Thursday, June 25, 2009

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 31, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7025–S7114

Measures Introduced: Forty-two bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1348–1389, S. Res. 206, and S. Con. Res. 31–32.

Measures Reported:


S. 1107, to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a limited 6-month period for Federal judges to opt into the Judicial Survivors’ Annuities System and begin contributing toward an annuity for their spouse and dependent children upon their death.

Measures Passed:

Trademark Act of 1946: Senate passed S. 1358, to authorize the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to use funds made available under the Trademark Act of 1946 for patent operations in order to avoid furloughs and reductions-in-force.

National Men’s Health Week: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 190, supporting National Men’s Health Week, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Recognizing Boating Community and Industry: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 199, recognizing the contributions of the recreational boating community and the boating industry to the continuing prosperity of the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 31, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate, and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

Measures Considered:

Legislative Branch Appropriations Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 2918, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pending:

Nelson (NE) Amendment No. 1365, in the nature of a substitute.

McCain Amendment No. 1366 (to Amendment No. 1365), to strike the earmark for the Durham Museum in Omaha, Nebraska.

Rejected:

Vitter Motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions. (By 65 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 214), Senate tabled the amendment.)

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the bill at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, July 6, 2009, and resume consideration McCain Amendment No. 1366 (listed above), and that there be 10 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled between Senators Nelson (NE) and McCain, or their designees, and vote on or in relation to the amendment at 5:30 p.m.; provided that the following be the only first-degree amendments in order to the bill: Coburn amendment relative to online disclosure of Senate
spending; DeMint amendment relative to CVC inscription “In God We Trust”; and DeMint amendment relative to audit reform federal reserve; that upon disposition of the amendments, the substitute amendment, as amended, if amended, be agreed to, and Senate vote on passage of the bill; provided that upon passage of the bill, Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses and that the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate; provided further, that if a point of order is raised against the substitute amendment, then it be in order for another substitute amendment to be offered minus the offending provisions, but including any amendments which had been agreed to; provided that no further amendments be in order, and that the substitute amendment, as amended, if amended, be agreed to, and the remaining provisions beyond adoption of the substitute amendment remaining in effect.

Page S7108

Impeachment Proceedings of Judge Samuel B. Kent: Pursuant to Rule IX of the Rules and Procedures in the Senate when Sitting on Impeachment Trials, the Secretary of the Senate swore the Sergeant at Arms.

Sergeant at Arms sent to the desk the return of service executed upon service of the summons upon Judge Samuel B. Kent, on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, at 4:30 p.m., at Devens Federal Medical Center, Ayers, Massachusetts, accompanied by a statement of resignation executed by Judge Samuel B. Kent following service of summons, and to be effective June 30, 2009.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to deliver the original statement of resignation executed by Judge Samuel B. Kent, on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, to the President of the United States and to send a certified copy of the statement of resignation to the House of Representatives; provided further, that a copy of the statement of resignation be referred to the Impeachment Trial Committee on the Articles Against Judge Samuel B. Kent established by the Senate on June 24, 2009.

Page S7056

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following a period of morning business, on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 2892, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and that once the bill is reported, Senator Murray or designee, be recognized to offer a substitute amendment; provided further, that this order is only applicable if the bill is available.

Page S7108

Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

Page S7113

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, that Senate Committees may file reported legislative and executive calendar business on Thursday, July 2, 2009, from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Page S7113

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 62 yeas 35 nays (Vote No. EX. 213), Harold Hongju Koh, of Connecticut, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

Julius Genachowski, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2008.

Lawrence E. Strickling, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

Kathleen Martinez, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Kurt M. Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

Robert S. Litt, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Mercedes Marquez, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Kathy J. Greenlee, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary for Aging, Department of Health and Human Services.

Ellen O. Tauscher, of California, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Stephen Woolman Preston, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Dennis M. McCarthy, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Robert Malcolm McDowell, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2009.

Daniel M. Rooney, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Ireland. (Prior to this action, Committee on
Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.

A routine list in the Foreign Service. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Meredith Attwell Baker, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2011.

Mignon L. Clyburn, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2007.

