

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate began consideration of the impeachment proceedings of Samuel B. Kent, Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

The House passed H.R. 2892, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6959–S7024

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1332–1347, and S. Res. 202–205. **Pages S6992–93**

Measures Passed:

Issuance of Summons and Related Procedures for Impeachment Against Judge Samuel B. Kent: Senate agreed to S. Res. 202, to provide for issuance of a summons and for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Samuel B. Kent.

Page S6961

Appointment of Committee for Impeachment Against Judge Samuel B. Kent: Senate agreed to S. Res. 203, to provide for the appointment of a committee to receive and to report evidence with respect to articles of impeachment against Judge Samuel B. Kent.

Page S6961

Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act: Senate passed S. 962, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to promote an enhanced strategic partnership with Pakistan and its people, after agreeing to the committee amendments.

Pages S7015–22

John Arthur “Jack” Johnson Sense of the Congress: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 29, expressing the sense of the Congress that John Arthur “Jack” Johnson should receive a posthumous pardon for the racially motivated conviction in 1913 that diminished the athletic, cultural, and historic significance of Jack Johnson and unduly tarnished his reputation, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S7022

African American Bone Marrow Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 205, supporting the goals and ideals of African American Bone Marrow Awareness Month. **Page S7022**

Measures Considered:

Impeachment of Judge Samuel B. Kent: Senate, sitting as a Court of Impeachment, began consideration of the impeachment proceedings of Samuel B. Kent, Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, taking the following action:

Subsequently, the Senate received the managers appointed by the House of Representatives who presented and exhibited Articles of Impeachment against Samuel B. Kent, Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, and the oath was administered to Senators by the Acting President pro tempore. **Pages S6959–61**

Appointments:

Impeachment Trial Committee: The Chair, upon the recommendations of the Majority Leader, and in accordance with the resolution on the appointment of an impeachment trial committee, appointed the following Senators to the Impeachment Trial Committee: Senators McCaskill (Chairman), Klobuchar, Whitehouse, Udall (NM), Shaheen, and Kaufman. **Pages S6961–62**

Impeachment Trial Committee: The Chair, upon the recommendations of the Republican Leader, and in accordance with the resolution on the appointment of an impeachment trial committee, appointed the following Senators to the Impeachment Trial Committee: Senators Martinez (Vice-Chairman), DeMint, Barrasso, Wicker, Johanns, and Risch. **Pages S6961–62**

Impeachment Trial Committee and Impeachment Rule XI: The Chair, upon the recommendations of the two Leaders, and pursuant to the resolution on the appointment of an impeachment trial committee and Impeachment Rule XI, appointed the following Senators to be members of the committee to receive and report evidence in the impeachment of Judge Samuel B. Kent: Senators McCaskill (Chair), Klobuchar, Whitehouse, Udall (NM), Shaheen, Kaufman, Martinez (Vice-Chairman), DeMint, Barrasso, Wicker, Johanns, and Risch.

Pages S6961–62

Message From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, with respect to the current existence and risk of the proliferation of weapons-usable fissile material on the Korean Peninsula; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–26)

Page S6992

Koh Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Harold Koh, to be Legal Advisor of the Department of State.

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 65 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 212), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Pages S6962–87

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 25, 2009, and that any time during any adjournment or period of morning business count post-cloture.

Pages S7023–24

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James Legarde Hudson, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

John Victor Roos, of California, to be Ambassador to Japan.

James B. Smith, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Routine lists in the Air Force and Army.

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Messages From the House:

Page S6992

Measures Referred:

Page S6992

Measures Read the First Time:

Pages S6992, S7023

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S6992

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S6992

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S6993–95

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S6995–S7014

Additional Statements: Pages S6988–92

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S7014

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S7014–15

Privileges of the Floor: Page S7015

Quorum Calls:

One quorum call was taken today. (Total—2)

Page S6959

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—212)

Page S6965

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:55 a.m. and adjourned at 6:46 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S7023–24.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies approved for full committee consideration an original bill making appropriations for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2010.

AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010.

