



REP. TOM PRICE, M.D. (R-GA), CHAIRMAN  
PAUL TELLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
424 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

rsc.price.house.gov

ph (202) 226-9717 / fax (202) 226-1633

## Legislative Bulletin.....March 24, 2009

### Contents:

- H.R. 1617** - Department of Homeland Security Component Privacy Officer Act of 2009
- H.R. 1148** - To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a program in the maritime environment for the mobile biometric identification of suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security
- H.R. 730** - Nuclear Forensics and Attribution Act
- H.Res. 273** - Recognizing the 188th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy
- H.Res. 234** - Expressing support for designation of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day"
- H.Res. 182** - Expressing support for designation of the week of March 1 through March 8, 2009, as "School Social Work Week"
- S. 520** - To designate the United States Courthouse under construction at 327 South Church Street, Rockford, Illinois, as the "Stanley J. Roszkowski United States Courthouse"
- S. 383** - Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program Act of 2009

---

---

### **H.R. 1617—The Department of Homeland Security Component Privacy Officer Act of 2009 (*Carney, D-PA*)**

**Order of Business:** The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday March 24, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Major Changes Since the Last Time This Legislation Was Before the House:** None. Identical legislation was considered in the House in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress and passed by voice vote on July 30, 2008. No subsequent action was taken in the Senate.

**Summary:** H.R. 1617 would require the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the relevant heads of Homeland Security Agencies, to appoint a full time privacy official within every Department of Homeland Security (DHS) component. Specifically, the bill would require a full-time privacy official for the following DHS components:

- The Transportation Security Administration;
- The Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services;
- Customs and Border Protection;
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement;
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- The Coast Guard;
- The Directorate of Science and Technology;

- The Office of Intelligence and Analysis; and
- The Directorate for National Protection and Programs.

H.R. 1617 would require each privacy official to report to their respective component's head as well as the chief privacy officer of the DHS. Each component's full-time privacy official would be the main point of contact regarding privacy policies and directives. The bill would require the privacy official to advise the head of the component on all privacy matters in relation to any law, regulation or policy that is implemented by the component. The privacy official would also be required monitor the components compliance with all relevant privacy laws, ensure that personal information is handled properly, and assist in drafting and reviewing privacy guidelines, and conduction supervision and training for privacy programs. The legislation would require DHS component heads to ensure that the privacy official has all the information and material necessary to fulfill the obligations in the bill. H.R. 1617 would also require DHS component heads to advise privacy policy changes and develop new privacy programs and rules with the privacy official.

**Additional Background:** According to the Committee on Homeland Security, in House Report [110-755](#), the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (PL 107-296), which established the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), established a chief privacy officer for DHS. The officer is responsible for each DHS component's privacy policies and regulations. It is the officer's job to establish privacy regulations within the agency and to see that they are implemented properly. The officer works with every component of the DHS, but not every component has a full-time privacy official of their own.

The Committee on Homeland Security reports that the three components of the DHS that do have full-time privacy officials account for 57% of the total number of Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) that are reported to the DHS' privacy officer. H.R. 1617 would require each component of the DHS to establish its own privacy official in an effort to increase privacy regulations, compliance, and reporting.

**Committee Action:** On March 19, 2009, the bill was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, which took no subsequent public action.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** According to CBO, enacting identical legislation in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress would cost \$1 million annually to pay for the salaries, benefits, and support staff for five new privacy officials within the Department of Homeland Security.

**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:** No explanation of constitutional authority is provided for H.R. 1617.

**RSC Staff Contact:** Bruce F. Miller, [bruce.miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:bruce.miller@mail.house.gov), (202)-226-9720

---

---

**H.R. 1148—To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a program in the maritime environment for the mobile biometric identification of suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security (Bilirakis, R-FL)**

**Order of Business:** The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday March 24, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Major Changes Since the Last Time This Legislation Was Before the House:** None. Identical legislation was considered in the House in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress and passed by voice vote on July 30, 2008. No subsequent action was taken in the Senate.

**Summary:** H.R. 1148 would require the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Coast guard, to conduct a maritime mobile biometric identification program to detect suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security. The Secretary would be required to ensure that the program was coordinated with other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) biometric programs.