Christopher A. Hart, of Colorado, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2012.

Judith Gail Garber, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia.

Kerri-Ann Jones, of Maine, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

Samuel Louis Kaplan, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco.

David Killion, of the District of Columbia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

James Knight, of Alabama, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin.

Karen Kornbluh, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador.

Bruce J. Oreck, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Finland.

Charles Aaron Ray, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Charlene Edwards Honeywell, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Jeffrey L. Viken, of South Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Dakota.

42 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

A routine list in the Foreign Service.

Committee Meetings


Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

H.R. 2847, making appropriations for the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year 2010, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

An original bill making appropriations for the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

Authorization: National Defense

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

An original bill entitled “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010”; and

An original bill entitled “Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010”; and

An original bill entitled “Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010”; and

An original bill entitled “Department of Energy National Security Act for Fiscal Year 2010”.

Business Meeting

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Raphael William Bostic, of California, to be
Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, and David H. Stevens, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Housing and Federal Housing Commissioner, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND
Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine impacts of highway trust fund insolvency, after receiving testimony from Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation; Kathy Ruffalo, Ruffalo and Associates, LLC, on behalf of National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission, and Peter J. Basso, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, both of Washington, DC; and Donald M. James, Vulcan Materials Company, Birmingham, Alabama.

MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL COAL MINING ON WATER QUALITY
Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife concluded a hearing to examine the impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining on water quality in Appalachia, after receiving testimony from John Pomponio, Director, Environmental Assessment and Innovation Division, Environmental Protection Agency; Randy Huffman, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Charleston; Maria Gunnoe, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Bob White, West Virginia; Paul L. Sloan, Tennessee Department on Environment and Conservation, Nashville; and Margaret A. Palmer, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Solomons.

NOMINATIONS
Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Maria Otero, to be Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs, who was introduced by Senator Harkin, and Philip L. Verveer, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Communications and Information Policy in the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs and U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee continued consideration of Affordable Health Choices Act, but did not complete action thereon.

TRIBAL LAW AND ORDER ACT
Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 797, to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Technical and Legal Assistance Act of 2000, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve the prosecution of, and response to, crimes in Indian country, after receiving testimony from Thomas J. Perrelli, Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice; Larry EchoHawk, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, and W. Patrick Ragsdale, Deputy Director, Office of Justice Services, both of the Department of the Interior; Anthony Brandenburg, Chief Judge, Intertribal Court of Southern California; Alonzo Coby, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Fort Hall, Idaho, on behalf of the Fort Hall Business Council; Troy A. Eid, Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Denver, Colorado; and Theodore R. Quasula, Quasula Consulting, Henderson, Nevada.

THE MATTHEW SHEPARD HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT
Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine “The Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009”, after receiving testimony from Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General, Department of Justice; Gail Heriot, Member, United States Commission on Civil Rights; Janet Langhart Cohen, Langhart Communications, LLC, Chevy Chase, Maryland; Mark Achtmeier, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa; and Brian W. Walsh, The Heritage Foundation, and Michael Lieberman, Anti-Defamation League, on behalf of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, both of Washington, DC.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of B. Todd Jones, to be United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, and John P. Kacavas, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 29 public bills, H.R. 3035–3063; 1 private bill, H.R. 3064; and 9 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 158–159; and H. Res. 580–586 were introduced. Page H7444–46

Additional Cosponsors: Page H7446–47

Reports Filed:
H. Res. 587, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2454) to create clean energy jobs, achieve energy independence, reduce global warming pollution and transition to a clean energy economy (H. Rept. 111–185). Page H7444

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Serrano to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H7253

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Richard Fowler, Ninth Street Baptist Church, Covington, Kentucky. Page H7253

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 580, providing for the election of certain minority members to a standing committee: Committee on Education and Labor: Representative Kline (MN), to rank before Representative Petri, and Representative McKeon, to rank before Representative Hoekstra. Page H7253


Rejected the Forbes 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 170 ayes to 244 noes, Roll No. 459. Pages H7387–89

