



Legislative Bulletin.....September 22, 2008

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Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 8

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$1.5 billion over the FY 2009 through FY 2013 period

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: Increased by \$15,000

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 7

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 8

H.Res. 1287—Commending the Honor Flight Network, its volunteers, and donors, for enabling World War II veterans to travel to our Nation's capital to see the World War II Memorial created in their honor (Moran, R-KS)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1287 would express the sense that the House of Representatives “expresses its deepest appreciation to the Honor Flight Network, its volunteers, and donors, who honor America's World War II veterans with an opportunity to see the World War II Memorial in Washington, District of Columbia.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “In 2004, nearly 60 years after World War II ended, veterans of that war and all those who supported the war effort at home received recognition of their service, sacrifice, and victory through the dedication of a national World War II Memorial located on the National Mall in Washington, District of Columbia;

- “Many veterans of World War II are now in their 80s and 90s, and are unable, physically or financially, to visit our Nation's capital to see the World War II Memorial for themselves;
- “Earl Morse of Ohio and Jeff Miller of North Carolina created the Honor Flight Network to enable World War II veterans to travel to the Memorial;
- “Now operating in communities in over 30 States, the Honor Flight Network is a grassroots, nonprofit organization that uses commercial and chartered flights to send veterans on an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, District of Columbia;
- “The Honor Flights are staffed by volunteers and funded by donations;
- “Former Senator Bob Dole, himself a wounded veteran of World War II, led the fundraising campaign to build the Memorial and often greets veterans arriving at the Memorial through the Honor Flight Network;
- “Of the 16,000,000 veterans who served in World War II, an estimated 2,500,000 are alive today and dying at a rate of over 900 a day; and
- “The Honor Flight Network is working against time to thank America's World War II veterans.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1287 was introduced on June 19, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 6897—Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2008 (*Filner, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 6897 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6897 would authorize \$198 million to create the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund, which would be used to make payments to individuals that served in the military forces of the Government of the Philippines during World War II. The bill would direct the Secretary of Treasury to make a one-time payment of \$15,000 to Filipino military service members that have since become U.S. citizens and \$9,000 to non-U.S. citizens. H.R. 6897 would keep all the funds authorized available until they are expended.

Additional Information: According to CRS, the U.S. acquired the Philippines from Spain in 1898 as a result of the Spanish-American War. In 1934, Congress passed the Philippine Independence Act which established a structure for granting the Philippines independence within 10 years. On July 26, 1941, before the Philippines were made independent, President Franklin

Roosevelt signed an executive order placing all of the Philippine's military forces under the command of the U.S. During the war, more than 100,000 members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army served as a part of the U.S. Armed Forces of the Far East.

Following WWII, Congress passed the first and second Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act, which provided benefits to individuals who served in the Philippines military during WWII. The legislation gave certain benefits to service members from the Philippines. While the benefit levels varied based on an individual's particular service, the bill gave every WWII service member from the Philippines compensation for service-connected disability and dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of soldiers that were killed during their service. H.R. 6897 would make payments to all Filipinos who served during WWII, including organized guerrilla forces and Philippine Scouts.

For more information, please see this CRS report:
<http://www.congress.gov/erp/rl/pdf/RL33876.pdf>.

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 6897 would authorize direct payments for Filipino military service members who served in WWII, even though those service members already receive compensation for service-connected disabilities. Some conservatives may also be concerned that Congress has already passed legislation to give benefits to certain Filipino service members from WWII. According to CRS, "...the passage of the first Rescission Act was meant to balance competing financial interests by providing some benefits, such as pensions for service-connected disability or death, while at the same time reducing the U.S. liability for future benefits... hearings on the second Rescission Act also clearly indicate that it was Congress's intent to limit wartime benefits given to New Philippine Scouts." Some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 6897 expands benefits to Filipino military service members, seemingly in contradiction to Congress' original intent. In addition, some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 6897 would give military service payments to non-U.S. citizens.

Committee Action: H.R. 6897 was introduced on September 15, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, which took no further action.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score for this legislation is available. However, the bill would authorize \$198 million to establish the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 6897 would create the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund to make payments to individuals that served in the military forces of the Government of the Philippines during World War II.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available.

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S. 1315—Veterans’ Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007 (*Akaka, D-HI*)

Order of Business: S. 1315 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: S. 1315 would expand a number of veterans’ benefits. The bill would increase veteran insurance, housing, education, training, and legal benefits. The House amendment would strike section 5 five from the original bill. That section expanded burial benefits at an estimated cost of approximately \$800 million over five years. With that section removed, CBO now estimates that the bill would cost \$6 million over the FY 2009 through FY 2013 period to conduct required studies. The specific provisions of the bill follow below.

Insurance Matters

S. 1315 would require the Veterans Insurance and Indemnities to provide the administrative costs of insurance for service disabled veterans’ through premiums. The bill would also expand Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance coverage to include certain members of the Individual Ready Reserve. In addition, the bill would allow service members to designate a fiduciary for traumatic injury protection in case of lost mental capacity or extended loss of consciousness.

Housing Matters

The legislation would make totally disabled members of the Armed Forces eligible for VA-provided home improvement and structural alteration payments before they’re discharged or released from the Armed Forces.

Labor and Education Matters

S. 1315 would require the VA to coordinate with the Departments of Labor and Education to reduce overlap and duplication with respect to approvals for education programs designed for service members. The bill would authorize the VA to waive the residency requirement for State Directors of Veterans’ Employment and Training. The bill would also require the VA to update a special unemployment study to include veterans of the Post-9/11 Global Operations period and require an annual update to the report.

Court Matters

The bill would modify the rules governing service and payment of retired judges performing recall service for the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The bill would repeal

the limit on service for those judges who voluntarily serve more than 90 days. S. 1315 would also give the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims additional discretion when imposing practice and registration fees. The bill would also require the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims to submit annual reports to Congress on its workload. Finally, S. 1315 would require the General Services Administration to study and report on the feasibility of expanding the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims' facilities.

Committee Action: S. 1315 was introduced on May 7, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, which reported the bill by unanimous consent on June 27, 2007. On April 24, 2008, the bill passed the Senate by a vote of [96-1](#). The same day, the bill was forwarded to the House, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, S. 1315 would cost \$6 million over the FY 2009 through FY 2013 period.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? [Senate Report 110-148](#) does not cite compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits.

