



The Ehlers e-Newsletter

For the Week of April 11, 2005

Visit our website at www.house.gov/ehlers

News from Congressman Ehlers ...

EHLERS ANNOUNCES TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE - Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers will meet with his constituents at a series of three town meetings to listen to their concerns and to report on his activities in Washington. The meetings will take place on April 16 in Lake Odessa and Hastings and on April 23 in Grand Rapids.

For complete details, please visit our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/040705TownMtgADV.html

EHLERS JOINS WOLF IN INTRODUCING INTEREST-FREE LOAN BILL -

Concerned by the lack of U.S. students who choose to pursue degrees and careers in math, science, engineering and technology, Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers Tuesday joined with fellow Congressman Frank Wolf in introducing legislation that would pay up to \$10,000 in student-loan interest for students who agree to commit at least five years to teaching or working in related fields.

To read the complete press release, please visit our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/041205STEMLoans.html

CONGRESSMAN EHLERS REPORTS ON CONGRESSIONAL WORK IN

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER – Learn more about Social Security reform, efforts to clean up the Great Lakes and an initiative to improve science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education, while also learning about the services our office provides and ways you can contact the congressman in the 2005 edition of Congressman Ehlers' annual newsletter. Newsletters were sent to all residential mailboxes in the Third Congressional District in the past week. If you would like to read the newsletter online, please click on the following web address (*requires Adobe Acrobat to view*):

<http://www.house.gov/ehlers/pdf/annual05.pdf>

THIS WEEK IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005

On Monday, the House is not in session.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2005

On Tuesday, 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 (6 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. 794 - Colorado River Indian Reservation Boundary Correction Act:** Declares that the boundaries of the Colorado River Indian Reservation are the boundaries delineated by the Robbins Survey of 1875 and affirmed by the Harrington Resurvey of 1912 (which include 16,000 acres known as the La Paz lands). Restores to the Reservation all right, title, and interest of the United States to those lands within such boundaries that were excluded from the Reservation pursuant to Executive Order No. 2273 (November 22, 1915), which shall be held in trust by the United States on behalf of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
- 2) **H.R. 585 - Gateway Communities Cooperation Act:** Directs the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture (the relevant Secretary) to solicit involvement by government officials of local gateway communities in the development of land use plans or policies for public lands under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management which are likely to have a significant impact.
- 3) **H.R. 18 - Southern California Groundwater Remediation Act:** Establishes within the Treasury the Southern California Groundwater Remediation Fund, which shall be used by the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to provide grants to a local water authority within the natural watershed of the Santa Ana River in California for the federal share of costs associated with designing and constructing groundwater remediation projects.
- 4) **H.R. 541 - To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land to Lander County, Nevada, and the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Eureka County, Nevada, for continued use as cemeteries**
- 5) **H.R. 482 - Pine Springs Land Exchange Act:** Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to Lubbock Christian University by quitclaim deed all right of the United States to specified Federal lands in the Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico, in exchange for the conveyance of certain non-Federal land owned by the University.
- 6) **H.R. 135 - Twenty-First Century Water Commission Act of 2005:** Authorizes the President, and key leaders in the House and Senate, to appoint nine members of recognized standing and distinction on water policy issues, to the 21st Century Water Commission. The Commission will study all aspects of water management and develop recommendations for a comprehensive water policy for the U.S.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, APRIL 13 AND 14, 2005

On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business.

Suspensions (3 bills):

- 1) **H.R. 1463 - Justin W. Williams United States Attorney's Building Designation Act (Alexandria, Va.)**

- 2) **H.R. 483 - Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse Designation Act** (*Brownsville, Texas*)
- 3) **H.R. 787 - Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse Designation Act** (*Sacramento, Calif.*)

H.R. 8 - Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act of 2005: Will extend Death Tax repeal permanently beyond 2010. The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act (EGTRRA) of 2001 gradually phases-out the federal Death Tax. This is accomplished by a gradual reduction in the top rate coupled with gradual increases in the amounts exempt from the tax. This legislation would eliminate the phase out of the Death Tax repeal.

S. 256 - Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005: Amends federal bankruptcy law to revamp guidelines governing dismissal or conversion of a Chapter 7 liquidation (complete relief in bankruptcy) to one under either Chapter 11 (Reorganization) or Chapter 13 (Adjustment of Debts of an Individual with Regular Income). *Floor action on this legislation was postponed last week due to the death of Pope John Paul II.*

- * **Possible Motions to go to Conference**
- * **Possible Motions to Instruct Conferees**

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005

On Friday, there are no votes expected in the House.

Historical Tidbits

On April 11 ...

1783 - After receiving a copy of the provisional treaty on March 13, the U.S. Congress proclaimed a formal end to hostilities with Great Britain.

1898 - U.S. President William McKinley asked Congress for a declaration of war with Spain.

1951 - U.S. President Truman fired General Douglas MacArthur as head of United Nations forces in Korea.

1968 - U.S. President Johnson signed the 1968 Civil Rights Act.

1981 - U.S. President Ronald Reagan returned to the White House from the hospital after recovering from an assassination attempt.

On April 12 ...

1861 - Fort Sumter was shelled by Confederacy, starting America's Civil War.

1945 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died in Warm Spring, GA. He died of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 63. Harry S. Truman became president.

1955 - The University of Michigan Polio Vaccine Evaluation Center announced that the polio vaccine of Dr. Jonas Salk was "safe, effective and potent."

1985 - U.S. Senator Jake Garn of Utah became the first senator to fly in space as the shuttle Discovery lifted off from Cape Canaveral, FL.

On April 13 ...

1943 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Jefferson Memorial.

1984 - U.S. President Reagan sent emergency military aid to El Salvador without congressional approval.

On April 14 ...

1865 - U.S. President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theater by John Wilkes Booth. He actually died early the next morning.

1986 - U.S. President Reagan announced the U.S. air raid on military and terrorist related targets in Libya.

On April 15 ...

1865 - U.S. President Abraham Lincoln died from injuries inflicted by John Wilkes Booth.

(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.)