

Legislative Bulletin.....March 19, 2010

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H.Res. 1133 - Recognizing the extraordinary number of African-Americans who have overcome significant obstacles to enhance innovation and competitiveness in the field of science in the United States (*Johnson, D-TX*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Friday, March 19, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1133 that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the extraordinary number of African-Americans who have overcome significant obstacles to enhance innovation and competitiveness in the field of science in the United States;
- “Honors and recognizes all African-American innovators who have contributed to scientific education and research, directly and indirectly, whose contributions have increased economic empowerment in the United States; and
- “Encourages the Administration to invest in programs that are proven effective to lessen the achievement gap of African-Americans as well as other minority and disadvantaged groups in the sciences and ultimately strengthen competitiveness in the United States.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “From 1654 until 1865, slavery for life was legal within the boundaries of much of the present United States;
- “There is a strong likelihood that scientific innovation during the period of slavery may have been undocumented or stolen;
- “Historically Black Colleges and Universities have contributed and continue to contribute significantly to the overall percentage of African-Americans who receive undergraduate and graduate degrees in the fields of science, including agriculture (51.6 percent), biology (42.2 percent), computer science (35 percent), physical science (43 percent), and social science (23.2 percent); and
- “The United States has vast untapped potential because African-Americans and other minorities remain underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1133 was introduced on March 2, 2010, and referred to the House Science and Technology 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 report 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.

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H.Res. 1027 - Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the historic dive to the Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench, the deepest point in the world's oceans, on January 23, 1960, and its importance to marine research, ocean science, a better understanding of the planet, and the future of human exploration (*Sablan, D-MP*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Friday, March 19, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

Summary: H.Res. 1027 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the 50th anniversary of the dive to the Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench and its valuable and historic scientific contributions;
- “Recognizes the lifetime achievements of Capt. Don Walsh and Jacques Piccard and their contributions to the furtherance of ocean science, ocean engineering, human exploration, and a better understanding of the planet;
- “Recognizes the Mariana Trench as one of the world's great ocean classrooms and the need to continue to explore its depths that can lead to great scientific discoveries; and
- “Recognizes the commitment of the United States to continue to educate the future leaders in ocean science and human exploration.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Captain Don Walsh, USN (ret.), Ph.D., and Jacques Piccard piloted the United States Navy's Trieste bathyscaphe to reach the deepest point in the world's oceans and remain the only two humans to ever achieve this historic feat;
- “Captain Walsh is the recipient of two Presidential Legion of Merit Awards and numerous honors and continues to explore the world;
- “Jacques Piccard passed away in November 2008, but the Piccard Family contribution and influence to marine science and exploration continues today;
- “Only five percent of the ocean floor has been explored, but the need to continue to research the world's oceans and educate the next generation of explorers remains important to the United States in order to continue to unlock the secrets of the earth's oceans and ecosystems.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1027 was introduced on January 21, 2010, and referred to the House Science and Technology 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 report 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.

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H.Con.Res. 244 - Expressing support for the designation of March 20 as a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians (Gingrey, R-GA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Friday, March 19, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 244 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the designation of a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians; and
- “Supports the goals and ideals of a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “A National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians is designed to honor and recognize physicians who care for an ever-growing elderly population in different settings, including skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, hospice, continuing care retirement communities, post-acute care, home care, and private offices;
- “The average long-term care physician has nearly 20 years of practice experience and dedicates themselves to 1 or 2 facilities with nearly 100 residents and patients;
- “The American Medical Directors Association is the professional association of medical directors, attending physicians, and others practicing in the long-term continuum and is dedicated to excellence in patient care and provides education, advocacy, information, and professional development to promote the delivery of quality long-term care medicine;
- “The American Medical Directors Association would like to honor founder and long-term care physician William A. Dodd, M.D., C.M.D., who was born on March 20, 1921; and
- “March 20 would be an appropriate date to designate as a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians.”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 244 was introduced on March 2, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and passed the resolution by unanimous consent.

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 report 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.

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H.Res. 1040 - Honoring the life and accomplishments of Donald Harington for his contributions to literature in the United States (Snyder, D-AR)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Friday, March 19, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1040 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the life and accomplishments of Donald Harington for his contributions to literature in the United States.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Donald Douglas Harington was born on December 22, 1935, in Little Rock, Arkansas;
- “Harington taught art history at Bennett College in Millbrook, New York, from 1960 to 1962, and at Windham College in Putney, Vermont, from 1964 to 1978;
- “Harington's first novel, ‘The Cherry Pit’, was published in 1965 and over the course of his literary career he also published ‘Lightning Bug’ (1970), ‘Some Other Place. The Right Place’ (1972), ‘The Architecture of the Arkansas Ozarks’ (1975), ‘Let Us Build Us a City: Eleven Lost Towns’ (1986), ‘The Cockroaches of Stay More’ (1989), ‘The Choring of the Trees’ (1991), ‘Ekaterina’ (1993), ‘Butterfly Weed’ (1996), ‘When Angels Rest’ (1998), ‘Thirteen Albatrosses (or, Falling off the Mountain)’ (2002), ‘With’ (2003), ‘The Pitcher Shower’ (2005), ‘Farther Along’ (2008), and ‘Enduring’ (2009);
- “Entertainment Weekly called Harington ‘America's greatest unknown writer’; and
- “On November 7, 2009, at age 73, Harington died in Springdale, Arkansas, from complications of pneumonia.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1040 was introduced on January 26, 2010 and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and passed the resolution by unanimous consent.

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 report 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.

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H.R. 4840 – The “Clarence D. Lumpkin Post Office” Designation Act (Tiberi, R-OH)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Friday, March 19, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the legislation.

Summary: H.R. 4840 designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1979 Cleveland Avenue in Columbus, Ohio, as the “Clarence D. Lumpkin Post Office.”

Additional Information: Clarence D. Lumpkin is a long time community activist in Linden, OH, which is a neighborhood located about three miles north of downtown Columbus that had suffered a severe economic decline in the 1960’s and 70’s. He has affectionately referred to know as the “mayor of Linden.”

Committee Action: H.R. 4840 was introduced on March 12, 2010 and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and reported the bill by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report 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 report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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H.Res. 1174 - Supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's History Month (*Woolsey, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Friday, March 19, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1174 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of National Women's History Month; and
- “Recognizes and honors the women and organizations in the United States that have fought for and continue to promote the teaching of women's history.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The purpose of National Women's History Month is to increase awareness and knowledge of women's involvement in history;
- “In 1980, the National Women's History Project, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, was founded in Sonoma County, California, by Molly Murphy MacGregor, Mary Ruthsdotter, Maria Cuevas, Paula Hammett, and Bette Morgan to broadcast women's historical achievements;
- “In 1981, responding to the growing popularity of women's history celebrations, Congress passed a resolution making Women's History Week a national observance;
- “In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the national celebration to include the entire month of March;
- “The theme of National Women's History Month for 2010 is ‘Writing Women Back into History.’”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1174 was introduced on March 11, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and ordered the resolution to be reported by unanimous consent.

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 report 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.

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