



**Legislative Bulletin.....July 12, 2004**

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**Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:**

**Total Number of New Government Programs:** 0

**Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations:** Less than \$500,000 annually

**Total Amount of Revenue Reductions:** \$0

**Total Change in Mandatory Spending:** \$0

**Total New State & Local Government Mandates:** 0

**Total New Private Sector Mandates:** 0

**H.Con.Res. 144—Expressing the sense of Congress that Dinah Washington should be recognized for her achievements as one of the most talented vocalists in American popular music history (*Rangel*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Con.Res. 144 would resolve a sense of Congress that “Dinah Washington should be recognized for her versatility, remarkable musical talent, and for influence on female vocalists in jazz, blues, rhythm and blues, pop, and gospel.”

**Additional Background:** Dinah Washington was recording with jazz stars and leaders in the industry by 1948 and was a full-fledged pop music star by the late 1950s after recording the ballad, “What a Difference a Day Makes.” She died in 1963.

**Committee Action:** The resolution was referred to the Education and the Workforce Committee on April 9, 2003, and to the Subcommittee on Education Reform on May 2, 2003. Neither entity took official action on the resolution.

**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.

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**H.Res. 704—Congratulating the California State University, Fullerton  
Titans baseball team for winning the 2004 National Collegiate Athletic  
Association Division I College World Series (Royce)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Res. 704 would resolve that the House “congratulates the California State University, Fullerton Titans baseball team for winning the 2004 National Collegiate Athletic Association [NCAA] Division I College World Series Championship.”

**Additional Background:** On June 27, 2004, the California State University, Fullerton Titans baseball team won the 2004 NCAA Division I College World Series Championship, the fourth such championship in Titans history. The Titans defeated the top-ranked University of Texas Longhorns two games to zero in the best-of-three World Series Championship in Omaha, Nebraska.

**Committee Action:** On July 6, 2004, the resolution was referred to the Education and the Workforce Committee, which took official action on the resolution.

**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.

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## **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 Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**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:** Senate committee reports are not required to cite constitutional authority.

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**H.Res. 646—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Community Health Center Week to raise awareness of health services provided by community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers (*Danny Davis*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Res. 646 resolves that:

- “(1) there should be established a ‘National Health Center Week’ to raise awareness of the health services provided by community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers; and
- “(2) the President should issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested organizations to observe such a week with appropriate programs and activities.”

**Additional Background:** According to the resolution, community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers are nonprofit, community owned and operated health providers and are vital to the Nation's communities. There are more than 1,000 such health centers serving 15,000,000 people in over 3,500 urban and rural communities in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

Every year the National Association of Community Health Centers designates a week as “National Health Center Week.” This year, the week has been designated as August 8-14.

**Committee Action:** The resolution was introduced on May 18, 2004, and referred to the Committee on Government Reform. The committee reported the bill to the House by unanimous consent on July 8, 2004.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution does not authorize any 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.

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**H.Res. 684—Honoring David Scott Tidmarsh, the 2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion (Chocola)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Res. 684 resolves that the House:

- “(1) congratulates David Scott Tidmarsh on his mastery of the English language, culminating in his correctly spelling ‘autochthonous’ in Round 15, and becoming the 77th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee champion;
- “(2) recognizes the dedication and achievement of Mr. Tidmarsh;
- “(3) wishes Mr. Tidmarsh much success in achieving his life goals; and
- “(4) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to Edison Intermediate Center, located in South Bend, Indiana, for appropriate display and to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to David Scott Tidmarsh and his family.”

**Additional Background:** David Scott Tidmarsh, of South Bend, Indiana, won the 2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He attends the Edison Intermediate Center in South Bend.

**Committee Action:** The resolution was introduced on June 21, 2004, and referred to the Committee on Government Reform. The committee reported the bill to the House by unanimous consent on July 8, 2004.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution would have a minimal cost for making copies of the resolution available to David Tidmarsh and to the Edison Intermediate Center.

**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.

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**H.Res. 702— Honoring former President Gerald R. Ford on the occasion of his 91st birthday and extending the best wishes of the House of Representatives to former President Ford and his family (*Dingell*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, July 12, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Res. 702 would resolve:

- “That the House of Representatives honors former President Gerald R. Ford on the occasion of his 91st birthday and extends its congratulations and best wishes to former President Ford and his family.”

**Additional Background:** Former President Gerald Rudolph Ford was born on July 14, 1913, and will celebrate his 91st birthday on July 14. President Ford graduated from the University of Michigan, and attended Yale University Law School, graduating in the top 25 percent of his class while also working as a football coach. In 1942, he joined the United States Navy Reserves and served on the U.S.S. Monterey in the Philippines during World War II. In 1948, Gerald Ford was elected as a Republican to the House of Representatives, where he served for 25 years, including as minority leader from 1965 to 1973. In 1963, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Gerald R. Ford to the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Following President Nixon’s resignation in 1974, Gerald R. Ford served as the 38th President of the United States through 1976. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999.

**Committee Action:** On July 6, 2004, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Government Reform, which did not consider the resolution.

**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.

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**H.R. 4380 — Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith Post Office Building Designation Act (Bilirakis)**



**Order of Business:** The bill is scheduled for consideration on Monday, July 12, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 4380 would designate the post office located at 4737 Mile Stretch Drive in Holiday, Florida, as the “Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith Post Office Building.”

**Additional Background:** Sergeant Smith, 33, was one of 38 soldiers from the Third Infantry Division killed in the Iraq. He is a candidate for the Medal of Honor for saving the lives of fellow soldiers during a battle near the Baghdad airport on April 4. He served with the 11th Engineer Battalion, Bravo Company and his unit was assigned to build a compound for Iraqi prisoners of war near the captured Baghdad airport. On April 4, his squad knocked down a gate to a Republican Guard complex, unaware that the Iraqi troops were entrenched inside. According to news reports, the enemy troops swarmed, firing from a tower, shooting rocket-propelled grenades from trees and sniping from the roof. About 100 Iraqi fighters charged through the smashed gate toward the Americans: 15 or 20 medics, mortar operators and Army engineers.

Several U.S. soldiers were immediately wounded. After quickly seeing to his injured troops, Smith climbed back aboard a damaged light-armor vehicle and sprayed the advancing Iraqis with .50-caliber bullets, firing and reloading for an hour and a half until he ran out of ammunition. After the battle, surviving soldiers found Smith shot in the head. He was the only U.S. soldier killed in the firefight. His comrades, who credit him with saving his unit, say he single-handedly killed 30 to 50 enemy Iraqis. He has posthumously received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He is survived by his wife Birgit Smith, and his children David Anthony Smith (nine years old), and Jessica Martha Smith (seventeen-years old). May he rest in peace.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 4380 was introduced on May 18, 2004, and referred to the Committee on Government Reform. The committee reported the bill by voice vote on July 8, 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.”

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