H.R. 1148 would require the Secretary to submit a cost analysis to Congress of expanding the Coast Guard's biometric identification capabilities. Specifically, the cost analysis would have to detail the cost of biometric identification capabilities for use by the Coast Guard's Deployable Operations Group, cutters, stations, and other deployable maritime teams considered appropriate by the Secretary.

**Additional Background:** Biometric identification systems allow the government to identify individuals using technology that recognizes individual-specific characteristics such as fingerprints, photographs, voice patterns, eye retinas, and hand measurements to authenticate a person's identity. According to the Committee on Homeland Security, the U.S. Coast Guard initiated the "Biometric Identification At Sea Pilot Project" in 2006 to begin collecting biometric information from individuals apprehended in the Caribbean. The information retrieved from individuals in the Caribbean is run against international terrorist databases to ensure that foreign terrorists are not using maritime passages to attack the U.S. The Committee on Homeland Security reports that since this project has been instated, the Coast Guard has used highly specialized, portable picture and fingerprint scanners to collect information from more than 1,100 migrants, and identify 257 known criminals that were attempting to enter the U.S. illegally. 72 of those

criminals were brought ashore for U.S. prosecution rather than being repatriated. Under H.R. 1148, the Coast Guard would identify individuals and cross-reference them for any criminal activity using photographic and fingerprint records.

**Committee Action:** None. On February 24, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security. On March 2, 2009, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism, which took no subsequent public action.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy is provided.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** According to CBO, enacting identical legislation considered in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress would “have no effect on the federal budget because the agency has already carried out pilot projects using biometric identification and is adopting the technique for its homeland security activities.”

**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:** No committee report citing constitutional authority is available for H.R. 1148.

**RSC Staff Contact:** Bruce F. Miller, [bruce.miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:bruce.miller@mail.house.gov), (202)-226-9720.

---

## **H.R. 730—Nuclear Forensics and Attribution Act (*Schiff, D-CA*)**

**Order of Business:** The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday March 24, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Major Changes Since the Last Time This Legislation Was Before the House:** Similar legislation was considered in the House in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress (H.R. 2631) and passed by voice vote on June 19, 2008. The Senate passed an amended version of the legislation by unanimous consent. The House did not consider that version of the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 730 expresses the sense of Congress that the President should:

- “Pursue bilateral and multilateral agreements to establish an international framework for determining the source of any confiscated nuclear material or

- weapon, as well as the source of any detonated weapon and the nuclear material used in such a weapon;
- “Develop protocols for the dissemination of sensitive information relating to nuclear materials and samples of controlled nuclear materials to the extent required by such agreements; and
  - “Develop expedited protocols for the dissemination of sensitive information needed to publicly identify the source of a nuclear detonation.”

Furthermore, the bill also amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to include within the mission of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office to develop methods to attribute nuclear or radiological material to its source when such material is intercepted by the United States, foreign governments, or international bodies or dispersed in the course of a nuclear terrorist attack or other nuclear or radiological explosion. The bill would require the Office to establish a National Nuclear Forensics Expertise Development Program which would:

- be “devoted to developing and maintaining a vibrant and enduring academic pathway from undergraduate to post-doctorate study in nuclear and geochemical science specialties directly relevant to technical nuclear forensics, including radiochemistry, geochemistry, nuclear physics, nuclear engineering, materials science, and analytical chemistry; and
- “Shall make available for undergraduate study student scholarships, with a duration of up to four years per student, which shall include,
- “At least one summer internship at a national laboratory or appropriate Federal agency in the field of technical nuclear forensics during the course of the student’s undergraduate career; make available for graduate study student fellowships, with a duration of up to five years per student,
- “At least two summer internships at a national laboratory or appropriate Federal agency in the field of technical nuclear forensics during the course of the student’s graduate career; and
- “Shall require each recipient to commit to serve for two years in a post-doctoral position in a technical nuclear forensics-related specialty at a national laboratory or appropriate Federal agency after graduation;
- “Make available to faculty awards, with a duration of three to five years each, to ensure faculty and their graduate students a sustained funding stream; and
- “Place a particular emphasis on reinvigorating technical nuclear forensics programs, while encouraging the participation of undergraduate students, graduate students, and university faculty from historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.”

