



The Ehlers e-Newsletter

For the Month of August 2005

Visit our website at www.house.gov/ehlers

EDITOR'S NOTE: *This will be the only issue of the Ehlers e-Newsletter for the month of August, due to Congress' annual August District Work Period. The U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to return to session the week of Sept. 5, when we will resume publication.*

News from Congressman Ehlers ...

HEARING ON GREAT LAKES CLEANUP TO BE HELD IN GR MONDAY –

Seeking input on a plan to restore, protect and sustain the Great Lakes as a natural resource, officials leading the effort will hold a public hearing Monday evening at Grand Valley State University's Grand Rapids campus, Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers announced.

To view the complete press release to and to link to the draft proposal, visit our website:
http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/072905GLRCHearing.html

HOUSE APPROVES TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION – Michigan will get \$239 million more per year for highway construction and related projects over the next five years thanks to legislation that was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives Friday.

To view the complete press release, visit our website:
http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/072905SAFETEALU.html

EHLERS TOUTS STUDY CALLING FOR 'INNOVATION INITIATIVE' – A report from 15 leading business organizations calling for a doubling in the number of American science, math, engineering and technology (STEM) graduates over the next 10 years is a "wake-up call that must be heeded," Congressman Ehlers said.

To view the complete press release and to link to the report, visit our website:
http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/072805STEMreport.html

HOUSE APPROVES IMPROVED ENERGY LEGISLATION – Congressman Ehlers joined a bipartisan majority of his colleagues Thursday in supporting legislation that will set our nation's energy policies over the next decade.

To view the complete press release, visit our website:
http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/072805EnergyBill.html

EHLERS CHEERS SPACE SHUTTLE'S RETURN TO SPACE – Congressman Ehlers issued a statement following the successful launch of the Space Shuttle Discovery, which is NASA's first manned space launch since the Feb. 1, 2003, accident that claimed the lives of the seven astronauts aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia:

To read Congressman Ehlers' complete statement, please visit our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/072605DiscoveryLaunch.html

THIS WEEK IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House is in recess until Tuesday, September 6, 2005.

Historical Tidbits

On Aug. 1 ...

1790 - The first U.S. census was completed. The population of the 17 states was 3,929,214.

1946 - In the U.S., the Atomic Energy Commission was established.

On Aug. 2 ...

1776 - Members of the Continental Congress began adding their signatures to the Declaration of Independence.

1939 - Albert Einstein signed a letter to President Roosevelt urging the U.S. to have an atomic weapons research program.

1939 - U.S. President Roosevelt signed the Hatch Act. The act prohibited civil service employees from taking an active part in political campaigns.

On Aug. 3 ...

1936 - The U.S. State Department advised Americans to leave Spain due to the Spanish Civil War.

1981 - U.S. traffic controllers with PATCO, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization, went on strike. They were fired just as U.S. President Reagan had warned.

1988 - The Iran-Contra hearings ended. No ties were made between U.S. President Reagan and the Nicaraguan Rebels.

1992 - The U.S. Senate voted to restrict and eventually end the testing of nuclear weapons.

On Aug. 4 ...

1790 - The Revenue Cutter Service was formed. This U.S. naval task force was the beginning of the U.S. Coast Guard.

1977 - U.S. President Carter signed the measure that established the Department of Energy.

1988 - U.S. Rep. Mario Biaggi of New York was sentenced to prison. The conviction included charges of extortion, tax evasion, and acceptance of bribes in relation to the Wedtech scandal. Biaggi was paroled in 1990.

On Aug. 5 ...

1861 - The U.S. federal government levied its first income tax. The tax was 3% of all incomes over \$800. The wartime measure was rescinded in 1872.

1981 - The U.S. federal government started firing striking air traffic controllers.

1990 - U.S. President Bush angrily denounced the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

(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.)