



Legislative Bulletin.....July 6, 2004

Contents:

- H.R. 2121**—Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund Enhancement Act
H.Con.Res. 410—Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and recognizing the Marshall Islands as a staunch ally of the United States, committed to principles of democracy and freedom for the Pacific region and throughout the world
H.Con.Res. 257—Expressing the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery
H.R. 3340—To redesignate the facilities of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 and 7748 S. Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the “James E. Worsham Post Office” and the “James E. Worsham Carrier Annex Building,” respectively
H.R. 4327—Vitalas “Veto” Reid Post Office Building Designation Act
H.R. 4427—Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Post Office Designation Act
S. 1167—To resolve the boundary conflicts in Barry and Stone Counties in the State of Missouri

Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: Approximately \$15 million over five years
Year to Date Prior to Today's Bills: At least \$652.9 billion over five years*

Total Cost of Appropriations: H.R. 2121 would increase FY04 appropriations by \$12.5 million
Year to Date Prior to Today's Bills: \$496.68 billion for FY05 (including \$25.78 billion in contingent emergency appropriations for FY2005)

Total Amount of Revenue Reductions: \$178 million over 10
Year to Date Prior to Today's Bills: \$160.43 billion over five years

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: \$209 million over five years
Year to Date Prior to Today's Bills: \$22.5 billion over five years

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: None

Total New Private Sector Mandates: None

** This figure does not include H.R. 3873, H.R. 4503, H.R. 4635, or S. 2507*

H.R. 2121—Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund Enhancement Act (Tiahrt)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2121 would authorize \$12.5 million of additional FY2004 appropriations for the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund (Public Law 101-454). The Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY2004 (Public Law 108-199) appropriates through September 30, 2004, the funds that are authorized by 20 U.S.C. 5204. H.R. 2121 would increase the authorized amount under 20 U.S.C. 5204, by an additional \$12.5 million.

Additional Background: The Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program was created as a public-private partnership in 1953 to “expose thousands of leaders throughout the world to the values of American political institutions, private sector commerce, educational opportunities, and cultural and societal traditions.” The Program was initially endowed in 1990 (via a trust fund) with the following formula of federal funds:

1. \$5,000,000; and
2. the lesser of:
 - (A) \$2,500,000, or
 - (B) an amount equal to contributions to Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, Incorporated, from private sector sources during the four-year period beginning on October 24, 1990.

According to GuideStar (<http://www.guidestar.org/index.jsp>), the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program received \$63,918 in government grants in 2002.

Committee Action: The bill was referred to the International Relations Committee on May 15, 2003, but the Committee took no official action on it.

Cost to Taxpayers: The bill would authorize the expenditure of an additional \$12.5 million from the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund for FY2004, and due to the language contained in the FY04 Omnibus, would have the effect of appropriating an additional \$12.5 million in FY04.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: The bill would expand the federal government’s financial commitment to a public-private partnership.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Paul S. Teller, paul.teller@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9718

H.Con.Res. 410—Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and recognizing the Marshall Islands as a staunch ally of the United States, committed to principles of democracy and freedom for the Pacific region and throughout the world (Flake)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 410 would resolve that Congress recognizes:

- “the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and
- “the Republic of the Marshall Islands as a staunch ally of the United States, committed to principles of democracy and freedom for the Pacific region and throughout the world.”

Additional Background: The Marshall Islands were ruled under a succession of colonial regimes for 400 years, including Spain and Germany, followed in the 20th Century by Japan. The United States liberated the Marshall Islands from Japanese imperial control in World War II and took administrative control of the Islands (under a United Nations trusteeship agreement). In 1979, people of the Marshall Islands adopted their own constitution and declared their government to be a democratic republic, based on the rule of law, limited government, and individual liberty. In 1986, the U.S. and the Marshall Islands adopted a Compact of Free Association to define government-to-government relations and provide for extremely close alliance operations.

Committee Action: On April 30, 2004, the resolution was referred to the Committee on International Relations, which marked up the resolution on June 16, 2004, and by unanimous consent agreed to seek its House floor consideration under suspension of the rules.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would authorize no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Paul S. Teller, paul.teller@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9718

H.Con.Res. 257—Expressing the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery (Ryun)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 257 would resolve a sense of Congress that “the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, Kansas.”

Additional Background: After World War I, Harry Colmery actively contributed to the growth of the newly formed American Legion, went on to hold several offices in the organization, and was elected National Commander in 1936. Colmery is credited with writing an initial draft of the “GI Bill of Rights” (the omnibus veterans benefits act first implemented toward the end of World War II).