Constitutional Authority: [Senate Report 110-148](#) does not cite constitutional authority.

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H.R. 160—Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act (Holt, D-NJ)

Order of Business: H.R. 160 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 160 would authorize \$50 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to establish Battlefield Acquisition Grant Program for Battlefields of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. The program would make grants state and local governments to purchase land that the National Park Service (NPS) has identified as historically significant battlefields in its *Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States*, which was released in September 2007. The bill would stipulate that any grant must be matched by the grant recipient and could only be used to purchase land from willing sellers.

Additional Information: In 1996, Congress passed the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996, which established programs to protect historic battle sites across the country. The same year Congress passed the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Historic Preservation Study Act of 1996, which required the NPS to conduct a study of significant battle sites from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. In 2007, the results of that study were released. According to [House Report 110-796](#), the study “identified and documented 677 principal places associated with the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812--most of which the Study concluded were at risk. The Study found that of the 243 battlefield sites, 143 are already lost or extremely fragmented. The remaining 100 battlefields retain only 37 percent of their original historic scene and many are only partially protected, while 18 of those sites have no legal protection at all.” H.R. 160 would create a grant program to purchase and preserve these remaining sites.

Committee Action: H.R. 160 was introduced on January 4, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 160 would authorize \$10 million in FY 2009 and \$50 million over the FY 2009 through FY 2013.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 160 would establish Battlefield Acquisition Grant Program for Battlefields of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-796](#), “H.R. 160 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-796](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 2933—Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2008 (Miller, R-CA)

Order of Business: H.R. 2933 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2933 would reauthorize the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 (ABPA) at current funding level through FY 2013. The bill would authorize \$10 million annually to fund the program. Under current law, the Act is set to expire on September 30, 2008.

Additional Information: In 1996, Congress passed the ABPA, which established programs to protect historic battle sites across the country. The bill authorized the Department of the Interior, operating through the National Park Service (NPS), to make grants for preserving Civil War battlefields that are not controlled by the NPS. According to NPS, “the goals of the program are 1) to protect battlefields and sites associated with armed conflicts that influenced the course of our history, 2) to encourage and assist all Americans in planning for the preservation, management, and interpretation of these sites, and 3) to raise awareness of the importance of preserving battlefields and related sites for future generations. The ABPP focuses primarily on land use, cultural resource and site management planning, and public education.”

Committee Action: H.R. 2933 was introduced on June 28, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 2933 would authorize \$10 million in FY 2009 and \$50 million over the FY 2009 through FY 2013.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-792](#), “H.R. H.R. 2933 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-792](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 4828— Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park Boundary Expansion and Redesignation Act of 2008 (*Ortiz, D-TX*)

Order of Business: H.R. 4828 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4828 would expand the boundaries of the National Park System’s Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site. The bill would expand the site by 34 acres to include a site known as the Resaca de la Palma, as a unit of unit of the National Park System.

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-791](#), “the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site is the only National Park System unit dedicated to the preservation and

interpretation of the Mexican-American War. First established by Congress in 1978 and updated in 1992, the park preserves the site of the Battle of Palo Alto, the first battle of the Mexican-American War. However, fighting was not limited to the parcel of land currently preserved by the park. Fighting at a site called Resaca de la Palma proved pivotal in permanently repulsing the Mexican army from the north bank of the Rio Grande and is significant to the history preserved by the National Park Service at Palo Alto Battlefield.”

Committee Action: H.R. 4828 was introduced on December 18, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 4828 would cost \$1.2 million over the FY 2009 through the FY 2013 period to operate the new portion of the park.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 4828 would expand the boundaries of the National Park System’s Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-791](#), “H.R. 4828 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-791](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 5853—Minute Man National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act (*Tsongas, D-MA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 5853 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5853 would expand the boundaries of the National Park System’s Minute Man National Historical Park in Concord, Lexington, and Lincoln, Massachusetts. The bill would expand the site by 67 acres to the park, including Colonel James Barrett’s Farm site and adjacent land. The bill would also authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land from willing sellers within the boundary with donated or appropriated funds, by donation, or by exchange

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-839](#), the Minute Man National Historic Park currently covers 967 acres across Massachusetts, paying tribute to the very first

battles of the Revolutionary War. In 2006, Congress authorized a study by the Secretary of Interior to determine whether the site should be expanded to include the farm of Colonel James Barrett. According to the Committee, “Colonel James Barrett was a leading Revolutionary War patriot and military figure and his farm, in Concord, played a significant role in the events leading up to the opening battles of the Revolutionary War at Lexington and Concord in April, 1775.” The study was released in 2007 and determined that the farm house was remarkably well preserved and met the criteria for inclusion in the Minute Man National Historical Park.

Committee Action: H.R. 5853 was introduced on April 17, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 23, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 5853 would cost \$2.5 million over the FY 2009 through the FY 2013 period to operate the new portion of the park and to acquire new land from willing sellers.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 5853 would expand the boundaries of the National Park System’s Minute Man National Historical Park.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-839](#), “H.R. 5853 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-839](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 6176—To authorize the expansion of the Fort Davis National Historic Site in Fort Davis, Texas, and for other purposes (*Rodriguez, D-TX*)

Order of Business: H.R. 6176 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6176 would expand the boundaries of the National Park System’s Fort Davis National Historic Site in Fort Davis, Texas. The bill would expand the site by 55 acres to the park. The bill would include adjacent parcels of land in the site’s designation in order to maintain the scenery around the fort. The bill would also authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land from willing sellers within the boundary with donated or appropriated funds, by donation, or by exchange

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-797](#), “Fort Davis National Historic Site, authorized in 1961 (P.L. 87-213) is regarded as one of the best preserved forts in the American Southwest. Named for then-Secretary of War Jefferson Davis, the fort was strategically located to protect emigrants, mail coaches, and freight wagons traveling through the southwest from 1854 to 1891. Fort Davis is also important to understanding the impact of African Americans in the West and in the frontier military, as the 24th and 25th U.S. Infantry and the 9th and 10th U.S. Cavalry (the all-black ‘Buffalo Soldier’ regiments established after the Civil War) were stationed at this post.” The purpose of the bill is to acquire and protect adjacent parcels of land to preserve the scenic backdrop around Fort Davis.

