

Legislative Bulletin.....January 13, 2010

Contents:

- H.Res. 981** - Supporting continued political and economic development in Ukraine
- H.Res. 969** - Congratulating Flint native, University of Alabama Sophomore and running back Mark Ingram on winning the 2009 Heisman Trophy and honoring both his athletic and academic achievements
- H.Res. 862** - Congratulating the staff, students, and faculty at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy for winning the 2009 Star Innovator in the Intel Schools of Distinction competition
- H.Res. __** - Congratulating North Central College on winning the 2009 NCAA Division III men's cross country championship
- H.Res. __** - Honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and encouraging the continued commitment to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a national day of service
- H.Res. 860** - Supporting the initiatives of Chicago Wilderness and the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights
- H.R. 3892** - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Highway 64 Bypass in Roper, North Carolina, as the "E.V. Wilkins Post Office"
- H.R. 4139** - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7464 Highway 503 in Hickory, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Matthew L. Ingram Post Office"
- S. 692** - To provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances.
- H.R. 2646** - Government Accountability Office Improvement Act of 2009
- H.R. 3237** - To enact certain laws relating to national and commercial space programs as title 51, United States Code, "National and Commercial Space Programs"

H.Res. 981 – Supporting continued political and economic development in Ukraine. (*Berman, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 981 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Reaffirms the strong relationship between the United States and Ukraine, and encourages continued efforts to implement the provisions of the United States-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership;
- “Expresses its support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people to consolidate democratic institutions, rule of law, respect for human rights, and economic reforms;

- “Recognizes the suffering of the Ukrainian people due to the downturn in the world economy, and supports measures by the international financial institutions to assist Ukraine;
- “Urges all parties in Ukraine to seek resolution of disputes and to take active measures to enable necessary political and economic reforms;
- “Urges the Government of Ukraine and all political parties to ensure that the 2010 election is conducted freely, fairly, transparently, and without manipulation;
- “Encourages the Government of Ukraine and all political parties to welcome the participation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international election monitors, cooperate fully with them, and provide them unimpeded access to all aspects of the election process; and
- “Reiterates its enduring support and friendship for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The United States and Ukraine have a strong relationship, as evidenced by the United States-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership, signed in December 2008 by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice with the objective of expanding cooperation on defense, trade, energy, democratic development, and cultural exchange;
- “The United States and the European Union provide assistance to help Ukraine foster peace and security, strengthen its democratic institutions, further economic growth, and counter HIV/AIDS and other deadly diseases;
- “The United States, the United Kingdom, and Russia gave security assurances to Ukraine in the Budapest Memoranda of December 5, 1994, following Ukraine's commitment to eliminate all nuclear weapons from its territory and its accession to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a non-nuclear weapons state as well as the entry into force of the START Treaty; and
- “As Vice President Biden stated when he was in Kyiv, the effort to reset the United States relationship with Russia ‘will not come at Ukraine's expense,’ and ‘the more substantive relationship we have with Moscow, the more we can defuse the zero-sum thinking about our relations with Russia's neighbors.’”

Committee Action: H.Res. 981 was introduced on December 16, 2009, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.Res. 969 – Congratulating Flint native, University of Alabama Sophomore and running back Mark Ingram on winning the 2009 Heisman Trophy and honoring both his athletic and academic achievements. (*Kildee, D-MI*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 969 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates Flint native and running back Mark Ingram on winning the 2009 Heisman Trophy and honoring both his athletic and academic achievements.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Mark Ingram was born and raised in Flint, Michigan;
- “In 2009, Mark Ingram broke the University of Alabama single-season rushing record with 1,542 yards, was named the SEC offensive player of the year, scored 18 total touchdowns and finished the season with 322 receiving yards; and
- “December 12, 2009, has been declared Mark Ingram Day in the City of Flint.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 969 was introduced on December 14, 2009, and referred to the House Education and Labor Committee, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

