

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 19 public bills, H.R. 6062–6080; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 351–352; and H. Res. 1201–1206 were introduced.

**Pages H4059–60**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H4061–62**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5803, to direct the Election Assistance Commission to establish a program to make grants to participating States and units of local government which will administer the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2008 for carrying out a program to make backup paper ballots available in the case of the failure of a voting system or voting equipment in the election or some other emergency situation (H. Rept. 110–637);

H.R. 3819, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse veterans receiving emergency treatment in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities for such treatment until such veterans are transferred to Department facilities (H. Rept. 110–638);

H.R. 5554, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and improve health care services available to veterans from the Department of Veterans Affairs for substance use disorders, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–639);

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, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–640);

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, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–641);

H.R. 2790, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the position of Director of Physician Assistant Services within the office of the Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–642);

H.R. 5826, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2008, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans (H. Rept. 110–643);

H.R. 3681, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to advertise in the national media to promote awareness of benefits under laws administered by the Secretary, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–644);

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, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–645);

H.R. 5571, to extend for 5 years the program relating to waiver of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to international medical graduates (H. Rept. 110–646);

H.R. 3480, to direct the United States Sentencing Commission to assure appropriate enhancements of those involved in receiving stolen property where that property consists of grave markers of veterans, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–647);

H.R. 5856, to authorize major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2009 (H. Rept. 110–648);

H.R. 4841, to approve, ratify, and confirm the settlement agreement entered into to resolve claims by the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians relating to alleged interferences with the water resources of the Tribe and to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Interior to execute and perform the Settlement Agreement and related waivers, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–649);

H.R. 5687, to amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency and accountability of Federal advisory committees, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–650); and

H.R. 5787, to amend title 40, United States Code, to enhance authorities with regard to real property that has yet to be reported excess, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–651).

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**Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, May 13th:

***Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle Ultra-High Relief Bullion Coin Act:*** H.R. 5614, amended, to authorize the production of Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle ultra-high relief bullion coins in palladium to provide affordable opportunities for investments in precious metals, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 415 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 325;

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Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To authorize the production in palladium of Saint-

Gaudens Double Eagle coins as ultra-high relief numismatic coins and bullion investment coins in order to provide affordable opportunities for investments in precious metals, and for other purposes.”

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*Alice Paul Congressional Gold Medal Act:* H.R. 406, amended, to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Alice Paul in recognition of her role in the women’s suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women, by a 2/3 yealand-nay vote of 412 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 326;

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Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To award a congressional gold medal in recognition of Alice Paul’s role in the women’s suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women.”

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*Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Act:* H.R. 5872, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America, by a 2/3 yealand-nay vote of 403 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 327;

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*Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act:* H.R. 2894, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the “Star Spangled Banner” and the War of 1812;

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*Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Reform Act of 2008:* H.R. 5916, amended, to reform the administration of the Arms Export Control Act; and

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*North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2008:* H.R. 5834, amended, to amend the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea.

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**Moment of Silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Peace Officers and their families.

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**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008:** The House agreed to the Senate amendment with amendments, made in order by the rule and printed in H. Rept. 110–636, to H.R. 2642, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

Pages H3891–H3903, H3905–44

On a division of the question, the House rejected amendment No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–636 by a yealand-nay vote of 141 yeas to 149 nays with 132 voting “present”, Roll No. 328.

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On a division of the question, the House agreed to the Senate amendment with amendment No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–636 by a yealand-nay vote of 227 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 329.

Pages H4045–46

On a division of the question, the House agreed to the Senate amendment with amendment No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110–636 by a yealand-nay vote of 256 yeas to 166 nays, Roll No. 330.

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H. Res. 1197, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill, was agreed to by a yealand-nay vote of 221 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 324, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yealand-nay vote of 224 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 323.

Pages H3891–H3903

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, and further, that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 19th for morning hour debate.

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**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H3889, H4044.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Eight yealand-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3902, H3902–03, H3903, H3904, H3905, H4044–45, H4045–46, H4046. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### AGRICULTURE/ENERGY COMMODITY MARKETS MOVEMENT

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review the source of dramatic movements in community markets (agriculture and energy): a change in market fundamentals or influence of institutional investors? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the CFTC: Jeff Harris, Chief Economist; and John Fenton, Deputy Director, Market Surveillance Section; and public witnesses.

### PROTECTING CHILDREN’S HEALTH COVERAGE ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on H.R. 5998, Protecting Children’s Health Coverage Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Dayna K. Shah, Managing Associate General Counsel, GAO; Pete R. Orszag, Director, CBO; Morton Rosenberg, Specialist in American Public Law, American Law Division, CRS, Library of