The bill also included a findings section and authorizes \$30 million for each of the fiscal years 2009, 2010, and 2011.

**Additional Background:** According to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Joe Lieberman (CT – I), “Recent reports of foreign governments hacking into federal systems remind us that the federal government

is not doing enough to guarantee the security of its computer systems and the vast databases within them. Protecting federal computer systems and the systems that support critical infrastructures has never been more important. This legislation will help safeguard those systems and standardize information security measures across the government.”

**Conservative Concerns:** Some conservatives may be concerned that this bill authorizes \$90 million over three fiscal years to fund scholarship programs in nuclear science.

**Committee Action:** None. On January 27, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Committee on Foreign Affairs. On February 5, 2009, the bill was referred to the subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology, which took no subsequent public action.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** According to CBO, enacting similar legislation in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress would cost \$90 million over a five year period, subject to appropriation of the authorized amounts. It would not affect direct spending or revenues.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** Yes, the bill requires a new study to be conducted and new programs to be initiated under the “National Nuclear Forensics Expertise Development Program” at the Department of Homeland Security.

**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:** No explanation of constitutional authority is provided for H.R. 730.

**RSC Staff Contact:** Bruce F. Miller, [bruce.miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:bruce.miller@mail.house.gov), (202)-226-9720

---

---

**H.Res. 273—Recognizing the 188th anniversary of the independence of  
Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy  
(Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday March 24, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 273 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Extends warm congratulations and best wishes to the people of Greece as they celebrate the 188th anniversary of the independence of Greece;
- “Expresses support for the principles of democratic governance to which the people of Greece are committed; and
- “Notes the important role that Greece has played in the wider European region and in the community of nations since gaining its independence 188 years ago.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people;
- “The Founding Fathers of the United States, many of whom read Greek political philosophy in its original text, drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy;
- “The Greek national anthem (Hymn to Liberty) includes the words, ‘Most heartily was gladdened George Washington's brave land’;
- Greek Commander in Chief Petros Mavromichalis, a founder of the modern Greek state, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821 that ‘it is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode and . . . in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you’;
- “The people of the United States generously offered humanitarian assistance to the Greek people during their struggle for independence;
- Greece played a major role in the World War II struggle to protect freedom and democracy through such bravery as was shown in the historic Battle of Crete, which provided the Axis land war with its first major setback, setting off a chain of events that significantly affected the outcome of World War II;
- “The price for Greece in holding onto our common values in their region was high, as hundreds of thousands of civilians were killed in Greece during World War II;
- “Throughout the 20th century, Greece was one of a few countries that allied with the United States in every major international conflict;
- “Greece is a strategic partner and ally of the United States in bringing political stability and economic development to the volatile Balkan region, having invested over \$20,000,000,000 in the countries of the region, thereby creating over 200,000 new jobs, and having contributed over \$750,000,000 in development aid for the region;
- “Greece was extraordinarily responsive to requests by the United States during the war in Iraq, as Greece immediately granted unlimited access to its airspace and the base in Souda Bay, and many ships of the United States that delivered troops, cargo, and supplies to Iraq were refueled in Greece;
- “Greece is an active participant in peacekeeping and peace-building operations conducted by international organizations, including the United Nations, the North

- Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the European Union (EU), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);
- “In August 2004, the Olympic Games came home to Athens, Greece, the land of their ancient birthplace 2,500 years ago and the city of their modern revival in 1896;
  - “Greece received worldwide praise for its extraordinary handling during the 2004 Olympics of over 14,000 athletes and over 2,000,000 spectators and journalists, which it did efficiently, securely, and with its famous Greek hospitality;
  - “Greece, located in a region where Christianity meets Islam and Judaism, maintains excellent relations with Muslim nations and Israel;
  - “The Government of Greece has had extraordinary success in recent years in furthering cross-cultural understanding and has been consistently working for rapprochement with Turkey, as seen with the January 2008 visit to Turkey by Greece's Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis, the first official visit by a Greek Prime Minister in 49 years;
  - “Greece serves as a key transit country for the delivery of gas to Europe via the Turkey-Greece-Italy Interconnector;
  - “Greece and the United States are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights;
  - “Those and similar ideals have forged a close bond between Greece and the United States and their peoples;
  - “March 25, 2009, Greek Independence Day, marks the 188th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire and celebrates the aspirations for democracy that the peoples of Greece and the United States share; and
  - “It is proper and desirable for the United States to celebrate this anniversary with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which these two great nations were born.”