Agreed by unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 2647 pursuant to H. Res. 572, debate on amendments 3 and 9 be extended to 20 minutes each, and that amendment 2 be modified. Page H7257

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Armed Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule. Page H7258

Agreed to:

Skelton amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that makes technical fixes to the Bright-Hunter amendment adopted at full committee markup, makes a conforming change to statutory limitation of non-dual status technicians, extends the deadline from 30 days to 90 days after the date of enactment for the report on Miranda warning required by SEC 1036, disaggregates NAVY/Marine Corps Procurement in SEC 1505 in line with similar disaggregation for ARMY (SEC 1502) and Air Force (SEC 1506) Procurement, and fixes other technical issues; Pages H7336–38

Skelton en bloc amendment consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 111–182: Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 5) that prohibits the recruitment, enlistment, or retention of individuals associated with groups associated with hate-related violence; Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 6) that provides statutory authority for the International Committee of the Red Cross to have access to detainees at Bagram Air Base; Loretta Sanchez amendment (No. 8) allows the Air Force Secretary to establish the nonprofit Air Force Academy Athletic Association; Turner amendment (No. 12) limits funds for reduction in U.S. strategic nuclear forces pursuant to a treaty with Russia after enactment to situations where the treaty provides methods for verifying compliance; Bright amendment (No. 13) that allows U.S. Special Operations Command to procure special operations-peculiar material and supplies by using certain non-competitive procedures; Bishop (GA) amendment (No. 16) that broadens the potential funding authority of the DoD’s Office of Economic Adjustment to include development of public infrastructure; Blumenauer amendment (No. 17) that requires the Secretary of Defense to develop methods to account for the full life-cycle costs of munitions; Brown-Waite (FL) amendment (No. 18) that expands the eligibility for the Army Combat Action Badge to those soldiers who served from December 7, 1941 to September 18, 2001; Cohen amendment (No. 19) that requires the Defense Secretary to report to Congress on the potential effects of expanding the list of persons under 10 U.S.C. section 1482); Connolly (VA) amendment (No. 21) that protects service members and their families from early termination fees on family cellular plans should they be relocated due to deployment; Costa amendment (No. 22) that requires the Secretary of Defense to carry out a study and submit to the Congressional defense committees a report on the distribution of hemostatic agents to ensure each branch of the military is complying with their own policies; DeFazio
amendment (No. 26) that requires the DoD to conduct a study on the total number of subcontractors used on the last five major weapons systems in which acquisition has been completed; Flake amendment (No. 29) that requires the Defense Secretary to report to Congress on the competitive processes used to award earmarks listed in the joint explanatory statement for the FY2008 defense appropriations bill; Smith (NJ) amendment (No. 45) that requires GAO to report to Congress on a cost analysis and audit of the Navy’s security measures in advance of the proposed occupancy by the general public of units of the Laurelwood Housing Complex on Naval Weapons Station, Earle, NJ; Kirk amendment (No. 61) that provides the Secretary of Defense with the authority to provide a bonus to a service member who agrees to serve in Afghanistan for six consecutive years, or until U.S. forces withdraw; Bishop (NY) amendment (No. 63) that requires the Defense Secretary to prohibit the disposal of medical and hazardous waste in open-air burn pits for any period longer than 12 months; and Blumenauer amendment (No. 64) that provides that the Defense Secretary shall, in the Defense budget submission, include funding levels for Military Munitions Response Program and Installation Restoration Program;

Pages H7342–50

McKeon amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 111–182), as modified, that expresses the sense of Congress that the Honorable John M. McHugh has served the House of Representatives and the American people selflessly and with distinction and that he deserves the gratitude of Congress and the Nation;

