

TRANSPARENCY OF EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled “Transparency of Extractive Industries: High Stakes for Resource-Rich Countries, Citizens and International Business.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NORTH KOREA SIX PARTY PROCESS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, and the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing on The Six Party Process: Progress and Perils in North Korea’s Denuclearization. Testimony was heard from Christopher R. Hill, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State.

U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO MEXICO

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing on U.S. Security Assistance to Mexico. Testimony was heard from Jess T. Ford, Director, International Affairs and Trade Team, GAO; James R. Jones, former U.S. Ambassador to Mexico and former Representative from Oklahoma; and public witnesses.

ARBITRATION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2007

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 3010, Arbitration Fairness Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT PREVENTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security held a hearing on Organized Retail Theft Prevention: Fostering a Comprehensive Public-Private Response. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IRAQ

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Held a hearing on Iraq. Testimony was heard from Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State.

HEALTH INSURER CONSOLIDATIONS

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing on Health Insurer Consolidation, The Impact on Small Business. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SAFETY OF AMERICA’S RAILROADS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on The Impact of Railroad Injury, Accident, and Discipline Policies on the Safety of America’s Railroads. Testimony was heard from Joseph H. Boardman, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

VETERANS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 513, amended, National Heroes Credit Protection Act; and H.R. 3882, To amend title 38, United States Code, to change the length of the obligated period of service on active duty required for receiving certain education benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

The Subcommittee also held an oversight hearing on VETS DVOP/LVER Program. Testimony was heard from Charles Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary, Veterans’ Employment and Training, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

BRIEFINGS—MIDDLE EAST EVENTS; SIZE OF DNI

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Recent Middle East Events. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on the Size of DNI. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

VOTING IN THE HOUSE—RULES, PROCEDURES, PRECEDENTS, CUSTOM AND PRACTICE

Select Committee to Investigate the Voting Irregularities of August 2, 2007: Held a hearing on Voting in the House of Representatives—Rules, Procedures, Precedents, Custom and Practice. Testimony was heard from Charlie Johnson, former Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives; and Mark O’Sullivan, Chief Tally Clerk of the House of Representatives.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1366)

H.R. 1124, to extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–97)

H.R. 2467, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the “Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–98)

H.R. 2587, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the “Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–99)

H.R. 2654, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont

Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the “Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–100)

H.R. 2765, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44 North Main Street in Hughesville, Pennsylvania, as the “Master Sergeant Sean Michael Thomas Post Office”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–101)

H.R. 2778, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle, New York, as the “Robert Merrill Postal Station”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–102)

H.R. 2825, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the “Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–103)

H.R. 3052, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 954 Wheeling Avenue in Cambridge, Ohio, as the “John Herschel Glenn, Jr. Post Office Building”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–104)

H.R. 3106, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 805 Main Street in Ferdinand, Indiana, as the “Staff Sergeant David L. Nord Post Office”. Signed on October 24, 2007. (Public Law 110–105)

H.R. 995, to amend Public Law 106–348 to extend the authorization for establishing a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor veterans who became disabled while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. Signed on October 25, 2007. (Public Law 110–106)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 26, 2007**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.