

SYSTEMS APPROACH TO IMPROVING K–12 STEM EDUCATION

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Science Education held a hearing on A Systems Approach to Improving K–12 STEM Education. Testimony was heard from Wanda Ward, Acting Assistant Director, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, NSF; and public witnesses.

FUTURE OF SPECIALTY CROPS FOR SMALL FAMILY FARMERS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Entrepreneurship and Trade held a hearing entitled “The Future of Specialty Crops for Small Family Farmers.” Testimony was heard from Kathleen Merrigan, Deputy Secretary, USDA; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 3371, Airline Safety and Pilot Training Improvement Act of 2009; H.R. 3376, United States Mariner and Vessel Protection Act of 2009; H.R. 3360, Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act of 2009; H.R. 3224, To authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design and construct a vehicle maintenance building at the vehicle maintenance branch of the Smithsonian Institution located in Suitland, Maryland; H.R. 2121, amended, To provide for the transfer of certain Federal Property to the Galveston Historical Foundation; H.R. 2423, amended, To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the “George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse,” and to designate the jury room in the Federal building and United States courthouse as the “Marcel C. Notzon II Jury Room;” H.R. 2913, To designate the United States courthouse located at 301 Simonton Street in Key West, Florida, as the “Sidney M. Aronovitz United States Courthouse;” H.R. 3193, To designate the United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “Alto Lee Adams, Sr. United States Courthouse;” H. Con. Res. 136, Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a celebration of Citizenship Day.

The Committee also approved pending U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey Resolutions.

VRE CONTRACTS—VETERANS COUNSELING

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on VRE Contracts for Veteran Counseling. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Ruth Fanning, Director, Vocational

Rehabilitation and Employment Service; and Philip S. Kauffman, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel; and representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

IMPLICATIONS OF VA’S LIMITED SCOPE OF GULF WAR ILLNESS RESEARCH

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on the Implications of VA’s Limited Scope of Gulf War Illness Research. Testimony was heard from Douglas E. Dembling, Associate Chief Officer, Program Coordination, Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

NSA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY COMPLIANCE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on NSA Surveillance Authority Compliance. The Committee was briefed by LTG Keith Alexander, Director, NSA, Department of Energy.

BRIEFING—RUSSIA COLLECTION STRATEGY

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence met in executive session to receive a briefing on Russia Collection Strategy. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, to continue mark up H.R. 3200, America’s Affordable Health Choices Act, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary. Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, to mark up H.R. 1425, Wartime Treatment Study Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, hearing on the Recovery Act: 160–Day Progress Report for Transportation and Infrastructure Programs, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.