Pages H7350–51

Skelton en bloc amendment consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 111–182: Kratovil amendment (No. 10) that modifies the report on progress toward security and stability in Afghanistan by requiring information on agreements with NATO ISAF and non-NATO ISAF countries; Kratovil amendment (No. 11) that allows federal facilities to receive financial incentives from statewide agencies, Independent System Operators, or third party entities for energy efficiency and energy management measures; Cummings amendment (No. 23) that expands the military leadership diversity commission to include reserve component representatives; Driehaus amendment (No. 28) that requires GAO to submit a report to Congress on the impact of domestic violence in families of members of the Armed Forces and information on progress being made to ensure children receive adequate care and services; Grayson amendment (No. 30) that requires within 90 days of enactment that the GAO submit a report to Congress on cost overruns in the performance of DoD contracts in FY2006 through FY2009; Hare amendment (No. 31) that extends the authorization for the Arsenal Support Program Initiative through FY2011; Hodes amendment (No. 32) that requires the Office for Reintegration Programs to establish a program to provide National Guard and Reserve members, their families, and their communities with training in suicide prevention; Eddie Bernice Johnson amendment (No. 35) that amends section 713 to include the need for and availability of mental health care services with respect to dependents accompanying a member stationed at a military installation outside of the U.S.; Lee (CA) amendment (No. 36) that prohibits the establishment of permanent military bases in Afghanistan; Lipton amendment (No. 37) that expresses the Sense of Congress that it reaffirms its support for the recovery and return to the U.S. of the remains of members of the Armed Forces killed in battle during World War II in the battle of Tawara Atoll; Maloney (NY) amendment (No. 38) that requires the Defense Secretary to submit periodic reports to Congress on progress with respect to the Defense Incident-Based Reporting System; Minnick amendment (No. 40) that directs the Secretary of Defense to submit to the defense committees a report on health care accessibility for members of the Armed Forces killed in battle in rural areas; Sarbanes amendment (No. 41) that requires the Comptroller General to convene a panel of experts to study the ethics, competence, and effectiveness of acquisition personnel and the government-wide procurement process; Schakowsky amendment (No. 42) that grants access by Congress to the database of information regarding the integrity and performance of certain persons awarded federal contracts and grants; Souder amendment (No. 47) that clarifies that section 111 only affects prospective FY2010 funds; Space amendment (No. 48) that requires the VA Secretary to develop and implement a secure electronic method of forwarding the DD Form 214 to appropriate offices; Thompson (CA) amendment (No. 49) that allows the Secretary of the Navy to convey the Ferndale Housing facility to the City of Ferndale, California, at fair market value for the use of providing housing for low- and moderate-income seniors and families; Taylor amendment (No. 50) that authorizes the U.S. Navy to enter into a lease agreement with the Maritime Administration if the U.S. takes possession of the Hulakai and Alakai High Speed Ferries due to a loan guarantee default; Van Hollen amendment (No. 53) that expresses the Sense of Congress that multiple methods are available to the Defense Department to implement the defense access roads program in the vicinity of the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD; Whitfield amendment (No. 56) that amends section 711 to require the report to include the effectiveness
of alternative therapies in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder; and Wilson (SC) amendment (No. 58) that recognizes state defense forces as integral military components of the homeland security effort of the U.S.;  Pages H7358–65

Cummings amendment (No. 24 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that requires the Secretary to provide embarked military personnel on board U.S.-flagged vessels carrying Government-impelled cargoes in regions at high risk of piracy;  Pages H7365–66

Maloney amendment (No. 39 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that establishes an Overseas Voting Advisory Board that will conduct studies and issue reports and have hearings on the abilities of and obstacles to overseas voting, the successes and failures of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) under the Department of Defense, and any administration efforts to increase overseas voter participation;  Pages H7368–69

