



The Ehlers e-Newsletter

For the Week of May 16, 2005

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News from Congressman Ehlers ...

FEDS TO PROVIDE \$35M FOR MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START -

Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers lauded a decision by federal officials, who announced Wednesday they would make an additional \$35 million available to the Head Start program to assist the preschool and school-age children of migrant and seasonal workers.

To read the complete press release, visit our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/051105HeadStart.html

EHLERS HONORED FOR SUPPORT OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING –

Recognizing his work as a leading Congressional advocate for science and engineering, Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers received the prestigious George E. Brown Jr. Award from the Science, Engineering and Technology Work Group Tuesday evening.

To read the complete press release, visit our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/051005BrownScienceAward.html

THIS WEEK IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2005

On Monday, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Suspensions (8 bills):

(Bills on suspension are generally considered non-controversial and have reduced debate time, but require a two-thirds majority vote to be passed.)

1) H.R. 627 - Linda White-Epps Post Office Designation Act (Hamden, Connecticut)

2) H.R. 1760 - Robert M. La Follette, Sr. Post Office Building Designation Act

(Madison, Wisconsin)

3) H.Res. 266 - Supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day:

Resolves that the House of Representatives: (1) supports the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor Federal, State, and local peace officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and (2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

4) H.R. 1046 - To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the city of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the storage of the city's water in the Kendrick Project, Wyoming

5) H.R. 485 - Potash Royalty Reduction Act of 2005: States that for a five-year period the royalty rate on the quantity or gross value of the output from Federal lands of potassium and potassium compounds from the mineral sylvite at the point of shipment to market shall be 1.0 percent. The bill prescribes implementation guidelines under which fifty percent of such royalties, together with interest earned from the date of payment, shall be paid by the Secretary of the Treasury to the payor of the royalties to be used solely for land reclamation purposes.

6) H.R. 2107 - National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Maintenance Fund Act of 2005: Transfers \$1.4 million in monies deposited in the Treasury from the sale of a commemorative coin to fund the maintenance of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Incorporated to maintain the memorial in perpetuity. Currently, the National Park Service is charged with this role, but has not undertaken the task. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Incorporated originally raised the funds to design and build the memorial. The National Park Service supports enactment of the bill.

7) H.R. 540 - Newlands Project Headquarters and Maintenance Yard Facility Transfer Act: Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District in Nevada real property within the Newlands Project, Nevada, known as 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada, after: (1) compliance with requirements relating to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and cultural resources; and (2) completion of necessary environmental site assessments, remediation, or removal.

8) H.R. 938 - Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Act: Establishes the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2005

On Tuesday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for morning hour and 10 a.m. for legislative business.

H.R. 2360 - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006: Provides \$19.4 billion for border protection, immigration enforcement, and related activities, an increase of \$1.9 billion over fiscal year 2005 enacted levels and \$285 million over the President's request. These funds support next generation technology to screen high-risk cargo coming through our land and seaports; an expansion of cargo inspection at foreign ports; improvements to supply chain security; maritime security, and support a robust revitalization of immigration enforcement efforts both along our borders and within the interior of the nation.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2005 AND THE BALANCE OF THE WEEK

On Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Thursday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for Former Members Day and approximately 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business.

H.R. 2360 - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (continuation)

H.R. 1817 - Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006: Authorizes appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for FY 2006. The bill requires the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) to submit: (1) a DHS Terrorism Prevention Plan to specified congressional committees; and (2) a detailed analysis of the proposed DHS budget to Congress. It directs the Secretary to establish a consolidated process for conducting security screening and background checks.

H.R. 2361 - Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006: The bill includes \$26.2 billion for programs in the related departments and agencies, which is more than the \$25.7 billion requested in the president's budget and less than the \$27.0 billion appropriated by FY2005.

Historical Tidbits

On May 16 ...

1866 - The U.S. Congress authorized the first 5-cent piece to be minted.

1868 - U.S. President Andrew Johnson was acquitted during the Senate impeachment, by one vote.

1910 - The U.S. Bureau of Mines was authorized by the U.S. Congress.

1971 - U.S. postage for a one-ounce first class stamp was increased from 6 to 8 cents.

1991 - Queen Elizabeth II became the first British monarch to address the U.S. Congress.

On May 17 ...

1932 - The U.S. Congress changed the name "Porto Rico" to "Puerto Rico."

1946 - U.S. President Truman seized control of the nation's railroads, delaying a threatened strike by engineers and trainmen.

1954 - The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled for school integration in Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka. The ruling declared that racially segregated schools were inherently unequal.

1996 - U.S. President Clinton signed a measure requiring neighborhood notification when sex offenders move in. Megan's Law was named for 7-year-old Megan Kanka, who was raped and killed in 1994.

On May 18 ...

1798 - The first Secretary of the U.S. Navy was appointed. He was Benjamin Stoddert.

1896 - The U.S. Supreme court upheld the "separate but equal" policy in the Plessy vs. Ferguson decision. The ruling was overturned 58 years later with Brown vs. Board of Education.

1917 - The U.S. Congress passed the Selective Service act, which called up soldiers to fight in World War I.

1934 - The U.S. Congress approved an act, known as the "Lindbergh Act," that called for the death penalty in interstate kidnapping cases.

On May 19 ...

1921 - The U.S. Congress passed the Emergency Quota Act, which established national quotas for immigrants.

1967 - The Soviet Union ratified a treaty with the United States and Britain that banned nuclear weapons from outer space.

1992 - The 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution went into effect. The amendment prohibits Congress from giving itself midterm pay raises.

On May 20 ...

1926 - The U.S. Congress passed the Air Commerce Act. The act gave the Department of Commerce the right to license pilots and planes.

(Information from www.on-this-day.com)

(Please do not respond to this e-mail. To send a message to Congressman Ehlers, please visit our website at www.house.gov/ehlers and click on "Write Your Rep" or go directly to www.house.gov/writerep.)