of New Mexico, Holt, Miller of Michigan, Carnahan, Westmoreland, Jindal and Stupak.

**PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Held a hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2006 Budget for the Department of Labor. Testimony was heard from Elaine Chao, Secretary of Labor.

**BUDGET HEARING**

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to continue hearings on the Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

**Senate**

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States; to be followed by a closed hearing in SH-219, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine posture of the U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2006, 3 p.m., SR-232A.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* business meeting to markup The Federal Public Transportation Act of 2005, 11 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2006 for the Coast Guard Operational Readiness/Mission Balance, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Lester M. Crawford, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the report entitled, "Back from the Battlefield: Are we providing the proper care for America's Wounded Warriors?", 10 a.m., SR-418.