**H.Res. 862 – Congratulating the staff, students, and faculty at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy for winning the 2009 Star Innovator in the Intel Schools of Distinction competition.
(Foster, D-IL)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 862 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates the staff, students, and faculty at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy on this award and wish them well in all their future endeavors; and
- “Directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to the Illinois Math and Science Academy for appropriate display.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The Intel Corporation holds an annual ‘Intel Schools of Distinction’ competition in which schools compete for scientific scholarships by demonstrating an environment and curricula that demonstrates 21st century teaching and learning, with a focus on mathematics and science;
- “On September 15, 2009, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, a State-supported boarding school serving 650 of Illinois’ top high school mathematics students, was selected as the 2009 Star Innovator in the Intel Schools of Distinction competition; and
- “The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy has clearly demonstrated a continued dedication to offering the kind of education necessary to create future generations of scientists in the United States, and thus secure the future of scientific research in the United States.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 969 was introduced on October 23, 2009, and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

**H.Res. ___ – Congratulating North Central College on winning the
2009 NCAA Division III men’s cross country championship
(Biggert, R-IL)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. ___ resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates North Central College and its athletes, coaches, faculty, students, and alumni on winning the 2009 NCAA Division III men’s cross country championship; and
- “Recognizes North Central College for excellence in academics, athletics and collegiate life.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The North Central College Cardinals’ men’s cross country team won the NCAA Division III National Championship on Saturday, November 21, 2009;
- “The 2009 championship team is comprised of Neal Klein, Michael Spain, Ryan Carrigan, Nathaniel Hird, Kyle Brady, Nathan Rutz, Sean Carlson and Head Coach Al Carius;
- “The North Central College men’s cross country team’s national title is one example of the excellence students have demonstrated in athletics, as well as academics and all areas of collegiate life.”

Committee Action: H.Res. ___ was introduced on January 6, 2010 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.Res. ___ – Honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and encouraging the continued commitment to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a national day of service (Platts, R-PA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. ___ resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Encourages all individuals in the United States to pay tribute to the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through participation in community service projects on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;
- “Recognizes the inherent value of community service and volunteerism in the creation of civil society and as a means of non-violent community progress consistent with the works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;
- “Recognizes the benefits of the collaborative work by the many organizations that promote, facilitate, and carry out needed service projects nationwide;
- “Encourages its members and colleagues to urge their constituents to participate in community service projects; and
- “Acknowledges that by serving one’s country, one’s community, and one’s neighbor our Nation makes progress in civility, equality, and unity consistent with the values and life’s work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The King Holiday and Service Act, a law designating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a national day of volunteer service, was signed into law in 1994;
- “The importance of service was recognized through the signing of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13) in April 2009; and

- “The Corporation for National and Community Service is working with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change and thousands of other nonprofit, community, national service, and education organizations across the Nation to encourage individuals to serve on this holiday and throughout the year.”

Additional Information: The resolution honors the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., about which there is no controversy. However the resolution find the “importance of service was recognized through the signing of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13) in April 2009.” There were several concerns with the Serve America Act which can be found through the [RSC Legislative Bulletin](#), and [105](#) House Members voted against this legislation. Among other concerns, this legislation expands the scope of a number of programs including AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve, and the National Civilian Community Corps, and stretches the definition of a volunteer by paying them for their service, frequently providing volunteers with health benefits, housing, and other items that undermine the definition of a volunteer. While no CBO score is available for the overall bill, last year’s bill which was similar to H.R. 1388, authorized \$6.2 billion in spending for volunteer programs.

Committee Action: H.Res. ___ will be introduced on January 12, 2009, and referred to the House Education and Labor Committee, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.Res. 860 – Supporting the initiatives of Chicago Wilderness and the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights (*Quigley, D-IL*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 860 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the initiatives of the ‘Leave No Child Inside’ initiative;
- “Encourages the President to issue a proclamation in support of the goals and ideals of the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights;
- “Encourages other States and territories of the United States to support the goals and ideals of the ‘Leave No Child Inside’ initiative;
- “Encourages media and press organizations to participate in the ‘No Child Left Inside Month’; and
- “Recognizes and encourages the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights commitment to fight obesity, physical disorders, and unawareness of natural amenities by promoting quality outdoor activities for children and adults.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The Chicago Wilderness is an alliance of over 240 organizations that contribute toward the biodiversity and the quality of life in Chicago's metropolitan region;
- “Unstructured, outdoor play is important for the wholesome, balanced development of the cognitive, emotional, social, and physical skills of children;
- “The presence of natural amenities near the homes of low-income urban children is associated with higher levels of cognitive functioning;
- “The Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights joint resolution passed the State of Illinois; and
- “The Illinois General Assembly proclaimed June as ‘No Child Left Inside Month.’”

