

Legislative Bulletin.....January 1, 2013

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H.R. __ - Congressional Pay Freeze and Fiscal Responsibility Act (Fitzpatrick, R-PA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

<u>Summary</u>: The legislation eliminates the pay increase for federal employees and Members of Congress that is scheduled to occur in response to President Obama's Executive Order issued on December 27, 2012.

The executive order can be viewed here.

Committee Action: H.R. __ has yet to be introduced.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: None available.

S. 3662 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6 Nichols Street in Westminster, Massachusetts, as the "Lieutenant Ryan Patrick Jones Post Office Building" (Sen. Brown, R-MA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

<u>Summary</u>: The legislation would designate the U.S. Postal Service located at 6 Nichols Street in Westminster, Massachusetts, as the "Lieutenant Ryan Patrick Jones Post Office Building."

Additional Information: Lieutenant Ryan Patrick Jones, 23, died on May 2, 2007, in Baghdad of wounds he suffered when his vehicle struck a roadside bomb. First Lt. Jones was assigned to the 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, from Fort Riley, Kansas.

<u>Committee Action</u>: S. 3662 was introduced on December 5, 2012, and was referred to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which discharged the legislation. The legislation passed the Senate on December 19, 2012, by unanimous consent, without amendment. The legislation was then referred to the House Oversight and Government Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: A CBO score for the legislation is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. federal building renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Senate rules do not require a statement of constitutional authority to accompany legislation when introduced.

S. 3630 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office" (Sen. Ron Johnson, R-WI)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

<u>Summary</u>: The legislation would designate the U.S. Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office."

Additional Information: Captain Rhett W. Schiller was assigned to the 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, at Fort Bragg, N.C. He died on November 16, 2006 of injuries sustained when his unit came in contact with enemy forces using small arms fire during combat operations in Balad Ruz, Iraq.

<u>Committee Action</u>: S. 3630 was introduced on November 14, 2012, and was referred to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management Government Information, Federal Services and International Security. The legislation passed the Senate on December 19, 2012, without amendment, by unanimous consent. The legislation was then referred to the House Oversight and Government Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: A CBO score for the legislation is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. federal building renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates</u>?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Senate rules do not require a statement of constitutional authority to accompany legislation when introduced.

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Senate Amendment to H.R. 1464 - North Korean Child Welfare Act of 2012 (Royce, R-CA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

<u>Summary</u>: The legislation directs the Secretary of State to regularly brief congressional committees regarding United States government efforts to advocate for the best interests of North Korean children and children of one North Korean parent, including efforts to address, when appropriate, the adoption of such children living outside North Korea without parental care.

The legislation contains a sense of Congress that:

- "Hundreds of thousands of North Korean children suffer from malnutrition in North Korea, and North Korean children or children of one North Korean parent who are living outside of North Korea may face statelessness in neighboring countries; and
- ➤ "The Secretary of State should advocate for the best interests of these children, including, when possible, facilitating immediate protection for those living outside North Korea through family reunification or, if appropriate and eligible in individual cases, domestic or international adoption."

The original RSC Legislative Bulletin for the House passed version can be viewed here.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 1464 was introduced on April 8, 2011, and was referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no public action. This legislation passed the House on September 11, 2012, by voice vote. The legislation was then referred to, and discharged by, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. The legislation passed the Senate on December 28, 2012, by unanimous consent.

<u>Administration Position</u>: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: No CBO report is available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Royce states: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof." The statement can be found here.

S. 3677 - To make a technical correction to the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Sen. Johnson, D-SD)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

Summary: The legislation amends the Flood Disaster Protection Act by specifying that the specific section of the Act pertains to "residential" improved real estate.

This section of the Flood Disaster Protection Act deals with the escrow of flood insurance payments. The text can be <u>viewed here</u>.

<u>Committee Action</u>: S. 3677 was introduced on December 12, 2012, and was referred to the Senate Financial Services Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, which took no public action. The legislation passed the Senate on December 12, 2012, by unanimous consent. The legislation was referred to the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: No CBO score is 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 Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Senate rules do not require a statement of constitutional authority to accompany legislation when introduced.

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H.R. __ - To prevent the doubling of milk prices (Cantor, R-VA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

<u>Summary</u>: This legislation makes the following amendments to the 2008 Farm Bill. These amendment are effective as of December 31, 2012.

Suspension of Permanent Price Support Authorities: If a farm bill is not passed, then the 2013 crops of various commodities would revert to legislation passed in 1938 and 1949. Some commodities would be subject to production quotas and price supports would be based on "parity," an old formula that would have the effect of installing radically higher price supports – in some cases, double current prices or even more. This provision temporarily suspends those provisions, which are often referred to as "permanent law."

Dairy Product Price Support Program: The legislation extends this program through January 31, 2013. This program's authority expired after December 31, 2012.

Dairy Export Incentive Program: The legislation extends this program through January 31, 2013. This program's authority expired after December 31, 2012.

Milk Income Loss Contract Program: The legislation extends this program through January 31, 2013. This program's authority expired after September 30, 2012.

Committee Action: H.R. has yet to be introduced.

<u>Administration Position</u>: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: No CBO score is available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: None available.