Committee Action: H.R. 6176 was introduced on June 4, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 6176 would cost \$1 million over the FY 2009 through FY 2010 period to operate the new portion of the park and to acquire new land.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 6176 would expand the boundaries of the National Park System’s Fort Davis National Historic Site.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-797](#), “H.R. 6176 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-797](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 6159—Deafy Glade Land Exchange Act (*Miller, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 6159 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6159 would require the Forest Service to convey 82 acres of land in the Mendocino National Forest known as the Fouts Springs Ranch to Solano County, California, in exchange for 160 acres of non-federal land adjacent to the Fouts Springs-Deafy Glade Federal and Non-Federal Lands.

Additional Information: Solano County, California, currently operates a correctional youth facility on 82 acres of land that is owned by the federal government and administered by the county via a special use permit. The county would like to acquire the property and has gathered forest land to convey to the federal government in exchange for the land occupied by the youth facility. In 2006, a feasibility study was conducted to determine if the conveyance would be beneficial.

According to [House Report 110-861](#), “In June of 2006, the Forest Service prepared a Feasibility Analysis on the proposed Fouts Springs Land Exchange. The Feasibility Analysis found that ‘the subject appraisals . . . demonstrate the potential for an equal value exchange,’ and that ‘the hazardous fuels program would benefit from the exchange.’ Furthermore, the lands the Forest Service would acquire are wilderness-quality lands bordering the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area and have been identified as priority areas for land acquisition by the Forest Service dating as far back as 1992. Nevertheless, the Forest Service has raised concerns about the land exchange due to the potential impact it may have on off-highway vehicle (OHV) use in the area. The Feasibility Analysis concluded that the proposed land exchange should not move forward and that ‘the OHV user community would likely be opposed to the exchange.’ H.R. 6159, however, recognizes the public benefits of the land exchange.”

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 6159 could limit public recreational access to 160 acres of land by conveying it from Solano County, California, to the federal government under the administration of the Forest Service.

Committee Action: H.R. 6159 was introduced on June 4, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, enacting H.R. 6159 would increase net direct spending by \$15,000 over the next 10 years.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 6159 would expand the boundaries of the National Forest Service’s boundaries.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-861](#), “H.R. 6159 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-861](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 5335—To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, and for other purposes (Wamp, R-TN)

Order of Business: H.R. 5335 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5335 would add 2,845 miles in new routes to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The bill would add the Bell and Bengé routes, land components of water routes in Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee, and routes from the collection forts in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee to the trail. The bill would stipulate that no routes outside the exterior boundaries of any federally administered area may be acquired for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail without the consent of the owner.

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-840](#), “In 1987, Congress designated the original 2,422-mile Trail of Tears National Historic Trail commemorating the two main routes used during the forced removal (P.L. 100-192). At that time, many of the side routes used during the removal were not well documented, including important round-up routes from the forts to which the Cherokee had originally been taken in North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama, as well as the unique routes taken by the detachments led by pro-treaty leader John Bell and Cherokee Captain John Bengé.” In 2006, Congress required the NPS to conduct a study of possible additional routes that could be added to the trail. H.R. 5335 would add the routes that the study found eligible for designation as components of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

Committee Action: H.R. 5335 was introduced on February 8, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 23, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, enacting H.R. 5335 would cost \$300,000 annually, beginning in FY 2009.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, H.R. 5335 would expand the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-840](#), “H.R. 5335 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-840](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

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H.R. 3336—Camp Hale Study Act (Lamborn, R-CO)

Order of Business: H.R. 3336 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3336 would require the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service (NPS), to conduct a study to assess the feasibility of designating Camp Hale, Colorado, as a unit of the National Park System. The bill would require the NPS to submit the study within three years of enactment.

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-841](#), “Camp Hale was established during World War II as a training venue for the Army’s 10th Mountain Division and other elements of the U.S. Armed Forces. The geography of the area is ideal for winter and high-altitude training, with steep mountains surrounding a level valley suitable for housing and other facilities. In addition to the 10th Mountain Division, the 38th Regimental Combat Team, 99th Infantry Battalion, and soldiers from Fort Carson were trained at Camp Hale from 1942 to 1965. Throughout this time, the Army tested a variety of weapons and equipment at Camp Hale.” In 1992, Camp Hale was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Committee Action: H.R. 3336 was introduced on February 8, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 23, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, enacting H.R. 3336 would cost \$500,000 over the FY 2009 through FY 2013 period.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-841](#), “H.R. 3336 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-841](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 3849—Box Elder Utah Land Conveyance Act (Bishop, R-UT)

Order of Business: H.R. 3849 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3849 would require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey 31 acres of National Forest System land in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Box Elder County, Utah, to the town of Mantua, Utah. The land would be conveyed without any other consideration.

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-790](#), the town of Mantua, Utah, has planned major development projects including a new city cemetery, a new town hall and fire station, an elementary school, court and law enforcement facilities, and a memorial park. H.R. 3849 would convey federal land under the administration of the National Forest System for the town of Mantua to conduct its expansion plans.

Committee Action: H.R. 3849 was introduced on October 16, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, enacting H.R. 3849 would have no significant effect on discretionary spending and no effect on direct spending or revenues.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-790](#), “H.R. 3849 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-790](#) cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 3299—To provide for a boundary adjustment and land conveyances involving Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, to correct the effects of an erroneous land survey that resulted in approximately 7 acres of the Crystal Lakes Subdivision, Ninth Filing, encroaching on National Forest System land (Musgrave, R-Co)

Order of Business: H.R. 3299 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3299 would require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey 7 acres of Roosevelt National Forest near Fort Collins, Colorado, to the Crystal Lakes' subdivision.

Additional Information: According to [House Report 110-793](#), a 1975 land survey inaccurately located the boundaries of the Crystal Lakes' subdivision, a private community that is adjacent to the Roosevelt National Forest. Because of the flawed survey, the subdivision was accidentally given 7 acres of land that was actually inside the boundaries of the Roosevelt National Forest. In 2003 a new survey was conducted and found that there were about 20 parcels of land that had been sold to private individuals, but were actually a part of the National Forest. As a result, the Bureau of Land Management notified the owners of the land and told them that they would have to pay the government for their property. H.R. 3299 would convey the land to the subdivision so that private property owners would not have to pay the government for land they have already purchased as a result of a flawed survey.

Committee Action: H.R. 3299 was introduced on August 1, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 16, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, enacting H.R. 3299 would cost less than \$500,000.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-793](#), "H.R. 3299 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI."