TRANSPARENCY IN HEALTH INSURANCE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine consumer choices and transparency in the health insurance industry, after receiving testimony from Nancy Metcalf, Consumer Reports, Yonkers, New York; Karen Pollitz, Georgetown University Health Policy Institute, Washington, DC; and Wendell Potter, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Colin Scott Cole Fulton, of Maryland, to be

General Counsel, and Paul T. Anastas, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Administrator for the Office of Research and Development, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

IRAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine issues pertaining to Iran, after receiving testimony from Karim Sadjadpour, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Michael Singh and Mehdi Khalaji, both of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Suzanne Maloney, Brookings Institution, all of Washington, DC; and Hooman Majd, New York, New York.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Capricia Penavic Marshall, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service, who was introduced by Senator Brown, and Daniel M. Rooney, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Ireland, who was introduced by Senators Specter and Casey, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DIABETES RESEARCH

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine type 1 diabetes research progress, after receiving testimony from Griffin P. Rodgers, Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services; Mary Tyler Moore, Sugar Ray Leonard, and Nick Jonas, all of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, New York, New York; and Hannah Ryder, Cumberland, Maine, J. Patrick Lacher III, South Glastonbury, Connecticut, Asa Kelly, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Ellen Gould, Nashville, Tennessee, all on behalf of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Children's Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee continued consideration of Affordable Health Choices Act, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Thursday, June 25, 2009.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of A. Thomas McLellan, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Director of National Drug Control Policy, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, of California, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and Christopher H. Schroeder, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs quality management activities, after receiving testimony from Julie A. Watrous, Director, Combined Assessment Program, Office of Healthcare Inspections, John Daigh, Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare, and Victoria Coates, Director, Atlanta Regional Office, all of the Office of Inspector General, Gerald M. Cross, FAAFP, Acting Under Secretary for Health, William E. Duncan, MACP, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Quality and Safety, Juan A. Morales, Director, Tennessee Valley Healthcare System, Rebecca J. Wiley, Director, Charlie Norwood Medical Center, and Mary D. Berrocal, Director, Miami Health Care System, all of the Department of Veteran Affairs; Thomas Nolan, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Silver Spring, Maryland; and Robert A. Wise, The Joint Commission, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR ELDERLY AND SPECIAL NEEDS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine emergency preparedness, aging and special needs, after receiving testimony from Richard Besser, Director, Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; Timothy Manning, Deputy Administrator, National Preparedness Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; E. Douglas Beach, Florida Secretary on the Emergency Preparedness, Aging, and Special Needs, Department of Elder Affairs, and LuMarie Polivka-West, Florida Health Care Association, both of Tallahassee; and Sandy Markwood, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Washington, DC.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 24 public bills, H.R. 3011–3034 and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 58; and H. Res. 579 were introduced.

Pages H7248–50

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H7250–51

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 578, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2996) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010 (H. Rept. 111–184).

Page H7236

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Shawn L. Kumm, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Laramie, Wyoming.

Page H7149

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Pages H7149, H7235–36

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Boehner motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 96 yeas to 308 nays, Roll No. 424.

Pages H7153–54

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Broun (GA) motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 73 yeas to 316 nays, Roll No. 425.

Page H7161

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

Disabled Military Retiree Relief Act of 2009: H.R. 2990, to provide special pays and allowances to certain members of the Armed Forces and to expand concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability benefits to disabled military retirees, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 404 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 433.

Pages H7154–61, H7162–66, H7177–78

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Wilson (SC) motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 26 yeas to 361 nays, Roll No. 426.

Pages H7166–67

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Tiberi motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 25 yeas to 366 nays, Roll No. 427.

Pages H7167–68

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Price (GA) announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution.

Pages H7175–76

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Price (GA) motion to adjourn by a recorded vote of 31 yeas to 393 noes, Roll No. 432.

Pages H7176–77

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the King (IA) motion to adjourn by a recorded vote of 36 yeas to 381 noes, Roll No. 434.

Page H7178

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010: The House passed H.R. 2892, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, by a yea-and-nay vote of 389 yeas to 37 nays, Roll No. 450.

Pages H7167, H7168–75, H7179–90, H7190–H7215, H7222–34

Agreed to the Rogers (KY) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment by a recorded vote of 234 yeas to 193 noes, Roll No. 449. Subsequently, Representative Price (NC) reported the bill back to the House with the amendment and the amendment was agreed to.

