

Ranking Member of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions or their designees, prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the modified committee substitute to S. 1955 (listed above). **Page S4382**

**National Defense Authorizations—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the order of November 15, 2005 with respect to S. 1042, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, S. 1043, Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, S. 1044, Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, and S. 1045, Department of Energy National Security Act for Fiscal Year 2006, be vitiated. **Page S4379**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Navy. **Pages S4383–84**

**Nominations Discharged:** The following nomination was discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

George McDade Staples, of Kentucky, to be Director General of the Foreign Service, which was sent to the Senate on March 2, 2006, from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. **Page S4384**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S4331**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S4331**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Pages S4331–39**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S4339**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S4339–40**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S4340–42**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S4330**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S4342–78**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S4379–80**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S4380**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:30 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 11, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4382.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### FARM BILL: SUGAR PROVISIONS

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the implementation of the sugar provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, after receiving testimony from J.B. Penn, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; John C. Roney, American Sugar Alliance, Arlington, Virginia; Wallace Ellender, III, American Sugar Cane League, Bourg, Louisiana; Steve Williams, Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association, Fisher, Minnesota, on behalf of American Sugarbeet Growers Association; Margaret Blamberg, American Cane Sugar Refiners' Association, Brooklyn, New York; Robert A. Peiser, Imperial Sugar Company, Sugar Land, Texas; Joe Goehring, The Hershey Company, Hershey, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the Sweetener Users Association; and Mrinal Roy, Mauritius Sugar Syndicate and Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, London, United Kingdom.

### APPROPRIATIONS: MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the missile defense program, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Henry A. Obering, III, USAF, Director, Missile Defense Agency; and Lieutenant General Larry J. Dodgen, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, and U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command.

### WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee met in closed session to discuss the current situation in Afghanistan with Lieutenant General Karl W. Eikenberry, USA, Commanding General, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Dirk Kempthorne, of Idaho, to be Secretary of the Interior.

### LAND BILLS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine S. 906, to promote wildland firefighter safety, S. 2003, to make permanent the authorization for watershed restoration and enhancement agreements, H.R. 585, to require Federal land

managers to support, and to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with, designated gateway communities, to improve the ability of gateway communities to participate in Federal land management planning conducted by the Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior, and to respond to the impacts of the public use of the Federal lands administered by these agencies, and H.R. 3981, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out certain land exchanges involving small parcels of National Forest System land in the Tahoe National Forest in the State of California, after receiving testimony from Representative Radanovich; Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Christopher Kearney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management and Budget; Steve Duerr, Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce, Jackson Hole, Wyoming; and Bob Warren, City of Redding, California, on behalf of the National Alliance of Gateway Communities.

#### CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the progress achieved and challenges ahead for America's child welfare system, focusing on foster care, mentoring the children of prisoners, and the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program, after receiving testimony from Joan E. Ohl, Commissioner, Administration for Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; Gary Stangler, Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, St. Louis, Missouri; Arlene Templer, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation Department of Human Resources Development, Pablo, Montana; Joe Kroll, North American Council on Adoptable Children, St. Paul, Minnesota; and Jackie Hammers-Crowell, Iowa City, Iowa.

#### NOMINATIONS:

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Earl Anthony Wayne, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to Argentina, David M. Robinson, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana,

and Lisa Bobbie Schreiber Hughes, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine Indian economic development, focusing on the recent Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian labor force report and unemployment in Indian population, after receiving testimony from Robert W. Middleton, Director, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Joe Garcia, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, D.C.; Tex G. Hall, InterTribal Economic Alliance, Sisseton, South Dakota; Lance Morgan, Ho-Chunk, Inc., Winnebago, Nebraska; Elsie M. Meeks, First Nations Oweesta Corporation, Rapid City, South Dakota; and Miriam Jorgensen, Harvard University Project on American Indian Economic Development, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and University of Arizona Native Nations Institute.