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-793](#), cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

**H.Res. 1374—Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Grand Coulee Dam and recognizing its critical role in the national and economic security of the United States and the contributions of hydroelectric power to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
(McMorris Rogers, R-WA)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1374 would express the sense that the House of Representatives;

- “Commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Grand Coulee Dam;
- “Honors the sacrifice of the 107 individuals who lost their lives during the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam; and
- “Recognizes that:
 - “The Grand Coulee Dam continues to play a critical role in the national and economic security of the United States by providing vital electric power and crop irrigation;
 - “Hydroelectric power is a clean, renewable resource that is emissions-free and plays a major role in controlling emissions of greenhouse gases; and
 - “Having clean, affordable hydroelectric power helps reduce the reliance of the United States on foreign oil imports and supports the successful wind power industry in the Northwestern United States by ensuring the availability of electricity in the absence of sufficient wind power.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The Grand Coulee Dam was one of the largest public construction projects of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s ‘New Deal’, in response to the Great Depression;
- “Construction of the Grand Coulee Dam began in the summer of 1933 and was completed in 1942;
- “107 individuals lost their lives during the construction process;
- “The Grand Coulee Dam became the largest concrete structure in the world, with 12 million cubic yards of concrete--enough to build a sidewalk around the Earth twice;
- “During World War II electricity from the Grand Coulee Dam was needed to run the aluminum plants that supported the production of ships and planes;
- “Forecasts of energy shortages in the 1960s led to the construction of a 3rd power plant at the Grand Coulee Dam, more than doubling its generating capacity
- “The Columbia Basin Project includes 300 miles of canals and more than 3,000 miles of irrigation ditches, which supply water to 500,000 acres of farmland, an area twice the size of the State of Delaware;
- “The crops grown on this farmland are worth more than \$500 million per year; and
- “The Grand Coulee Dam is the cornerstone of the electric power system in the State of Washington and the largest hydroelectric power facility in North America.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1374 was introduced on July 24, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

**H.R. 6685—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans
(Lynch, D-MA)**

Order of Business: H.R. 6685 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6685 would require the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), to provide grants to entities that provide iron working training programs for members of federally recognized Indian tribes. The bill would require any entity that receives such a grant to provide specialized training in iron working skills, provide classroom and on-the-job training, and facilitate job placement for participants upon successful completion of the program. The bill does not authorize any additional funds for the BIA to carry out the grant program.

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 6685 would establish a new federal grant program specifically for members of federally recognized Indian tribes to receive taxpayer funded iron working training.

Committee Action: H.R. 6685 was introduced on July 31, 2008, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 6685 was not available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, the bill establishes a program to provide grants to entities that provide iron working training programs for members of federally recognized Indian tribes.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available.

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 1907—Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Act (Saxton, R-NJ)

Order of Business: H.R. 1907 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1907 would authorize the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program to provide grants to state and local governments to acquire and protect coastal and estuarine areas. The program would be administered by the Department of Commerce, acting through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The bill would authorize \$60 million for the program annually, through FY 2013.

The bill would require NOAA to consult with a state's coastal zone management program and any other state and local agencies to coordinate the distribution of grants. The state and local governments, agencies, or non-profit entities would be required to identify priority conservation needs and priority coastal lands to include in the program. NOAA would be required to work with states to prioritize certain land for acquisition and protection under the bill.

The legislation would require that state and local governments and entities that work with the federal government to acquire coastal and estuarine areas must provide matching funds. The bill would also limit program eligibility to states that have coastal population densities of at least 85 people per square mile. This provision would effectively make Alaska, Oregon, Minnesota, and Maine ineligible for funding under the program.

H.R. 1907 would stipulate that nothing in the bill would be construed to:

- Require a private property owner to participate in the program.
- Require any private property owner to allow public access to the private property.
- Modify the application of any provision of Federal, State, or local law with regard to public access to or use of private property, except as provided by a voluntary agreement entered into by the owner or custodian of the property.

Additional information: The following background was supplied by the Natural Resources Committee's minority staff.

The 2002 Commerce, State, Justice and Judiciary appropriations bill authorized NOAA to establish a Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP). The authorization required the Secretary to create a competitive grant program for the purpose of allocating funds to coastal states to purchase coastal lands that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic value, or that are threatened by conversion from their natural or recreational states.

According to NOAA, between 2002 and 2006, the CELCP program has provided \$177 million for 130 projects to protect and conserve coastal and estuarine lands. The first CELCP project was the acquisition of Deer Island, a 3.9 mile long, 464-acre barrier island located off the coast of Biloxi, Mississippi. The island habitat included sand beaches, tidal flats, marshes and maritime forests. The acquired land preserved habitat for birds and wildlife and provided recreational opportunities for the public. The CELCP program has received an initial appropriation of \$15.8 million in 2002, a high of \$50.6 million in 2004, to a low of \$8 million in 2008.

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that H.R. 1907 would authorize \$300 million for the federal government to collaborate with coastal states to acquire private property. Some conservatives may also be concerned that H.R. 1907 would require the federal government to make grants to purchase land to which it would not hold a title.

Committee Action: H.R. 1907 was introduced on April 18, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up on July 25, 2008, and reported the bill, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 1907 would authorize \$60 million in FY 2009 and \$300 million over the FY 2009 through FY 2013 period.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to [House Report 110-811](#), “H.R. 3299 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: [House Report 110-811](#), cites constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8, but does not cite a specific clause.

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

S.J.Res. 45—Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact (*Levin, D-MI*)

Order of Business: S.J.Res. 45 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: S.J.Res. 45 would codify the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Compact. The Compact is an agreement regarding Great Lakes water rights that was signed by the Great Lakes Governors, and the applicable Canadian Provincial Premiers, on December 13, 2005. As of

August 17, 2008, the Compact had been passed by the legislature of every state included in the deal and signed by every governor. The agreement would affect the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, as well as the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Québec. S.J.Res 45 would codify the agreement and give it the force of law.

Among other things, the Compact would establish the St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council, which would be comprised of the governors of every applicable state. The council would be required to create a single water rights jurisdiction among the states by combining water rights grant to each individual state.

The council would be required to establish a preliminary set of objectives for water use efficiency and water quality improvement within two years. The bill would authorize the council to conduct water conservation and efficiency programs, research and collect, compile, analyze, interpret, report, and disseminate data on water resources and uses, conduct investigations, institute court actions, and promulgate rules to enforce the compact.