Skelton en bloc amendment consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 111–182: Schakowsky amendment (No. 43) that imposes additional reporting requirements for inventory relating to contracts for services which would require an annual estimation of how many dollars each contracting officer is responsible for, as well as a report on how many contracting officers are themselves contract employees; Schrader amendment (No. 44) that requires, with respect to members of the Armed Forces exposed to potentially harmful material, the Defense Secretary to notify the member or the state military department of the exposure and any associated health risks; LoBiondo amendment (No. 7) that authorizes civil legal assistance for Coast Guard reservists; Davis (KY) amendment adds a section 1039 to require the President to commission a study by an executive agency of a program to develop "national security professionals" across the departments and agencies; DeLauro amendment (No. 27) that requires the Defense Secretary to conduct a demonstration project, at two military installations, to assess the feasibility and efficacy of providing service members with a post-deployment mental health screening; Holden amendment (No. 33) that requires the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to design and issue a Combat Medevac Badge to be awarded to service members who served on or after June 25, 1950 and who meet the requirements for the award of that badge; Smith (NJ) amendment (No. 46) that requires the DoD to report on its actions to prevent intra-familial international abductions affecting military parents and on its actions to assist military parents seeking the return of their abducted children; Tierney amendment (No. 51) that requires that the Secretary of Defense also report on proposed radars when reporting on whether a missile defense system has demonstrated a high probability of operating successfully; Tierney amendment (No. 52) that directs the Secretary of Defense to commission a report from the JASON Defense Advisory Panel on the technical and scientific feasibility of U.S. missile defense discrimination capabilities as designed and conceived; and Walz amendment (No. 54) that requires the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a report on the progress that has been made on the establishment of a Joint Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record for members of the Armed Forces to improve the quality of medical care and create a seamless integration between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs;  Pages H7369–75

Skelton en bloc amendment consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 111–182: Weiner amendment (No. 55) that requires the GAO Comptroller General, within 90 days of enactment, to report to Congress on the costs incurred by cities and other municipalities that elect to cover the difference between an employee's military service when that employee is a member of a reserve component and called to active duty and the municipal salary of the employee; Griffith amendment (No. 57) that expresses the Sense of Congress that the Defense Secretary should consider the role of ballistic missile defenses during the quadrennial defense review and the nuclear posture review; Holt amendment (No. 59) that requires the Defense Secretary to ensure that members of the Individual Ready Reserve who have served at least one tour in either Iraq or Afghanistan receive at least quarterly counseling calls from properly trained personnel; Sestak amendment (No. 62) that provides for the treatment of autistic children of military personnel; McDermott amendment (No. 66) that requires the Secretary of Defense to publish a map of the Democratic Republic of the Congo showing mineral-rich areas and areas under the control of armed groups; Schiff amendment (No. 67) that allows a federally-funded research and development center affiliated with NASA to respond to Department of Defense agency announcements; Bordallo amendment (No. 68) that adds to the bill the text of H.R. 44, the "Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act"; Grayson amendment (No. 69) that requires that cost or price to the Federal government be given at least equal importance as technical or other criteria in evaluating competitive proposals for defense contracts; Castor amendment (No. 65) that gives members of the Armed Forces serving in combat operations a free monthly postal voucher they can transfer to their loved ones, who can then send a letter or package to them at no cost; and Garret amendment (No. 60) that expresses the Sense of Congress in support of the State of Israel and that
the U.S. should work with Israel to ensure it receives military assistance needed to address the threat of Iran;

McGovern amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that requires public disclosure of students and instructors at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (by a recorded vote of 224 ayes to 190 noes, Roll No. 454);

Pages H7340–42, H7383–84

Holt amendment (No. 34 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that requires the videotaping of all military interrogations, with appropriate security classifications (by a recorded vote of 224 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 457); and

Pages H7366–68, H7385–86

Connolly (VA) amendment (No. 20 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that provides that section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–140) does not prohibit an agency from entering into a contract to purchase a generally-available fuel that is not a synthetic fuel or predominantly produced from a non-conventional petroleum source if the contract does not specifically require such a fuel. The purpose of the contract is not to obtain such a fuel, and the contract does not provide incentives for upgrading or expanding refineries to increase fuel from non-controversial petroleum sources (by a recorded vote of 416 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 458).

Pages H7381–82, H7386

Rejected:

McGovern amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that sought to require the Defense Secretary to report to Congress, not later than December 31, 2009, on a U.S. exit strategy for U.S. military forces in Afghanistan participating in Operation Enduring Freedom (by a recorded vote of 138 ayes to 278 noes, Roll No. 453); Pages H7338–40, H7382–83

Franks (AZ) amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that sought to provide that it is U.S. policy to continue missile defense testing. It would increase funding for the Missile Defense Agency by $1.2 billion. Offsetting reductions would come from defense environmental cleanup (by a recorded vote of 171 ayes to 244 noes, Roll No. 455); and

Pages H7351–53, H7354–56, H7384

Akin amendment (No. 15 printed in H. Rept. 111–182) that sought to require the Defense Secretary to submit to Congress a report on any non-disclosure agreements signed by DoD employees regarding their official duties (except those relating to security clearances). The report would describe topics covered by the agreements, the number of employees required to sign such agreements, the duration of agreements, the types of persons covered, reasons for requiring such agreements, and the criteria for determining such information should not be disclosed (by a recorded vote of 186 ayes to 226 noes, Roll No. 456).

