

Division, Department of Justice; and a public witness.

### ENSURING CONTINUED ACCESS TO STUDENT LOANS ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by a vote of 8–4, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5715, the Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted and that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions of the bill, as amended. The rule provides that no further amendments to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those amendments printed in Part B of the Rules Committee report. The further amendments made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the further amendments printed in the report except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Representatives George Miller of California and McKeon.

### ENERGY'S FUTUREGEN PROGRAM

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on Department of Energy's FutureGen Program. Testimony was heard from C. H. Albright, Under Secretary, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION BUDGET

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Fiscal Year Budget: Federal Maritime Commission. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Federal Maritime Commission: A. Paul Anderson; Joseph E. Brennen; Harold J. Creel, Jr., and Rebecca F. Dye, all Commissioners.

### VETERANS' HEALTH MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 5730, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to display in each prosthetic clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs an Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights; H.R. 2818, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the establishment of Epilepsy Centers of Excellence in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans' Affairs; H.R. 5554, Veterans' Substance Use Disorders Prevention and Treatment Act of 2008; H.R. 5622, Veterans Timely Access to Health Care Act; H.R. 5595, Make Our Veterans Smile Act of 2008; and H.R. 5729, To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide comprehensive health care to children of Vietnam veterans born with Spina Bifida, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Representatives Filner, Michaud, Ginny Brown-Waite, Perlmutter, Carney, and Ellsworth; Gerald M. Cross, M.D., Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

### INSTABILITY OF HEALTH COVERAGE IN AMERICA

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Instability of Health Coverage in America. Testimony was heard from former Senator Dave Durenburger of Minnesota; and public witnesses.

### MIP BUDGET

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget-Military Intelligence Program. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

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## Joint Meetings

### FARM BILL EXTENSION ACT

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call and will meet again on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at approximately 1:30 p.m.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense medical programs, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Supplemental Request for war funding for fiscal year 2008, 12 noon, SD-106.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Energy, 2 p.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2 p.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Internal Revenue Service, 3 p.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 on military beneficiary organizations regarding the quality of life of Active, Reserve, and retired military personnel and their members, and the future years defense program, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine U.S. credit markets, focusing on proposals to mitigate foreclosures and restore liquidity to the mortgage markets, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine affordable housing opportunities, focusing on reforming the housing voucher program, 2 p.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine surface transportation and the global economy, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert J. Callahan, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Nicaragua, Heather M. Hodges, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Costa Rica, Barbara J. Stephenson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Panama, Peter E. Cianchette, of Maine, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Costa Rica, Hugo Llorens, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras, Stephen George McFarland, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, all of the Department of State; and Samuel W. Speck, of Ohio, to be a Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold hearings to examine violence and exploitation in the 21st century, focusing on solutions for protecting our children, 2 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* to hold hearings to examine the impact of the credit market on small businesses, 2:30 p.m., SR-428A.

*Special Committee on Aging:* to hold hearings to examine caring for the elderly, focusing on how to support those on the frontline, 3 p.m., SD-562.

## House

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, on SEC, 10 a.m., 2220 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agency Agencies, on Special Operations Command, 10 a.m., H-143 Capitol.

*Committee on Armed Services,* hearing on the National Industrial Security Program: Addressing the Implications of Globalization and Foreign Ownership for the Defense Industrial Base, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Land Forces and the Subcommittee on Readiness, joint hearing on H. Res. 834, Regarding the readiness decline of the Army, Marine Corps, National Guard, and Reserves, and the implications for national security, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and Labor,* to mark up H.R. 3185, 401(k) Fair Disclosure for Retirement Security Act of 2007, 1 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "Examining Proposals to Reform Insurance Regulation," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 5679, Foreclosure Prevention and Sound Mortgage Servicing Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled "Moving Beyond the First Five Years: Ensuring Successful Implementation of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, oversight hearing on the H-2b Program, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, oversight hearing on the implementation of the Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing provisions of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and a hearing on H.R. 5741 Shark Conservation Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, oversight hearing on Indian Water Rights Settlements, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform* hearing on Healthcare Associated Infections: A Preventable Epidemic; and to consider the following measures: H.R. 5683, Government Accountability Office Act of 2008; H.R. 4791, Federal Agency Data Protection Act; H.R. 5712, Close the Contractor Fraud Loophole Act; H.R. 5718, Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act; H. Res. 49, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day; H.R. 127, Recognizing and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the entry of Alaska in the Union as the 49th State; H. Res. 1073, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service

Recognition Week, May 5 through 11, 2008; H. Res. 1091, Honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Charlton Heston and extending its deepest sympathies to the family of Charlton Heston for the loss of such a generous man, husband, and father; and H. Res. 5477, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 South Del Mar Avenue in San Gabriel, California, as the "Chi Mui Post Office Building," 9:45 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and National Archives, hearing on the Electronic Communications Preservation Act, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, to continue hearings on What are the Prospects, What are the Costs?: Oversight Missile Defense, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science and Technology*, hearing on the National Nanotechnology Initiative Amendments Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, to consider the Science and Technology Innovation Act of 2008, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology, hearing on the obstacles that small businesses currently face in securing federal contracts, 2 p.m., 1539 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, hearing on the Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 4883, To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for a limitation on the sale, foreclosure, or seizure of property owned by a servicemember during the one-year period following the servicemember's period of military

service; H.R. 4884, Helping Our Veterans to Keep Their Homes Act of 2008; H.R. 4889, Guard and Reserves Are Fighting Too Act of 2008; H.R. 4539, Department of Veterans Affairs Loan Guaranty Cost Reduction Act of 2007; H.R. 3646, To direct the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs and the Secretary of Labor to conduct a joint study on the fields of employment for which the greatest need for employees exists in various geographic areas; H.R. 5664, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update at least once every six years the plans and specifications for specially adapted housing furnished to veterans by the Secretary; H.R. 3798, National Guard Employment Protection Act of 2007; H.R. 3681, Veterans Benefits Awareness Act of 2007; H.R. 3393, Reservist Access to Justice Act of 2007; H.R. 3889, To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a longitudinal study of the vocational rehabilitation programs administered by the Secretary; and H.R. 5684, Veterans Education Improvement Act of 2008, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, executive, briefing on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget-HUMINT, 1 p.m., H-140 Capitol,

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counter-Intelligence, executive, briefing on Hot Spots, 8:45 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

*Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming*, hearing entitled "Green Capital: Seeding Innovation and the Future Economy," 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

### Joint Meetings

*Conference*: meeting of conferees on H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, 1:30 p.m., SH-216.