Additional information: According to Council of State Governments, “since 2001, the Council of Great Lakes Governors (CGLG) has worked to develop a framework of binding agreements among the Great Lakes states and Canadian provinces for managing the Great Lakes resource. The culmination of this effort is the new Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact. The agreement details how states and provinces will manage and protect the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, including:

- Ban new diversions of water from the Basin; limited exceptions could be allowed, such as for public water supply purposes, but would be strictly regulated.
- Enforce a consistent standard to review proposed uses of Great Lakes water.
- Collect and share technical data on the use of Great Lakes water, and promote the sharing of information among Great Lakes states and provinces.
- Develop regional goals for water conservation and efficiency and promote water conservation and efficiency programs in the states and provinces.
- Promote lasting economic development balanced with sustainable water use.
- Recognize the Great Lakes basin as a shared public treasure and commit to continued public involvement in the implementation of policies.”

Committee Action: S.J.Res. 45 was passed in the Senate on August 1, 2008. On September 8, 2008, the bill was reported in the House and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for S.J.Res. 45 was not available.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available.

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 5352—Elder Abuse Victims Act of 2008 *(Sestak, D-PA)*

Order of Business: H.R. 5352 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5352 would require a new study and report to Congress on state laws relating to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. For this study, the bill authorizes \$1 million for FY 2009, and \$2 million for each FY 2010-2015. In addition, the bill would require that states develop and implement policies and plans to address elder abuse, including justice programs. For these plans, the bill authorizes \$3 million for each FY 2009-2015.

The bill authorizes a new grant program to award victim advocacy grants for the study of the special needs of victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. For this new grant program, the bill authorizes \$2.5 million for FY 2009, and \$3 million for each FY 2010-2015.

The bill also creates new grant programs to award grants to support local and state prosecutors, law enforcement, and federal prosecutors in elder justice matters and to establish procedures to ensure that the Department of Justice (DOJ) dedicates resources to investigating and prosecuting elder justice cases. For these new grant programs, the bill authorizes \$15 million for FY 2009, and \$20 million for each FY 2010-2015.

The bill would require that each recipient of a grant used a portion of their funds to conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities carried out through their grant. The bill authorizes \$7 million for each FY 2009-2015 to award grants to entities in order to conduct their evaluations.

The bill also amends title XX (Block Grants to States for Social Services) of the Social Security Act to add a new part B (Elder Justice) establishing an Elder Justice Coordinating Council and the Advisory Board on Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation.

The bill would also require the Secretary to promulgate guidelines to assist researchers working in the area of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, with issues relating to human subject protections. The bill authorizes \$6.5 million for FY 2009, and \$7 million for each FY 2010-2012.

Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that this legislation creates numerous new grant programs, and authorizes more than \$35 million for FY 2009, and more than \$42 million for each FY 2010-2015.

Committee Action: H.R. 5352 was introduced on February 12, 2007, and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, as well as the House Committee on Ways and Means. The Committee on the Judiciary held a mark-up of the bill on June 11, 2008 and reported the bill, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, “H.R. 5352 would authorize the appropriation of \$315 million over the 2009-2015 period for programs to improve the treatment of elderly victims in the justice system. Most of these funds would be for Department of Justice grants to state and local governments. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$173 million over the 2009-2013 period, with remaining amounts spent in subsequent years. Enacting H.R. 5352 would not affect direct spending or revenues.”

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, the bill creates numerous new grant programs.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H.R. 6853— Nationwide Mortgage Fraud Task Force Act of 2008
(Meek, D-FL)

Order of Business: H.R. 6853 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6853 would create a nationwide FBI task force on mortgage fraud. The bill lists the required functions of the taskforce as the following:

- “establish coordinating entities, and solicit the voluntary participation of Federal, State, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies in such entities, to organize initiatives to address mortgage fraud, including initiatives to enforce State mortgage fraud laws and other related Federal and State laws;
- “provide training to Federal, State, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies with respect to mortgage fraud, including related Federal and State laws;
- “collect and disseminate data with respect to mortgage fraud, including Federal, State, and local data relating to mortgage fraud investigations and prosecutions; and
- “perform other functions determined by the Director of the FBI to enhance the detection of, prevention of, and response to mortgage fraud in the United States.”

The bill also suggest that the taskforce create a toll-free hotline for reporting mortgage fraud, providing the public with access to information and resources with respect to mortgage fraud, and directing reports of mortgage fraud to the appropriate local law enforcement and prosecutorial agency. The bill also suggests the creation of a database to facilitate the sharing of such information by States.

Conservative Concerns: According to the House Committee on the Judiciary Republican staff, the FBI already has 42 regional task forces in place that are currently investigating mortgage fraud along with state and local law enforcement. In addition, the bill did not go through the normal Committee mark-up process, and concerns from many Republicans on the Judiciary Committee were never addressed. While the bill does not authorize any funds directly, Republican staffers on the Committee expect that it will costs a significant amount to establish a new task force, as well as to implement other mandates within the bill (i.e. a hotline, a database, etc.)

Committee Action: H.R. 6853 was introduced on September 8, 2008 and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, where no official action was taken.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score exists for this legislation.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, the bill authorizes a new taskforce at the FBI.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

**H. Res. 1438— Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Azorean Refugee Act of 1958 and celebrating the extensive contributions of Portuguese-American communities to the United States
(Nunes, R-CA)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 1438 would express the sense that the House or Representatives

- “commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Azorean Refugee Act of 1958;
- “celebrates the Azorean Refugee Act of 1958 as worthy and admirable legislation that represented America at its finest, reaching out to people in need; and
- “recognizes the momentous contributions of Portuguese immigrants and their descendants to the United States, who have so greatly enriched our Nation.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “from September 27, 1957, until October 24, 1958, a series of violent eruptions and earthquakes that amounted to a natural calamity destroyed the economic infrastructure in Faial Island, Portugal, and impacted all of the 9 islands in the Azores archipelago;
- “the United States offered a helping hand to the distressed people of the Azores by introducing and passing the Azorean Refugee Act, spearheaded by Senators John Pastore of Rhode Island and John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, which became Public Law 85-892;
- “the eruption of the Capelinhos Volcano led to a wave of Portuguese immigration that brought more than 175,000 Azoreans to the United States between 1960 and 1980;
- “according to the United States Census from the year 2000, there were 1,176,615 Portuguese-Americans in the United States, and the vast majority of these were of Azorean descent;
- “the Portuguese of the American east coast have dominated the fishing industry, and contributed to making New Bedford, Massachusetts, one of our Nation’s greatest seaports;
- “Portuguese immigrants and their descendants have contributed substantially to American workforce, leadership, and culture, and produced successful physicians, lawyers, and university professors;
- “in the public sector, Portuguese-Americans have become legislators at the local, State, and Federal level, State attorney generals, justices, judges, and successful lawyers, and are members of school committees and boards, as well as city councils;
- “as the governor of California, Ronald Reagan proclaimed the 2nd week of March as Portuguese Immigrant Week in 1969; and
- “President John F. Kennedy recognized that immigrants coming from the Azores had made excellent contributions to our Nation as citizens.”