Additional Information: The Illinois General Assembly passed a joint resolution on May 30, 2009 known as “Leave No Child Inside” which resolves that: that every child should have the opportunity to discover the wilderness, which includes the State’s prairies, dunes, forests, and wetlands; camp under the stars; follow a trail; catch and release fish, frogs, and insects; climb a tree explore nature in neighborhoods and cities; celebrate their heritage; plant a flower; play in the mud or a stream; and learn to swim. The resolution text can be found [here](#).

Committee Action: H.Res. 860 was introduced on October 22, 2009 and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.R. 3892 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Highway 64 Bypass in Roper, North Carolina, as the "E.V. Wilkins Post Office" (*Butterfield, D-NC*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3892 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Highway 64 Bypass in Roper, North Carolina, as the "E.V. Wilkins Post Office."

Additional Information: Elmer Vanray "E.V." Wilkins was a former mayor of Roper and former State Board of Education member. During his lifetime he received numerous honors and awards including the North Carolina Distinguished Citizen Award, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award, the Service Award by the North Carolina Leadership Caucus, the North Carolina Distinguished Service Award, and the North Carolina Human Relations Commission's Libby D. Koontz Award. Click [here](#) to see Rep. Butterfield's statement on the legislation.

Committee Action: H.R. 3982 was introduced on October 21, 2009 and was referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. A markup was held and the bill was approved.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 3892 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.

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 reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.R. 4139 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7464 Highway 503 in Hickory, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Matthew L. Ingram Post Office" (Harper, R-MS)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4139 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7464 Highway 503 in Hickory, Mississippi, as the 'Sergeant Matthew L. Ingram Post Office.

Additional Information: Army Sergeant Matthew L. Ingram was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson in Colorado. His unit was ambushed on August 21, 2009 in the Kunar Province in Afghanistan and Sergeant Ingram was killed after coming under fire from enemy forces.

Committee Action: H.R. 4139 was introduced on November 19, 2009 and was referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. A markup was held and the bill was approved.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 4139 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.

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 reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

S. 692 - To provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances. (Schumer, D-NY)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The federal government is currently in negotiations with private parties regarding the ownership of the Tully Archive. Miss Grave Tully was President Roosevelt's personal secretary, and this archive contains around 5,000 documents, 100 personal letters, and other historical items. This legislation would surrender the government's claims to these documents so long as they are donated as gifts to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

The donation to the NARA would provide a tax deduction for the private party that currently owns the document.

A similar bill, [H.R. 1506](#), passed the House on November 16, 2009 by voice vote.

Committee Action: S. 692 was introduced on March 25, 2009 and was referred to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. A markup was held and the bill was approved.

Cost to Taxpayers: While the value of the tax deduction is unknown, CBO estimates that this legislation would have no significant net effect on federal revenues because the collection would most likely be donated at some point without the enactment of this bill.

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?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.R. 2646 - Government Accountability Office Improvement Act of 2009 (*Towns, D-NY*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.R. 2646 grants the Government Accountability Office (GAO) additional authority. The GAO is authorized to obtain agency records that it deems to be required to fulfill its functions, and can bring about civil actions. The GAO will be able to copy and retain copies of agency's records and can interview agency officers and employees. The GAO will also be able to administer oaths to witnesses. The authority granted by this legislation is intended facilitate the GAO's audit procedures.

Committee Action: H.R. 2646 was introduced on November 15, 2009, and referred to the House Judiciary Committee, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

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 reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.R. 3237 - To enact certain laws relating to national and commercial space programs as title 51, United States Code, "National and Commercial Space Programs" (*Conyers, D-MI*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3237 would combine elements of titles 15, 42, and 49 of the U.S. Code that relate to national and commercial space programs into title 51, the "National and

Commercial Space Programs.” The bill does not create any new programs or change existing programs. The bill restates existing law by consolidating provisions in titles 15, 42, and 49 that were enacted separately over the years.

Committee Action: On July 16, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on House Judiciary, which marked up the bill and passed it out of committee by voice vote, on November 2, 2009.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3237 would have no significant impact on the federal budget and would not affect 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?: H.R. 3237 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: The Committee finds the authority for this legislation in article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

RSC Staff Contact: Natalie Farr, Natalie.Farr@mail.house.gov, (202)-226-0718