**Committee Action:** The resolution was introduced on March 19, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score of cost to tax payers is 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 is not available. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

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

**RSC Staff Contact:** Natalie Farr, [natalie.farr@mail.house.gov](mailto:natalie.farr@mail.house.gov), (202)-226-0718.

---

## **H.R. 234—Expressing support for designation of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" (*Linda Sanchez, D-CA*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday March 24, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 234 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors and recognizes the contributions of veterans of the Armed Forces who served in Vietnam; and
- “Encourages the people of the United States to observe ‘Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day’ with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the contributions of veterans who served in Vietnam and the importance of helping Vietnam era veterans re-adjust to civilian life.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam;
- “The United States became involved in Vietnam because policy-makers in the United States believed that if South Vietnam fell to a Communist government then Communism would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia;
- “Members of the United States Armed Forces began serving in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961;
- “As a result of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on August 2 and 4, 1964, Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (Public Law 88-408), on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as ‘peace and security’ had returned to Vietnam;
- “In 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat units arrived in Vietnam;
- “By the end of 1965, there were 80,000 United States troops in Vietnam, and by 1969 a peak of approximately 543,000 troops was reached;
- “On January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, which required the release of all United States prisoners-of-war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam;
- “On March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam;
- “More than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 members of the Armed Forces were wounded;

- “In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in the District of Columbia to commemorate those members of the United States Armed Forces who died or were declared missing-in-action in Vietnam;
- “The Vietnam War was an extremely divisive issue among the people of the United States;
- “Members of the United States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War were caught upon their return home in the crossfire of public debate about the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War;
- “The establishment of a ‘Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day’ would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War; and
- March 30, 2009, would be an appropriate day to establish as ‘Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.’”

**Committee Action:** The resolution was introduced on March 10, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score of cost to tax payers is 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 is not available. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

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

**RSC Staff Contact:** Natalie Farr, [natalie.farr@mail.house.gov](mailto:natalie.farr@mail.house.gov), (202)-226-0718.

---

---

**H.Res. 182—Expressing support for designation of the week of March 1 through March 8, 2009, as "School Social Work Week"  
(Rep. Kennedy, D-RI)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday March 24, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 182 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the designation of ‘School Social Work Week’;
- “Honors and recognizes the contributions of school social workers to the successes of students in schools across the Nation; and
- “Encourages the people of the United States to observe ‘School Social Work Week’ with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the vital role of school social workers, in schools and in the community as a whole, in helping students prepare for their futures as productive citizens.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The importance of school social work through the inclusion of school social work programs has been recognized in the current authorizations of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.);
- “School social workers serve as vital members of a school’s educational team, playing a central role in creating partnerships between the home, school, and community to ensure student academic success;
- “School social workers are especially skilled in providing services to students who face serious challenges to school success, including poverty, disability, discrimination, abuse, addiction, bullying, divorce of parents, loss of a loved one, and other barriers to learning;
- “There is a growing need for local educational agencies to offer the mental health services that school social workers provide when working with families, teachers, principals, community agencies, and other entities to address students’ emotional, physical, and environmental needs so that students may achieve behavioral and academic success;
- “To achieve the goal of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-110) of helping all children reach their optimal levels of potential and achievement, including children with serious emotional disturbances, schools must work to remove the emotional, behavioral, and academic barriers that interfere with student success in school;
- “Fewer than 1 in 5 of the 17,500,000 children in need of mental health services actually receive these services, and research indicates that school mental health programs improve educational outcomes by decreasing absences, decreasing discipline referrals, and improving academic achievement;
- “School mental health programs are critical to early identification of mental health problems and in the provision of appropriate services when needed;
- “The national average ratio of students to school social workers recommended by the School Social Work Association of America is 400 to 1; and
- “The celebration and of ‘School Social Work Week’ during the week of March 1 through March 8, 2009, highlights the vital role school social workers play in the lives of students in the United States.”