Committee Action: H. Res. 1438 was introduced on September 15, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

**H. Res. 1464— Recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the founding
of AARP *(Miller,*
*D-CA)***

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 1464 would express the sense that the House of Representatives “recognizes and commends AARP for 50 years of outstanding service, promoting the lives and retirement security of older persons age 50 and older, and to future generations for aging Americans.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with over 40 million members that is dedicated to improving the quality of life of people 50 and over as they age;
- “AARP was founded in 1958 by Ethel Percy Andrus, a retired educator from California, around the principles of promoting independence, dignity and purpose for older Americans and encouraging current and future generations ‘To Serve, not to be served’;
- “AARP’s vision is ‘A society in which everyone ages with dignity and purpose and in which AARP helps people fulfill their goals and dreams’;
- “AARP’s mission is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all as we age, leading positive social change and delivering value to members through information, advocacy, and service;
- “AARP’s nonpartisan advocacy activities help millions of individuals participate in the Nation’s legislative, judicial, and administrative processes;
- “AARP is a trusted source of reliable information on health, financial security, and other important issues of the 50+ population;
- “AARP provides an opportunity for volunteerism and service for its millions of members to better their families, communities, and the Nation;
- “AARP Services is a leader in the marketplace by being a force influencing companies to offer new and better services for AARP’s members;

- “AARP Foundation, its philanthropic arm, delivers information, education, and direct service program to the most vulnerable age 50+ Americans;
- “AARP Foundation’s Tax Aide, the Nation’s largest, free, volunteer-run tax preparation program has helped over 40 million low- and middle-income taxpayers;
- “AARP Foundation’s job placement program has helped over 400,000 low-income older Americans find jobs, giving them purpose and dignity;
- “AARP’s Driver Safety Program has helped over 10 million old drivers sharpen their driving skills; and
- “in 2008, its 50th anniversary, AARP renews its commitment to improving the quality of life for all older Americans and helping people of all generations fulfill their goals and dreams.”

Committee Action: H. Res. 1464 was introduced on September 18, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

**H.R. 6890— To extend the waiver authority for the Secretary of Education under section 105 of subtitle A of title IV of division B of Public Law 109-148, relating to elementary and secondary education hurricane recovery relief
(Melancon, D-LA)**

Order of Business: H.R. 6890 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6890 would extend the waiver authority for the Secretary of Education under section 105 of subtitle A of title IV of division B of Public Law 109-148, relating to elementary and secondary education hurricane recovery relief, for a year.

Committee Action: H.R. 6890 was introduced on September 15, 2008 and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, where no official action was taken.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score exists for this legislation.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

**H. Res. 1463— Recognizing the benefits of service-learning as a teaching strategy to effectively engage youth in the community and classroom, and supporting the goals of the National Learn and Serve Challenge
(Platts, R-PA)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 1463 would express the sense that the House or Representatives

- “recognizes the benefits of service-learning in enriching and enhancing academic outcomes for youth, engaging youth in positive experiences in the community, and making more constructive choices regarding their lives;
- “encourages schools, school districts, college campuses, community-based organizations, non-profits, and faith-based organizations to work towards providing youth with more service-learning opportunities; and
- “expresses support for the goals of the National Learn and Serve Challenge.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “service-learning is a teaching method that enhances academic learning by integrating classroom content with relevant activities aimed at addressing identified community or school needs;
- “service-learning has been used both in school and community-based settings as a teaching strategy to enhance learning by building on youth experiences, granting youth a voice in learning, and making instructional goals and objectives more relevant to youth;
- “service-learning has been identified as an effective tool in addressing the Nation’s dropout epidemic by making education more hands-on and relevant, especially to disadvantaged youth;

- “service-learning is proven to provide the greatest benefits to disadvantaged and at-risk youth by building self-confidence, which often translates into overall academic and personal success;
- “service-learning provides not only meaningful experiences, but a greater quantity and quality of interactions between youth and potential mentors in the community;
- “service-learning simultaneously empowers youth as both engaged learners and actively engaged citizens and contributors to the community;
- “youth engaged in service-learning provide critical service to the community by addressing a variety of needs in American towns, cities, and States, including needs such as tutoring for young children, elderly care, community nutrition, disaster relief, environmental stewardship, financial education, public safety, and a host of other needs;
- “Learn and Serve America, the only federally funded program dedicated to service-learning, annually engages over 1,500,000,000 youth in service-learning;
- “the National Learn and Serve Challenge encourages others to launch service-learning activities, and increases the recognition of Learn and Serve America.”

Conservative Concerns: This bill recognizes a program which is currently not demonstrating necessary results, according to the [Office of Management and Budget](#) assessment.

Committee Action: H. Res. 1463 was introduced on September 18, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H.R. 642— College Fire Prevention Act (*Tubbs-Jones, D-OH*)

Order of Business: H.R. 642 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 642 would require the Department of Education (DOE) to award competitive grants to private or public colleges and universities, fraternities, and sororities for up the half of the cost of installing fire sprinkler systems or other fire suppression technologies in student housing structures. The bill would require that grant priority be given to entities that have the greatest financial need, yet sets a requirement that at least 10 percent of funds be granted to historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal colleges and universities. In addition the bill would require that at least 10 percent of funds be made available for fraternities and sororities.

The bill authorizes \$100 million for each of the FY 2008-2011 to carry out this grant program.

Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that this bill would authorize a new grant program to fund fire prevention systems for dormitories and fraternity and sorority houses, which many colleges and universities already require, without the behest of the federal government.