Pages H7356–58, H7384–85

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 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 H7389

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

Page H7390

Pursuant to section 6 of the rule, in the engrossment of H.R. 2647, the Clerk shall add the text of H.R. 2990, as passed by the House, as new matter at the end of H.R. 2647; conform the title of H.R. 2647 to reflect the addition to the engrossment of H.R. 2990; assign appropriate designations to provisions within the engrossment; and conform provisions for short titles within the engrossment. Pursuant to section 7 of the rule, upon the addition of the text of H.R. 2990 to the engrossment of H.R. 2647, H.R. 2990 shall be laid on the table.

H. Res. 572, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Wednesday, June 24th.

Question of Privilege: The Chair ruled that the resolution offered by Representative Price (GA) did not constitute a question of the privileges of the House. Agreed to the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair by a yea-and-nay vote of 245 yeas to 174 nays, Roll No. 461.

Pages H7398–99

Recess: The House recessed at 5:50 p.m. and reconvened at 9 p.m.

Page H7401

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Kline (MN), wherein he resigned from the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, effective today.

Page H7401

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to fill the existing vacancy thereon: Representative King (NY).

Page H7401

Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Representative Oberstar, Chairman; Representative Meeks (NY), Vice Chairman; Representatives Slaughter, Stupak, Kilpatrick (MI), Hodes, Welch, Manzullo, Stearns, Brown (SC), and Miller (MI).

Page H7401

British-American Interparliamentary Group—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s
appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Representative Chandler (KY), Chairman; Representative Sires, Vice Chairman; Representatives Clyburn, Etheridge, Davis (CA), Bishop (NY), Miller (NC), Petri, Boozman, Crenshaw, Aderholt, and Latta. Page H7401


Agreed to:

Garrett (NJ) amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–184) that increases funding for land conservation partnerships authorized by the Highlands Conservation Act by $2,000,000 and reduces funding for construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of, or for use by, the Environmental Protection Agency by $2,000,000 and

Smith (TX) amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–184) that allocates $25 million for the Forest Service’s Law Enforcement and Investigations drug enforcement efforts, including removal of marijuana sites and clandestine methamphetamine labs from the National Forest System and interdiction of drug traffickers on NFS lands that share a common border with Canada and Mexico. Pages H7420–27

Proceedings Postponed:

Dicks managers amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to allow the abandoned mine land funding to be used for the non-Federal share of the cost of certain environmental restoration projects funded by the Federal Government that repair acid mine drainage from coal abandoned mines; increase funding for the Saving America’s Treasures Account, offset by reducing funding from the Construction account of the National Park Service; and increase the allocation for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Stateside program from $30 million to $40 million, by reducing the allocation for the Department of Interior, Working Capital Fund by $10 million; Pages H7410–11

Heller amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to prohibit funds made available by this Act from being spent to build an interagency facility in one specific location in Carson City, Nevada;

Jordan (OH) amendment (No. 4 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to reduce overall spending in the bill by $5.75 billion to reflect FY2008 spending levels; Pages H7428–29

Stearns amendment (No. 6 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to decrease the funding included in the Interior and Environment Appropriations Act for the Environmental Protection Agency by 38% to reduce spending to 2009 levels;

Campbell amendment (No. 1 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to strike $1 million in funding for the “Restore Good Fellow Lodge, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore” and reduce the overall cost of the bill by a commensurate amount; Pages H7429–30

Campbell amendment (No. 3 printed in part D of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to strike for Traditional Arts in Upstate New York in Canton, New York; Pages H7431–33

Campbell amendment (No. 3 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to strike $150,000 in funding for the Tarrytown Music Hall Restoration and reduce the overall cost of the bill by a commensurate amount;

Campbell amendment (No. 1 printed in part E of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to strike the earmark for the Angel Island State Park Immigration Station Hospital Rehabilitation project; and Pages H7433–34

Campbell amendment (No. 4 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–184) that seeks to strike the $150,000 in funding for the Historic Fort Payne Coal and Iron Building Rehabilitation and reduce the overall cost of the bill by a commensurate amount.

