

OVERSIGHT—PATENT SYSTEM REFORM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing on American Innovation at Risk: The Case for Patent Reform. Testimony was heard from Suzanne Michel, Chief Intellectual Property Counsel and the Deputy Assistant Director for Policy Coordination, FTC; and public witnesses.

YOUTH VIOLENCE AND GANG INTERVENTIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled "Making Communities Safer: Youth Violence and Gang Interventions that Work." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Iraq Reconstruction: An Overview." Testimony was heard from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, GAO; William H. Reed, Director, Defense Contract Audit Agency, Department of Defense; and Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction.

NIST ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS ROLE

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a hearing on The National Institute of Standards and Technology's Role in Supporting Economic Competitiveness in the 21st Century. Testimony was heard from William Jeffrey, Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

SHORT SEA SHIPPING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled "The Development of Short Sea Shipping in the United States." Testimony was heard from Sean Connaughton, Administrator, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation; Collister Johnson, Jr. Administrator, St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; and public witnesses.

FILIPINO VETERANS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held a hearing on Equity for Filipino Veterans. Testimony was heard from Representatives Bordallo, Hirono and Honda; Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Under Secretary, Benefits, Department of Veterans Affairs; Carlos D. Sorreta, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of the Philippines; and public witnesses.

VA INSPECTOR GENERAL

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held an oversight hearing on VA Inspector General-Budget and Best Practices. Testimony was heard from George J. Opfer, Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

U.S.-CHINA TRADE RELATIONSHIP

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on the U.S.-China trade relationship. Testimony was heard from Karan K. Bhatia, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; from former Representatives Dan Glickman of Kansas and Patricia Schroeder of Colorado; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—HOT-SPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Hot-Spots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

IRAN'S INVOLVEMENT IN IRAQ

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Iran's Involvement in Iraq. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 16, 2007**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine paying for college in the future relating to higher education, higher cost and higher student debt, 10 a.m., SD-430.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, hearing on Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Future of the Nation's Navigation Infrastructure, 10 a.m., 2362B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Implementation of U.S. VISIT Entry/Exit Program, 10 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Forest Service: State and Private Forestry and Research, 9 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, on Capitol Visitor Center, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, on Fiscal Year 2007 Emergency Supplemental Request, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, hearing on IRS and the Tax Gap, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Financial Services, to continue hearings on Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection, hearing entitled “Impact of Background and Security Clearances on the Transportation Workforce,” 10:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, to meet for organizational purposes and to consider an Oversight Plan for the 110th Congress, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Natural Resources, oversight hearing entitled “Reports, Audits and Investigations by the General Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) Regarding the Department of the Interior,” 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.