Committee Action: H.R. 642 was introduced on January 23, 2007 and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, where no official action was taken.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score exists for this legislation, but the bill authorizes \$100 million for each FY 2008-2011.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, the bill creates a new grant program within the DOE.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H.R. 6370— Oregon Surplus Federal Land Act of 2008 *(DeFazio, D-OR)*

Order of Business: H.R. 6370 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6370 would transfer administrative jurisdiction over the Cape Arago Light Station and approximately 24 acres of Federal land near Coos Bay, Oregon to the Secretary of the Interior. Under the bill, the Secretary would be required to hold it in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians and include the land within any reservation set aside for the tribes.

The following is information provided by the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Republican staff:

The light station is currently owned by the Coast Guard; however the light was decommissioned in 2006. In 2004, the Bureau of Indian Affairs approved a plan to transfer the light station and associated land to the tribes which would be used to construct a new tribal center. The tribes, however, are not eligible to receive the land under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, which is the way that most surplus Federal light stations are disposed of. As a result, congressional action is required to accomplish the land transfer.

Under the bill, any alterations to existing structures must be first approved by the Secretary of the Interior, public access should be granted under conditions determined reasonable by the Secretary, and no commercial activities may occur on the site without the approval of the Secretary. The bill would also require the tribes to maintain the light station in accordance with the National Historic Prevention Act and allow the federal government access to the property.

Committee Action: H.R. 6370 was introduced on June 25, 2008 and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation help a mark-up of the bill on July 31, 2008 and ordered the bill reported by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score exists for this legislation.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H.R. 6524— To authorize the Administrator of General Services to take certain actions with respect to parcels of real property located in Eastlake, Ohio, and Koochiching County, Minnesota, and for other purposes (LaTourette, R-OH)

Order of Business: H.R. 6524 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6524 would authorize the Administrator of General Services to take certain actions with respect to parcels of real property located in Eastlake, Ohio, and Koochiching County, Minnesota.

Background Information: The following background information was provided by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:

In July of 1964, the City of Eastlake purchased a 10.8 acre site from the General Service Administration, for \$27,595. That purchase included a deed restriction that the property be used for recreational purposes only. For over 40, years, the property was used exclusively for recreation, including tennis and basketball courts and a Senior Center. In 2004, the City moved their Senior Center, to a newer more spacious facility, which better serves the needs of their growing senior population. In addition, the City has purchased an additional 17.18 acres of land, for recreational use, along Erie Road in Eastlake. They also have a new Lake Metro Park on Reeves Road, in Eastlake. Their total Park and Green Space acreage has expanded from 59 acres in the 60's to over 120 acres today.

The City of Eastlake was just released from a state of fiscal emergency with the State of Ohio at the end of 2007. The 10.8 acres of land is prime commercial-industrial area and could be developed to create jobs and much needed tax dollars for the City. The deed restriction prevents them from using the property for any other use than recreational. The National Park Service released park and recreational use restrictions on the site in February of 2007. GSA however, is requesting that the city pay no less than \$300,000 dollars to release the deed since they are the ones who control it. This legislation would have the City pay GSA a more reasonable price to have the deed restriction released so the City could use the land to attract employers and spur economic growth.

Committee Action: H.R. 6524 was introduced on July 26, 2008 and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, as well as the Committee on Armed Services. Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management help a mark-up of the bill on July 31, 2008 and ordered the bill reported by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score exists for this legislation.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

**H. Res. 1466— Honoring Dr. Guion S. “Guy” Bluford, Jr., and the 25th anniversary of his historic flight as the first African-American in space
(Edwards, D-MD)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 1466 would express the sense that the House or Representatives

- “salutes the 25th anniversary of the pioneering accomplishments of Dr. Guion ‘Guy’ S. Bluford, Jr. as the first African-American in space; and
- “ extends its gratitude and deep appreciation for Dr. Bluford’s dedication, commitment, and excellence as an astronaut and a leader in support of the Nation’s space program.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Dr. Guion S. ‘Guy’ Bluford, Jr., born in West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was trained as an aerospace engineer and an Air Force pilot, conducted several combat missions, logged over 5,000 hours on numerous aircraft, conducted scientific research on computational fluid dynamics, and became a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut in 1979;
- “in the early morning hours of August 30, 1983, Dr. Bluford became the first African-American to enter outer space as a crew member of the STS-8 space shuttle mission;
- “on October 30, 1985, Dr. Bluford launched with the crew of STS 61-A, the first shuttle crew to include 8 members, to conduct the United States-German cooperative D-1 Spacelab mission that was dedicated to advancing our understanding of the human vestibular and orientation systems and to conducting microgravity research in materials science, life sciences, and communication and navigation;
- “Dr. Bluford went on to successfully complete 2 additional shuttle missions with the space shuttle Discovery’s launch of the STS-39 on April 28, 1991, and the STS-53 on December 2, 1992;
- “1993, Dr. Bluford left NASA and retired as a Colonel in the Air Force to continue his distinguished service to the United States space program through leadership positions in private industry and space-related organizations.”

Committee Action: H. Res. 1466 was introduced on September 18, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

S. 2606—United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Dodd, D-CT)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: S. 2606 would reauthorize the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) at \$292 million for USFA programs over the FY 2009 through FY 2012 period. Below is a comparison between the funding authorization levels in S. 2606 and the funding levels in the last USFA reauthorization bill.

Authorized funding levels in the U.S. Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2003		Authorized funding levels in the U.S. Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2007	
2005	\$63 million	2009	\$70 million
2006	\$64 million	2010	\$72 million
2007	\$66 million	2011	\$74 million
2008	\$68 million	2012	\$76 million

The House passed a version of this legislation, H.R. 4847, on April 3, 2008 by a vote of [412-0](#). To see the RSC background document on that bill, [click here](#).

According to House Committee on Science and Technology Republican staff,

The Senate bill mirrors the House passed bill with minor revisions and additions. Specifically, S. 2606 includes the same authorization amounts and same programmatic priorities as the House bill. The Senate bill includes three substantive differences to the House bill. The maximum available to the USFA Administrator for training is increased to 7.5% of the authorization instead of 4%. A new section creates a fire service position at the National Operations Center of DHS. Finally, the requirement for development of a course in firefighting at seaports has been revised to require a feasibility study. S. 2606 has received the support of the Congressional Fire Services Institute, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the International Association of Fire Fighters, among others.