#### VOTING RIGHTS ACT REAUTHORIZATION

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine modern enforcement and reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, including S. 2703, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965, after receiving testimony from Wan J. Kim, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice; Robert B. McDuff, Law Offices of Robert McDuff, Jackson, Mississippi; Gregory S. Coleman, Weil Gotshall and Manges, Austin, Texas; Natalie A. Landreth, Native American Rights Fund, Anchorage, Alaska; Frank B. Strickland, Strickland Brockington Lewis, LLP, Atlanta, Georgia; and Juan Cartagena, Community Service Society of New York, New York, New York.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 15 public bills, H.R. 5336–5350; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 812, were introduced. **Pages H2501–02**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2502–03**

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

H. Res. 810, providing for further consideration of H.R. 5122, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2007 (H. Rept. 109–460); and

H. Res. 811, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to the same day consideration of certain resolutions reported by the Rules Committee (H. Rept. 109–491). **Page H2499**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Campbell to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2341**

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Ross Thomson, Bammel Church of Christ, Houston, Texas. **Page H2341**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

**H-Prize Act of 2006:** H.R. 5143, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish monetary prizes for achievements in overcoming scientific and technical barriers associated with hydrogen energy, by a yea-and-nay vote of 416 yeas to 6 nays with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 131. **Pages H2346–54, H2366–67**

Agreed by unanimous consent that during consideration of H.R. 5122, pursuant to H. Res. 806, general debate shall not exceed two hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority Member of the Committee on Armed Services. **Pages H2360–66**

**National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007:** The House completed general debate and began considering amendments to H.R. 5122, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2007. **Pages H2360–H2453 H2466–72**

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 and shall be considered as read. **Page H2381**

Agreed to:

Hunter Manager’s amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 109–459) adds a section requiring the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on means to improve retention of members of the special operations

forces. Strikes and replaces Section 662 requiring the Secretary of Defense to conduct a pilot project for disabled persons accessible golf carts at military golf courses. It also adds section conveying Army Reserve Center land in Allison Park, PA, to the local school district and incorporates a technical correction to the TRICARE effective dates in section 704 and 709 of the bill; **Pages H2446–47**

Andrews amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–459) requires the Secretary of Defense to perform an epidemiological study to determine whether any human populations have been affected by these dumps; **Pages H2447–48**

Tanner amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 109–459) expresses a Sense of Congress that the Army should continue to evaluate and consider the potential benefits of converting to six-month deployments for members of the Army, Army National Guard, and Army Reserves in connection with service in Iraq and Afghanistan, including potential impacts on the reduced deployment periods on soldier morale, recruiting and retention, readiness, and military operations. It also requires the Secretary of the Army to submit a report to Congress containing: (1) The results of any studies conducted on soldiers and families regarding reduced deployment periods in Iraq and Afghanistan; (2) The Army’s potential plans for the implementation of such reduced deployment periods; and (3) A discussion of the potential benefits and drawbacks associated with implementation of such reduced deployment times; **Page H2453**

Franks of Arizona amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 109–459) as modified, makes certain findings concerning humanitarian support for Iraqi children in urgent need of medical care. It also authorizes, within the amount provided in section 301 for Operation and Maintenance, \$1 million for DoD support of the Peace Through Health Care Initiative, and reduces by \$1 million the amount provided for Budget Activity 4; **Pages H2467–68**

Simmons amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 109–459) prevents DoD from revoking expired security clearances from defense contractors until an investigation moratorium and backlog is eliminated. Does not change the security clearance investigation process or prevent the department from revoking security clearances for national security purposes; and **Pages H2468–70**

Gutknecht amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 109–459) expresses the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Army should promptly correct the pay inequity in its assignment incentive pay system. Depending on method of call to active duty, some Guardsmen and Reservists serving in the same unit in Iraq and Afghanistan will be eligible for assignment incentive pay (\$1,000 extra per month) after reaching 730 days on active duty, while others