

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 40 public bills, H.R. 2338, 2356–2394; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 43; H. Con. Res. 150; and H. Res. 412–416 were introduced. **Pages H5470–72**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H5472–73**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1100, to revise the boundary of the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site in the State of North Carolina, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–157). **Page H5445**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Weiner to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H5335**

**National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008:** The House passed H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2008, by a recorded vote of 397 ayes to 27 noes, Roll No. 373. Consideration of the bill began on Wednesday, May 16th. **Page H5343**

Agreed to the Hunter motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 394 ayes to 30 noes, Roll No. 372. Subsequently, Representative Skelton reported the bill back to the House with the amendment and the amendment was agreed to. **Pages H5351–53**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.”. **Page H5354**

Agreed to:

Moran (VA) amendment (No. 15 printed in H. Rept. 110–151), that was debated on May 16th, that requires the Office of the Secretary of Defense to submit a report identifying the current capacity at Department of Defense facilities in the United States to securely hold and try before a military commission the detainees currently held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (by a recorded vote of 220 ayes to 208 noes, Roll No. 370). **Pages H5346–47**

Rejected:

Tierney amendment (No. 30 printed in H. Rept. 110–151), that was debated on May 16th, that sought to reduce the \$8.1 billion specified for Mis-

sile Defense Agency (MDA) activities by \$1.084 billion from specified programs (by a recorded vote of 127 ayes to 299 noes, Roll No. 367); **Page H5344**

Franks amendment (No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 110–151), that was debated on May 16th, that sought to increase by \$764 million the amount authorized for ballistic missile defense (by a recorded vote of 199 ayes to 226 noes, Roll No. 368);

**Pages H5344–45**

King (IA) amendment (No. 41 printed in H. Rept. 110–151), that was debated on May 16th, that sought to add language to section 1222 to explain that the bill’s prohibition on the establishment of permanent military bases in Iraq should not be construed to prohibit the United States from establishing a temporary military base or installation by entering into basing rights agreements between the United States and Iraq and also states that Congress recognizes the United States has not established any permanent military installations inside or outside the United States (by a recorded vote of 201 ayes to 219 noes, Roll No. 369); and **Pages H5345–46**

Holt amendment (No. 32 printed in H. Rept. 110–151), that was debated on May 16th, that sought to require the videotaping of interrogations and other pertinent interactions between U.S. military personnel and/or contractors and detainees arrested and held, directs the Judge Advocates General of the respective military services to develop uniform guidelines for such videotaping, and provide access to detainees for representatives of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture for independent monitoring of detainee conditions and treatment (by a recorded vote of 199 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 371).

**Pages H5347–48**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House, and that the Clerk be authorized to make the additional technical corrections which are at the desk. **Page H5355**

H. Res. 403, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Wednesday, May 16th.

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the continuation of the Burma emergency beyond May 20, 2007—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–35). **Page H5361**

**Budget Resolution for FY 2008:** The House agreed to the conference report on S. Con. Res. 21, setting forth the congressional budget for the United

States Government for fiscal year 2008 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 and 2009 through 2012, by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 377.

**Page H5355-74**

H. Res. 409, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report, was agreed to by recorded vote of 225 yeas to 194 noes, Roll No. 376, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 375.

**Pages H5355-61**

Pursuant to the provisions of the conference report accompanying S. Con. Res. 21, H.J. Res. 43, increasing the statutory limit on the public debt, is considered passed by the House.

**Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2007:** The House began consideration of H.R. 1427, to reform the regulation of certain housing-related Government-sponsored enterprises. Consideration is expected to resume Tuesday, May 22nd.

**Pages H5338-43, H5374-H5467**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in H. Rept. 110-152, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered by title rather than by section.