Additional Background: The USFA is a federal agency within the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) focused on reducing "life and economic losses due to fire and related emergencies, through leadership, advocacy, coordination and support." Established in 1974, the USFA offers training services to local emergency responders, awards grants for research and educational programs, and develops response tactics for firefighters. At its inception, the agencies stated goal was to reduce fire related deaths by half, which occurred in 1988 when the number of people killed in fires fell to approximately six thousand. Currently, the USFA trains over 80,000 firefighters each year.

According to House Report 110-559, 3,245 Americans were killed by fire in 2006 while 16,400 more were injured. Approximately 81 percent of all fire U.S. deaths occur in residences. In addition, the USFA reports that property damage and loss that occurred in 2006 as a result of fire totaled over \$11 billion. In addition, the USFA states that an average of 100 firefighters are killed in the line of duty annually. Of the 1.6 million fires reported in 2006, an estimated 31,000 were intentionally set and resulted in the deaths of 305 civilians.

According to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the USFA is performing adequately. OMB states that the USFA, "the program serves a specific need and has expanded services to address a wide range of hazards. Thus, a clarification of the program's purpose to avoid overlap and confusion would be beneficial as the program continues to expand." For the OMB's complete evaluation of the USFA, visit the program assessment page: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/summary/10003627.2006.html>.

Committee Action: S. 2606 passed the Senate with an amendment by unanimous consent on September 18, 2008

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, S. 2606 would authorize \$291 million over the FY 2009-2013 period.

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; Sarah.Makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H. Res. 1390— Expressing support for the designation of a 4-H National Youth Science Day
(Cardoza, D-CA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 1390 would express the sense that the House or Representatives

- “expresses support for the designation of a 4-H National Youth Science Day;
- “requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe 4-H National Youth Science Day;
- “encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and
- “encourages young people of all ages and backgrounds to pursue science studies and enter into science careers.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “barely 18 percent of 12th grade students perform at or above the proficient level in science;
- “the need for science education, especially outside the classroom, is crucial to our country’s ability to remain globally competitive;
- “today only 32.4 percent of undergraduates in the United States are leaving college with a bachelor’s degree in science or engineering, compared to 63.3 percent in Japan, 62.1 percent in Germany, and 56.2 percent in China;
- “American businesses will face a competitive crisis with the advancing science- and technology-driven global economy unless they have a workforce that has been trained in scientific fields;
- “the future global economy will be driven by market sectors that are based in science, engineering, and technology;
- “current scientists and engineers are retiring in record numbers, creating a potentially large void of skilled workers;
- “4-H and other out-of-school programs that focus on science, engineering and technology are an important part of educating and developing leaders who are well-trained and technically competent;
- “4-H is preparing America’s future workforce by developing their passion for science, engineering, and technology at an early age;
- “4-H’s educational programs have an unparalleled reach of more than 6,000,000 youth in all 50 States;
- “4-H, in partnership with more than 106 land-grant universities, shape programs in the sciences that are important to today’s workforce and critical for managing the world’s resources for years to come;
- “youth, parents, teachers, schools, and youth organizations have the ability to participate in fun, accessible, science-related activities that encourage youth exploration and experimentation at an early age; and

- “October 8, 2008 would be an appropriate day to designate as 4-H National Youth Science Day.”

Committee Action: H. Res. 1390 was introduced on July 30, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H.R. 6323— To establish a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to promote research of appropriate technologies for heavy duty plug-in hybrid vehicles, and for other purposes (Sensenbrenner, R-WI)

Order of Business: H.R. 6323 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6323 would create a competitive research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to provide grants to applicants to carry out projects to advance research and development and to demonstrate technologies for advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles. The bill would require a report on the nature of these grants. In addition, the bill authorizes an electrical grid research pilot program to establish a pilot program through the National Laboratories and Technology Centers of the Department of Energy to research and test the effects on the domestic electric power grid of the widespread use of plug-in hybrid vehicles, including plug-in hybrid vehicles that are advanced heavy duty hybrid vehicles.

The bill authorizes \$16 million for each FY 2009 through FY 2011 to carry out the new grant program, and no more than \$1 million per FY for carrying out the pilot program.

Committee Action: H.R. 6323 was introduced on June 19, 2008 and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology. On July 17, 2008, the Committee held a mark-up of the bill and ordered the bill reported, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, “The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$16 million in each of fiscal years 2009 through 2011, primarily for grants to support efforts to develop advanced heavy-duty hybrid vehicles. Those funds also would support a program to study how widespread use of plug-in hybrid vehicles would affect the domestic electric power grid. Based on information from the Department of Energy (DOE) and assuming appropriation

of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6323 would cost \$41 million over the 2009-2013 period, with additional spending occurring in later years. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.”

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes, this bill creates a new grant program.

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? A Committee Report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing constitutional authority was not available. Such a report is not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

RSC Staff Contact: Sarah Makin; sarah.makin@mail.house.gov; 202-226-0718.

H. Res. ___— Honoring the 50th anniversary of the successful demonstration of the first integrated circuit and its impact on the electronics industry (Hall, R-TX)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, September 22, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. XXX would express the sense that the House or Representatives

- “recognizes and honors the research and development efforts of Jack Kilby and his contemporaries, who by inventing and perfecting the integrated circuit brought us modern electronics and changed the world; and
- “recognizes the importance of continued advancements in electronics to the well-being of America.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “in May 1958 Jack St. Clair Kilby joined Texas Instruments because it was the only company that would permit him to work full-time on miniaturization of electronics;
- “just four months later on September 12, 1958, Jack Kilby demonstrated the first integrated circuit by combining a transistor, several resistors, and a capacitor on a half inch piece of germanium in an attempt to reduce transistor costs;
- “Jack Kilby spent his career at Texas Instruments, a productive engineering career that resulted in over 60 patents and seminal inventions, including the electronic

- calculator;
- “Jack Kilby received the National Medal of Science in 1969 and the National Medal of Technology in 1990, and shared the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2000, for his invention of and contributions to the development of the integrated circuit;
- “during Kilby’s lifetime integrated circuits provided a million fold decrease in the costs of electronics;
- “Kilby’s achievement revolutionized electronics and permitted it to grow to over \$1,500,000,000,000 in annual sales world wide;
- “the integrated circuit revolutionized computing and made possible getting a man to the moon and modern space exploration;
- “the integrated circuit led to a revolution in communications, transportation, and medical industries; and
- “the future will inevitably bring equally far-reaching integrated circuit-based advances in many fields.”

Committee Action: H. Res. XXX was introduced on September 22, 2008, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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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