Page H7233

Agreed to:

Price (NC) manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 111–183) that increases funding for the Firefighter grant program, nonprofit security grants, the Metropolitan Medical Response System, and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. In addition, the amendment contains two prohibitions on funds in this bill being used: for first class travel, with certain exceptions, and to close or transfer operations of a FEMA recovery office. Finally, the amendment ensures DHS employees who interact with the public can use personal protective equipment without negative personnel action (by a recorded vote of 345 yeas to 85 noes, Roll No. 435);

Pages H7222–23

Lewis (CA) amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that adds \$34 million to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, intending to fund 200 additional Border Patrol agents, offset by reducing funding for the Offices of the Secretary and Executive Management; Under Secretary for Management; Chief Financial Officer; and Chief Information Officer (by a recorded vote of 375 yeas to 55 noes, Roll No. 436);

Page H7223

King (NY) amendment (No. 8 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that adds \$50 million in funding to the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, with \$40 million intended for the Securing the Cities initiative and \$10 million intended for the procurement of radiation portal monitors, offset by a reduction in the Department's Office of the Secretary and Executive Management and the Office of the Under Secretary for Management (by a recorded vote of 282 yeas to 148 noes, Roll No. 437);

Pages H7223–24

Bilirakis amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that increases funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) salaries and expenses by \$1.7 million offset by reducing funding for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management. The funds are intended to be used to expand the Visa Security Program, which places ICE personnel overseas at high-risk locations to screen visa applications (by a recorded vote of 423 ayes to 6 noes, Roll No. 438); **Pages H7224–25**

King (IA) amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that reduces and then increases funding for United States Customs and Border Protection salaries and expenses by \$1 million. This funding would go towards removing the lookout posts that have been established along the U.S.-Mexico border (by a recorded vote of 240 ayes to 187 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 439); and **Page H7225**

King (IA) amendment (No. 4 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that prohibits any funds in the Act from being used to employ illegal workers as defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act (by a recorded vote of 349 ayes to 84 noes, Roll No. 442). **Page H7227**

Rejected:

Duncan amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to maintain current (FY2009) funding for the Federal Air Marshals (by a recorded vote of 134 ayes to 294 noes, Roll No. 440); **Pages H7225–26**

Poe (TX) amendment (No. 7 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to increase by \$32 million funds available for the National Predisaster Mitigation Fund, offset by reducing by the same amount funds available for FEMA Management and Administration (by a recorded vote of 202 ayes to 230 noes, Roll No. 441); **Pages H7226–27**

Neugebauer amendment (No. 6 printed in part B of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to reduce spending in this act by \$2,755,000,000 across multiple accounts (by a recorded vote of 113 ayes to 318 noes, Roll No. 443); **Page H7228**

Flake amendment (No. 7 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to strike an earmark for the City of Emeryville, CA, from FEMA’s National Predisaster Mitigation Fund (by a recorded vote of 110 ayes to 322 noes, Roll No. 444); **Pages H7228–29**

Flake amendment (No. 5 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to strike an earmark for the Harris County Flood Control District, Texas, from FEMA’s National Predisaster Mitigation Fund (by a recorded vote of 82 ayes to 348 noes, Roll No. 445); **Page H7229**

Flake amendment (No. 2 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to prohibit funds in the

bill from going to the National Institute for Home-town Security, Kentucky, and would reduce the overall cost of the bill by a commensurate amount (by a recorded vote of 114 ayes to 317 noes, Roll No. 446); **Page H7230**

Flake amendment (No. 1 printed in part C of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to prohibit funds in the bill from going to Global Solar, Arizona, for portable solar charging rechargeable battery systems, and reduce the overall cost of the bill by a commensurate amount (by a recorded vote of 110 ayes to 318 noes, Roll No. 447); and **Pages H7230–31**

Flake amendment (No. 1 printed in part D of H. Rept. 111–183) that sought to strike the \$1 million earmark for SEARCH of Sacramento, CA, for interoperable communications, technical assistance and outreach programs (by a recorded vote of 112 ayes to 320 noes, Roll No. 448). **Page H7231**

H. Res. 573, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 430, and the Westmoreland motion to reconsider the vote was rejected by a yea-and-nay vote of 169 yeas to 251 nays, Roll No. 431. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 238 yeas to 174 nays, Roll No. 428, and rejected the Broun (GA) motion to reconsider the vote by a recorded vote of 172 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 429. **Pages H7173–75**

Public Interest Declassification Board—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Public Interest Declassification Board for a term of 3 years: Mr. David Skaggs of Longmont, Colorado. **Page H7221**

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010: The House began consideration of H.R. 2647, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2010. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, June 25th. **Pages H7215–21, H7234–35, H7236–46**

H. Res. 572, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 452, after agreeing to order the previous question by yea-and-nay vote of 245 yeas to 181 nays, Roll No. 451. **Pages H7234–35**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008 with respect to North Korea and North Korean nationals is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2009—referred to the Committee on

Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 111-52). **Pages H7190, H7221-22**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7149, H7166.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 30 was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor and S. Res. 202 and S. Res. 203 were held at the desk.