**Pages H5338-39**

Agreed to:

Kanjorski amendment (first No. 22 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that clarifies that both the Federal Housing Enterprise Board and the Federal Home Loan Bank may recommend individuals for selection as independent directors at the Federal Home Loan Bank;

**Pages H5421-22**

Hinojosa amendment (No. 21 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that permits the director, at the request of a State, to waive the requirement that homebuyers attend in-person financial management counseling before receiving affordable housing grants, and allows the homebuyers to receive the counseling through alternate forms such as online, or over the phone;

**Page H5424**

Neugebauer amendment (No. 4 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that gives the regulator the authority to limit the size of growth of a GSEs portfolio only to specifically address the safety and soundness concerns with respect to the institution;

**Pages H5424-27**

Frank en bloc amendment consisting of the following amendments: Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX) modified amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of May 15th) that relates to a program of financial literacy and education to promote an understanding of consumer, economic, and personal finance issues and concepts; Boozman amendment

(No. 3 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that requires any homebuyer who purchases a house assisted with amounts under the affordable housing fund or who gets down payment or other assistance from amounts from the fund be "lawfully present in the United States"; Terry amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that amends the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to give the Board of Directors of an FHLB the authority to increase the minimum number of directors from each state; Donnelly amendment (No. 7 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that prohibits financial counseling entities from discriminating against any particular form of housing; Blunt amendment (No. 11 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that adds a new section relating to funding accountability and transparency; McCaul (TX) amendment (No. 20 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that clarifies that monies going into any successor trust fund will be subject to the same prohibited uses as the fund created in the bill; and Baker amendment (No. 31 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that reduces the number of members of the Board of the Federal Housing Enterprise from 5 to 3; and

**Pages H5427-29**

Garrett (NJ) modified amendment (second No. 22 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that prohibits GSEs from redirecting the costs of making allocations to the affordable housing fund through increased fees, decreased premiums, or any other manner.

**Pages H5462-63**

Rejected:

Bachus amendment (No. 12 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to strike section 139 which relates to the Affordable Housing Fund (by a recorded vote of 148 yeas to 269 noes, Roll No. 378);

**Pages H5417-21, H5443**

Hensarling amendment (No. 29 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to provide that the director shall suspend allocations if it is determined that allocations are contributing to an increase in the cost of mortgage rates to homebuyers (by a recorded vote of 154 yeas to 253 noes, Roll No. 379);

**Pages H5422-24, H5443-44**

McHenry amendment (No. 14 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to require a GAO study be conducted on the effects the affordable housing fund will have on the availability and affordability of credit for homebuyers, and the extent to which the costs are passed on to the homebuyers (by a recorded vote of 176 yeas to 240 noes, Roll No. 380);

**Pages H5429-30, H5444-45**

Kanjorski amendment (No. 15 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to

clarify the Director's authority to determine the appropriate size of the board of directors of the Federal National Mortgage Association between 7 and 15 members (by a recorded vote of 154 ayes to 263 noes, Roll No. 381); **Pages H5431–32, H5445**

Roskam amendment (No. 27 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to add a new paragraph limiting contributions to the affordable housing fund when the government has an on-budget and an off-budget surplus (by a recorded vote of 173 ayes to 245 noes, Roll No. 382); and

**Pages H5432–36, H5445–46**

Garrett (NJ) amendment (No. 17 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to insert new language requiring GSEs to limit their retained portfolios to mortgages and mortgage backed securities that exclusively support affordable housing, and particularly mortgages extended to households having incomes below the median income for the area in which the property subject to the mortgage is located (by a recorded vote of 92 ayes to 322 noes, Roll No. 383).

**Pages H5437–42, H5446–47**

Withdrawn:

Blumenauer amendment (No. 26 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to add a new section providing for consideration of location and energy efficiency in enterprise underwriting guidelines; **Pages H5436–37**

Al Green (TX) amendment (No. 5 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to redistribute affordable housing grants for use in disaster areas to include both Alabama and Texas in addition to Louisiana and Mississippi; **Page H5442**

Hensarling amendment (No. 32 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to strike the High Cost Area increases in Section 133 to the Conforming Loan Limit; and **Pages H5459–60**

Gary G. Miller (CA) amendment (No. 33 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that was offered but subsequently withdrawn that related to conditions on conforming loan limit for high-cost areas. **Page H5460**

Point of Order sustained against:

Doolittle amendment (No. 25 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that sought to make economically disadvantaged counties that receive payments under the Secure Rural Roads and Community Self-Determination Act eligible to receive Affordable Housing fund grants. **Pages H5458–59**

Proceedings Postponed:

Feeney modified amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to

strike low income housing grants from the affordable housing fund and inserts housing assistance provisions for the areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, strikes language outlining affordable housing grant formulas for Indian tribal members and directs funds to be allocated "based on the formula used for the Continuum of Care competition of the Department of Housing and Urban Development", and inserts language requiring that affordable housing grants after 2007 be reserved only for rental housing voucher assistance in accordance with the Housing act of 1937;