The resolution notes that President Truman established the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1945 “to recognize notable service during war;” and in 1963, President Kennedy reinstated the medal to honor the achievement of civilians during peacetime. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 11085, the Medal of Freedom could be awarded to any person who has made an especially meritorious contribution to “(1) the security or national interest of the United States, or (2) world peace, or (3) other significant public or private endeavors.”

Committee Action: On July 24, 2003, the resolution was referred to the Government Reform Committee, and on August 25, 2003, the resolution was referred to the Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization. Neither entity took official action on the legislation.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution itself would authorize no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Paul S. Teller, paul.teller@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9718

H.R. 3340—To redesignate the facilities of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 and 7748 S. Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the “James E. Worsham Post Office” and the “James E. Worsham Carrier Annex Building,” respectively (*Rush*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3340 would redesignate the U.S. postal facility located at 7715 S. Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the “James E. Worsham Post Office,” and the U.S. postal facility located at 7748 S. Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the “James E. Worsham Carrier Annex Building.”

Additional Background: James E. Worsham is president of the Chicago branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Committee Action: On October 20, 2003, the bill was referred to the Government Reform Committee, which marked it up on June 24, 2004, and ordered it reported to the full House.

Cost to Taxpayers: The only costs associated with a postal facility renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to “establish Post Offices and post Roads.”

RSC Staff Contact: Paul S. Teller, paul.teller@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-9718

H.R. 4327— Vitilas “Veto” Reid Post Office Building Designation Act (Clay)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4327 would designate the post office at 7450 Natural Bridge Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the “Vitas ‘Veto’ Reid Post Office Building.”

Additional Background: Vitilas “Veto” Reid is the retired postmaster of St. Charles, Missouri.

Committee Action: H.R. 4327 was introduced on May 11, 2004, and referred to the Committee on Government Reform. The committee reported the bill by voice vote on June 24, 2004.

Cost to Taxpayers: The only costs associated with a postal facility renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post Roads.

Staff Contact: Lisa Bos, lisa.bos@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-1630

H.R. 4427— Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Post Office Designation Act (*Bishop of New York*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4427 would designate post office located at 73 South Euclid Avenue in Montauk, New York, as the “Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Post Office.”

Additional Background: Perry B. Duryea Jr., a Republican, served New York as Speaker of the Assembly from 1969 through 1974, and as Minority Leader from 1975 through 1978. He passed away on January 11, 2004, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Committee Action: H.R. 4427 was introduced on May 20, 2004, and referred to the Committee on Government Reform. The committee reported the bill by voice vote on June 24, 2004.

Cost to Taxpayers: The only costs associated with a postal facility renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post Roads.

Staff Contact: Lisa Bos, lisa.bos@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-1630

S. 1167—To resolve the boundary conflicts in Barry and Stone Counties in the State of Missouri (Sen. Bond)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Tuesday, July 6th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: S. 1167 provides a process for the Forest Service and the U.S. Army to resolve boundary disputes with private landowners around the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri “in a manner which imposes the least cost and inconvenience to affected private landowners.” The bill would give property owners who have ownership disputes with the two

agencies 15 years to notify the Federal Government of their claims. Upon receipt of a valid claim, the appropriate agency is authorized to convey the disputed property to the private owners or confirm federal ownership and compensate the private owners for the value of the disputed land. The Secretaries are authorized to convey the land without consideration for certain survey costs, to pay associated administrative costs incurred by their Departments, and to reimburse the landowner. The bill authorizes “such sums” for these costs.

H.R. 2304, a companion bill to S. 1167, passed the House by voice vote on November 17, 2003. The only substantive difference between the two bills is that S. 1167 provides an authorization of “such sums” while H.R. 2304 did not provide any new authorization of funds.

Additional Background: During the 1970's, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, through various private land surveyors, surveyed the area around Table Rock Lake in Missouri. In its surveys, the Corps found that most of the original “corner monuments” or boundary lines laid out by the U.S. General Land Office (GLO) in its original land surveys performed in the 1840's were either lost, stolen or had eroded over the years. Because of this, Corps surveyors used existing de-facto land markers in the vicinity of the original GLO monuments as the basis for its new survey.

More recently, the Forest Service performed new land surveys and claimed that the boundary lines in its surveys conflict with the boundary lines established in the previous Corps of Engineers surveys. The Forest Service also believes that the Corps surveys are incorrect and that the property lines in the area are incorrectly located. To date the Corps of Engineers and the Forest Service have been unable to agree on a resolution to this problem, which has affected private landowners adjacent to the land.

Committee Action: S. 1167 was held at the desk upon passage in the Senate and therefore was not referred to a committee.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that implementing S. 1167 would cost less than \$500,000 annually, subject to appropriations.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available.

Staff Contact: Lisa Bos, lisa.bos@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-1630

###

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.