Pages H7149, H7166

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eleven yea-and-nay votes and 18 recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7153-54, H7161, H7166-67, H7167-68, H7173, H7173-74, H7174-75, H7175, H7176-77, H7177-78, H7178, H7222-23, H7223, H7223-24, H7224-25, H7225, H7225-26, H7226-27, H7227, H7228, H7228-29, H7229, H7230, H7230-31, H7231, H7233, H7234, H7234-35, H7235. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12 a.m. on Thursday, June 25th.

Committee Meetings

FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FAIR DISCLOSURE AND PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2009

Committee on Education and Labor: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 2989, 401(k) Fair Disclosure and Pension Security Act of 2009.

HEALTHCARE REFORM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: and the Subcommittee on Health continued hearings on draft health reform legislation. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services; Representative Conyers; Joseph Vitale, Chairman, Committee on Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens, State Senate, New Jersey; Jay Webber, State Assembly, New Jersey; Michael O. Leavitt, former Secretary of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

U.S.-AFRICA TRADE RELATIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health of the Committee on Foreign Affairs held a joint hearing

on U.S.-Africa Trade Relations: Creating a Platform for Economic Growth. Testimony was heard from Florizelle Liser, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; Leocadia L. Zak, Acting Director, Trade and Development Agency; Holly Vineyard, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Africa, the Middle East and Asia, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

REGULATOR RESTRUCTURING

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "Regulatory Restructuring: Enhancing Consumer Financial Products Regulation." Testimony was heard from Representative Delahunt; William Francis Galvin, Secretary, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

U.S.-RUSSIA NUCLEAR ARMS REDUCTION

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on the July Summit and Beyond: Prospects for U.S.-Russia Nuclear Arms Reduction. Testimony was heard from William J. Perry, former Secretary of Defense; Thomas Graham, Jr., former Special Representative to the President for Arms Control, Non-Proliferation, and Disarmament, and Legal Advisor to SALT II, START I and II; and Keith B. Payne, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Forces Policy.

HOMELAND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment held a hearing entitled "FY2010 Budget for the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security." Testimony was heard from Bart Johnson, Acting Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

RESOLUTION ADVERSELY REPORTED REGARDING TRANSMISSION TO THE HOUSE MATERIAL RELATING TO DETAINEES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported adversely H. Res. 537, Requesting that the President and directing that the Attorney General transmit to the House of Representative all information in their possession relating to specific communications regarding detainees and foreign persons suspected of terrorism.

PUERTO RICO DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2009

Committee on Natural Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 2499, Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2009. Testimony was heard from Representatives Burton of Indiana and Grayson; the following officials of the

Government of Puerto Rico; Luis G. Fortino, Governor; the following members of the Senate: Ruben Angel Berrios Martinez; Thomas Rivera Schatz, President, Jose L. Dalmau Santiago, Minority Leader; and Eduardo Bhatia Gautier; the following officials of the House; Jennifer Gonzalez Colon, Speaker; and Hector Lerrer Rios, and Carlos Romero-Barcelo, former Governor.

AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN OVERSIGHT—NEW INTERAGENCY STRATEGY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: and the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Afghanistan and Pakistan: Oversight of a New Interagency Strategy.” Testimony was heard from Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke, U.S. Special Representative to Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State; and GEN Wallace Gregson, Assistant Secretary, Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of Defense.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 22, To amend chapter 89, title 5, United States Code, to allow the United States Postal Service to pay its share of contributions for annuitants’ health benefits out of the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing entitled “FEHBP’s Prescription Drug Benefits: Deal or No Deal?” Testimony was heard from the following officials of OPM: Patrick McFarland, Inspector General; and Nancy Kichak, Associate Director, Human Resources Policy Division; John Dicken, Director, Health Care, GAO; and public witnesses.

THE “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010”

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a record vote of 8–3, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2996, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule makes in order the following amendments: (1) the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report; (2) the