Price (GA) amendment (No. 8 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to prevent illegal immigrants from owning or renting housing built by funds from the affordable housing fund by requiring adult occupants of that housing to establish their legal residency through the use of secure forms of identification; **Pages H5448–51**

Sessions amendment (No. 10 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to require the Director of the new GSE Regulator to provide information to mortgage originators about any added mortgage costs to consumers associated with the new Housing Fund; in turn, originators would have to furnish this written information to homebuyers at or before closing to qualify their mortgages for purchase, service, holding, lending on the security of or selling by the GSEs; **Pages H5451–55**

Brady (TX) amendment (No. 34 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to redistribute the affordable housing grants for use in disaster areas from a ratio of 75% for Louisiana and 25% for Mississippi to create 10% for Texas by taking 5% each from the allotment for Louisiana and Mississippi; **Pages H5455–58**

Price (GA) amendment (No. 9 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to require the director of a GSE to study and certify to Congress that its contributions to the affordable housing fund wouldn't contribute to its financial instability or impair its safety and soundness;

**Pages H5460–61**

Doolittle amendment (No. 19 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to prohibit all three mortgage lending government-sponsored enterprises (GSE's) from obtaining primary residential mortgages being granted to any person who does not have a valid Social Security number;

**Pages H5461–62**

Hensarling amendment (No. 30 printed in the Congressional Record of May 16th) that seeks to strike the Affordable Housing Trust Fund budgetary placeholder language in the bill; and **Pages H5463–65**

Neugebauer amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of May 14th) that pertains to allocations of amounts by enterprise. **Pages H5465–67**

H. Res. 404, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 374, after agreeing to order the previous question. **Pages H5354–55**

**Calendar Wednesday:** Agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, May 23rd. **Page H5467**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 21st for Morning Hour debate. **Page H5468**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H5335, H5430.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yea-and-nay votes and fourteen recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5344, H5345, H5345–46, H5346–47, H5347–48, H5352–53, H5354, H5354–55, H5360, H5360–61, H5373, H5443, H5443–44, H5444–45, H5445, H5445–46, H5446–47. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 and adjourned at 12:36 a.m. on Friday, May 18th.

## Committee Meetings

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Agriculture:* Ordered reported the following measures: H. Con. Res. 25, Expressing the sense of Congress that it is the goal of the United States that, not later than January 2, 2025, the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States should provide from renewable resources not less than 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States and continue to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber; H.R. 926, STOPP Act of 2007; and H. Res. 79, Recognizing the establishment of Hunters for the Hungry programs across the United States and the contributions of those programs to decrease hunger and help feed those in need.

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

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Marketing and Regulatory Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Bruce Knight, Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Lloyd C. Day, Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service; W. Ron DeHaven, Ad-

ministrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; James E. Link, Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; and Dennis Kaplan, Budget Office.

### TEACHER PREPARATION

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Competitiveness held a hearing on Preparing Teachers for the Classroom: The Role of the Higher Education Act and No Child Left Behind. Testimony was heard from George Scott, Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

### BROADBAND AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Telecommunication and the Internet held a hearing on a proposed measure addressing Broadband Mapping and Data Collection. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### REMITTANCES INDUSTRY

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology held a hearing entitled “Remittances: Access, Transparency, and Market Efficiency—A Progress Report.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### RUSSIAN INFLUENCE ON EASTERN EUROPE

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Held a hearing on Russia: Rebuilding the Iron Curtain. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY MUSLIM COUNTRIES' VIEWS

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight held a hearing on Declining Approval for American Foreign Policy in Muslim Countries: Does It Make It More Difficult To Fight al Qaeda. Testimony was heard from a public witness.

### SCHOOL SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Held a hearing entitled “Protecting Our Schools: Federal Efforts To Strengthen Community Preparedness and Response.” Testimony was heard from Holly Kuzmich, Deputy Chief of Staff, Policy and Programs, Department of Education; Robert J. Sica, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret Service, National Threat Assessment Center, Department of Homeland Security; Cornelia M. Ashby, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, GAO; and public witnesses.