Pages H7435–36

H. Res. 578, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 238 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 463, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 241 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 462. Pages H7400–01

Message Relating to Impeachment Proceedings of Samuel B. Kent: The House received a message from the Senate relating to impeachment proceedings of Samuel B. Kent, Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas—referred to the managers on the part of the House appointed by H. Res. 565 and ordered printed (H. Doc. 111–53). Page H7437

Recess: The House recessed at 11:59 p.m. Page H7441

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7353–54 and H7437.

Senate Referrals: S. 962 and S. Con. Res. 31 were held at the desk and S. Con. Res. 29 and S. 1358 were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Page H7437
Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and eight recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7383, H7383–84, H7384, H7385, H7385–86, H7386, H7388–89, H7389, H7399, H7400, and H7400–01. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned on Friday, June 26 at 3:48 a.m.

Committees Meetings

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management continued hearings to review implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from James Miller, Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS


FINANCIAL SERVICES, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government approved for full Committee action the Financial Services and General Government appropriations for fiscal year 2010.

THINKING FROM THE TACTICAL TO THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Raising Thinking from the Tactical to the Operational Level: JPME I and II at the Services’ and Joint Command and Staff Colleges. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: BG Edward C Cardon, USA, Deputy Commandant, Army Command and General Staff College, Department of the Army; and BG Katherine P. Kasun, USA, Commandant, Joint Forces Staff College, Department of the Army; BG Jimmie Jackson, USAF, Commandant, Air Command and Staff College, Department of the Air Force; RADM James P. Wisecup, USN, President, Naval War College, Department of the Navy; Col. Raymond Damm, USMC, Director, U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College, United States Marine Corps.

STATUTORY PAYGO

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on Statutory PAYGO. Testimony was heard from Peter Orszag, Director, OMB; Douglas Holtz-Eakin, former Director, CBO; and a public witness.

HEALTH REFORM LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health concluded hearings on draft health reform legislation. Testimony was heard from Glenn M. Hackbarth, Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

SATELLITE HOME VIEWER EXTENSION AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT


PRESERVING FEDERAL AND STATE-ASSISTED AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PREVENTING DISPLACEMENT

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled “Legislative Options for Preserving Federally and State-Assisted Affordable Housing and Preventing Displacement of Low-Income, Elderly and Disabled Tenants.” Testimony was heard from Shaun Donovan, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

IMPROVING CONSUMER FINANCIAL LITERACY UNDER THE NEW REGULATORY SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions, and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled “Improving Consumer Financial Literacy under the New Regulatory System.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SOMALIA PROSPECT FOR LASTING PEACE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health held a hearing on Somalia: Prospects for Lasting Peace and a Unified Response to Extremism and Terrorism. Testimony was heard from Ted Dagne, Specialist, African Affairs, CRS, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

JAPAN’S CHANGING ROLE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia, The Pacific and the Global Environment held a hearing on Japan’s Changing Role. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.
REGIONAL OVERVIEW OF SOUTH ASIA
Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia held a hearing on A Regional Overview of South Asia. Testimony was heard from Robert O. Blake, Jr., Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State.

ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND UNIFORMITY IN CORPORATE DEFERRED AND NON-PROSECUITION AGREEMENTS
Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on Accountability, Transparency, and Uniformity in Corporate Deferred and Non-Prosecution Agreements. Testimony was heard from Representatives Pallone and Pascrell; Eileen Lawrence, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, GAO; Gary Grindler, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Christopher J. Christie, former U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey; Chuck Rosenberg, former U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia; and Randy Grinnell, Deputy Director; and public witnesses.

INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS
Committee on Natural Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 2708, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2009. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Indian Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services: Yvette Roubideaux, Director; and Randy Grinnell, Deputy Director; and public witnesses.

BANK OF AMERICA AND MERRILL LYNCH—PRIVATE DEAL TO FEDERAL BAILOUT
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Subcommittee on Domestic Policy continued joint hearings entitled “Bank of America and Merrill Lynch: How Did a Private Deal Turn Into a Federal Bailout?, Part II.” Testimony was heard from Ben Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held a hearing entitled “Sexual Assault in the Military, Part 3: Context and Causes. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE “AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009”
Committee on Rules: Granted, by a record vote of 7 to 3, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2454, the “American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.” The rule provides for three hours of debate with two and one half hours to be equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 30 minutes to be equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2998, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule makes in order the further amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules, if offered by Representative Forbes of Virginia or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI, shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Waxman, Representatives Markey of Massachusetts, Inslee, Perlmutter, Chairman Peterson of Minnesota, Representatives Abercrombie, Bowell, Kucinich, Carnahan, Lipinski, Giffords, Richardson, Foster, Maffei, Barton, Upton, Stearns, Blackburn, Burgess, Scalishe, Rohrabacher, Manzullo, Inglis, Bilbray, Garret of New Jersey, Chaffetz and Roe of Tennessee.

SCIENCE OF SECURITY: LESSONS LEARNED
Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing on The Science of Security: Lessons Learned in Developing, Testing and Operating Advanced Radiation Monitors. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: William Hagan, Acting Deputy Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office; and Todd C. Owen, Acting Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; Gene Aloise, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; and Micah Lowenthal, Division on Earth and Life Studies, Nuclear and Radiation Studies Board, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences.
ASSESSING CYBERSECURITY ACTIVITIES
AT NIST AND DHS

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a hearing on Assessing Cybersecurity Activities at NIST and DHS. Testimony was heard from Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACT


RECOVERY ACT: 120-DAY PROGRESS REPORT FOR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on Recovery Act: 120-Day Progress Report for Transportation Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: J. Randolph Babbitt, Administrator, FAA; Joseph C. Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; Peter M. Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration; and Jeffery F. Paniati, Acting Deputy Administrator, Federal Highway Administration; Joseph H. Boardman, President and CEO, Amtrak; and public witnesses.

POST-9/11 G.I. BILL

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity hearing on Post-9/11 G.I. Bill: Is the VA ready for August 1st. Testimony was heard from Keith M. Wilson, Director, Office of Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT INVESTMENT NEEDS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a joint hearing on Highway and Transit Investment Needs. Testimony was heard from Roy Kienitz, Under Secretary, Policy, Department of Transportation; Phillip R. Herr, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; Timothy P. Murray, Lieutenant Governor, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

IRAN BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a briefing on Iran. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

OVERHEAD BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical met in executive session to hold a briefing on Overhead. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

PREDATORY LENDING

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine predatory lending and reverse redlining, after receiving testimony from Sarah Bloom Raskin, Maryland Commissioner of Financial Regulation, and Robert J. Strupp, Community Law Center, both of Baltimore, Maryland; and James H. Carr, National Community Reinvestment Coalition, and Gregory D. Squires, George Washington University, both of Washington, DC.

IMPEACHMENT: JUDGE SAMUEL B. KENT

Impeachment Trial Committee: Committee held an organizational meeting to examine the Articles of Impeachment against Judge Samuel B. Kent.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D750)


COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY

JUNE 26, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Hot Spots (N. Korean and Afghanistan Issues), 10 a.m., 304 HVC.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
2 p.m., Monday, July 6

Senate Chamber
Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 2918, Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, and vote on or in relation to McCain Amendment No. 1366 (to Amendment No. 1366), at 5:30 p.m.
(Unless the House of Representatives fails to adopt S. Con. Res. 31, Adjournment Resolution; if the House of Representatives fails to act, Senate will convene at 2 p.m., on Monday, June 29, 2009.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 a.m., Friday, June 26

House Chamber