amendments printed in part B of the report; (3) not to exceed three of the amendments printed in part C of the report, if offered by Representative Flake of Arizona or his designee; (4) not to exceed one of the amendments printed in part D of the report, if offered by Representative Campbell of California or his designee; and (5) not to exceed one of the amendments printed in part E of the report, if offered by Representative Hensarling of Texas or his designee. The rule provides that each such amendment shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule also provides that the amendments printed in part B, C, D, or E of the report may be offered only at the appropriate point in the reading. The rule provides that for those amendments reported from the Committee of the Whole, the question of their adoption shall be put to the House en gros and without intervening demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides that after consideration of the bill for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees each may offer one pro forma amendment to the bill for the purpose of debate, which shall be controlled by the proponent. The rule provides that the Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee and that the Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill (as described in clause 9 or rule XVIII). Finally, the rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 2996, the Chair may reduce to two minutes the minimum time for electronic voting under clause 6 of rule XVIII and clauses 8 and 9 or rule XX. Testimony was heard from Chairman Dicks, Representatives Kanjorski; Hinojosa; Simpson; Buyer; Conaway; Garrett of New Jersey; King of Iowa; Nunes; McCaul of Texas; Jordan of Ohio; Lamborn and Roe of Tennessee.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science and Technology: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 2965, Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009; H.R. 2729, To authorize the designation of National Environmental Research Parks by the Secretary of Energy, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1622, To provide for a program of research, development, and demonstration on natural gas vehicles.

SMALL GROUP HEALTHCARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled “Health IT Adoption and the New Challenges Faced by Solo and Small Group Healthcare Practices.” Testimony was heard from David Blumenthal, M.D., National Coordinator, Health IT, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit approved for full Committee action the Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009

VETERANS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2379, Veterans Group Life Insurance Improvement Act of 2009; H.R. 2713, Disabled Veterans Life Insurance Enhancement Act; H.R. 2968, to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the required reduction in the amount of the accelerated death benefit payable to certain terminally-ill persons insured under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance or Veterans' Group Life Insurance; H.R. 2774, Families of Veterans Financial Security Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Buyer, Donnelly, Halvorson, and Kirkpatrick of Arizona; Thomas M. Lostowka, Director, VA Regional Office and Insurance Center, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; a representative of a veterans organizations; and a public witness.

HEALTH REFORM PROPOSALS

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on Health Reform in the 21st Century: Proposals to Reform the Health System. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BRIEFING—SIGNIFICATION NOTIFICATION

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Significant Notification. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to mark up proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies and Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, 3 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: closed business meeting to mark up the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Raphael William Bostic, of California, and David H. Stevens, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, time to be announced, room to be announced.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine impacts of highway trust fund insolvency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine the impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining on water quality in Appalachia, 3:30 p.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Maria Otero, to be Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs, and Philip L. Verveer, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State 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, 11 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to continue consideration of Affordable Health Choices Act, subcommittee assignments, and any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SR-325.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings 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, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine “The Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act”, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 257, to amend title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, H.R. 985 and S. 448, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 396, for the relief of Marcos Antonio Sanchez-Diaz, and 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, 12 noon, SD-226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: organizational meeting of the Impeachment Trial Committee on the Articles against Judge Samuel B. Kent, 4:30 p.m., SR-301.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, to continue hearings to review implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, to mark up appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, 9 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to mark up appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for Financial Services and General Government, 2 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Raising Thinking from the Tactical to the Operational Level: JPME I and II at the Services' and Joint Command and Staff Colleges, 9 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, hearing on Statutory PAYGO, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Subcommittee on Health, to continue hearings on draft health reform legislation, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, to mark up H.R. 2994, To reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, hearing entitled "Legislative Options for Preserving Federally- and State-Assisted Affordable Housing and Preventing Displacement of Low-Income, Elderly and Disabled Tenants," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions, and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Improving Consumer Financial Literacy under the New Regulatory System," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, hearing on Somalia: Prospects for Lasting Peace and a Unified Response to Extremism and Terrorism, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia, The Pacific and the Global Environment, hearing on Japan's Changing Role, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia, hearing on A Regional Overview of South Asia, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on Accountability, Transparency, and Uniformity in Corporate Deferred and Non-Prosecution Agreements, 11 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, hearing on H.R. 2708, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2009, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, to continue joint hearings entitled "Bank of America and Merrill Lynch: How Did a Private Deal Turn Into a Federal Bailout?, Part II," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, hearing entitled "Sexual Assault in the Military, Part 3: Context and Causes," 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing on The Science of Security: Lessons Learned in Developing, Testing and Operating Advanced Radiation Monitors, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on Assessing Cybersecurity Activities at NIST and DHS, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, to mark up H.R. 2965, Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009, 9:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, hearing on Recovery Act: 120-Day Progress Report for Transportation Programs, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Post-9/11 G.I. Bill: Is the VA ready for August 1st? 1:30 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, joint hearing on Highway and Transit Investment Needs, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Iran, 3 p.m., 304 HVC.

Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical, executive, briefing on Overhead, 2 p.m., 304HVC.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 25

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, June 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Harold Koh, to be Legal Advisor of the Department of State.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Continue consideration of H.R. 2647—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010.

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