**Committee Action:** The resolution was introduced on February 23, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

**Administration Position:** No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score of cost to tax payers is 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 is not available. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

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

**RSC Staff Contact:** Natalie Farr, [natalie.farr@mail.house.gov](mailto:natalie.farr@mail.house.gov), (202)-226-0718.

---

---

## **S. 520 – “Stanley J. Roszkowski United States Courthouse” Designation Act (*Durbin, D-IL*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** S. 520 would designate the United States Courthouse under construction at 327 South Church Street, Rockford, Illinois, as the "Stanley J. Roszkowski United States Courthouse."

**Additional Background:** Stanley J. Roszkowski was a federal judge (1977-1998) for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. He was appointed by Jimmy Carter.

**Committee Action:** S. 520 was introduced on March 3, 2009 and passed the Senate on the same day by unanimous consent. On March 5, 2009, the bill was referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee which took no official action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score for S. 520 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. courthouse 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 rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

**RSC Staff Contact:** Brad Watson, [brad.watson@mail.house.gov](mailto:brad.watson@mail.house.gov), (202) 226-9719

---

---

### **S. 383 – Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program Act of 2009 (*McCaskill, D-MO*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** S. 383 would amend the authority of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) program (established by the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act) as follows:

**Audits and Investigations:** The legislation gives the Special Inspector General for the TARP program the authority to conduct, supervise, and coordinate an audit or investigation of any action authorized by the TARP program. The bill also would have the Office of the Special Inspector General for the TARP program be treated as an office included under Section 6(e)(3) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 which, according to the committee report:

“enumerates IGs that are exempt from an initial determination by the AG regarding whether an IG, Assistant IG or agent supervised by an assistant IG may (1) carry a firearm; (2) make an arrest without a warrant while engaged in official duties as authorized under this Act or other statute; or (3) seek and execute warrants for arrest, search of a premises, or seizure of evidence issued under the authority of the United States upon probable cause to believe that a violation has been committed.”

**Hiring Authority:** S. 383 gives the Special Inspector General for the TARP program hiring authority for six months from the date of enactment of the legislation. The legislation also gives the Special Inspector General for the TARP program the authority to hire (up to 25) individuals, who are currently receiving annuities from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, while allowing them to continue to receive their annuity while employed.

**Coordination with other Federal Agencies:** The legislation requires the Treasury Secretary to either “take action to address deficiencies identified by a report or investigation of the Special Inspector General or other auditor engaged by the TARP” or certify that no such action is necessary. S. 383 requires the Special Inspector General of

the TARP program to work with: the Inspector General of the Treasury, the Inspector General of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Inspector General of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Inspector General of the Federal Reserve Board, the Inspector General of the Federal Housing Finance Board, and the Inspector General of any other entity “as appropriate” to avoid duplication of effort on oversight activities.

**Reporting Requirements:** S. 383 requires the Special Inspector General for the TARP program to submit a report to Congress (no later than September 1, 2009) assessing the use of funds received by financial institutions

**Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency:** The legislation adds the Special Inspector General of the TARP program, the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, and the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction to the “[Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency](#).”

**Additional Background:** On October 3, 2008, the House passed H.R. 1424, the [Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008](#), by a vote of [263 to 171](#). The President subsequently signed the bill into law. This legislation was intended to provide a total of \$700 billion of purchasing authority for the Treasury Secretary to purchase trouble assets from financial institutions. This legislation established an Office of the Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and authorized \$50 million for the office.

The House Financial Services Committee considered the legislation on March 12, 2009 and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote. During the mark-up, several Republican amendments were offered and rejected by Democrats on the committee. These amendments included an [amendment](#) offered by Representative Hensarling (R-TX) to require the Special Inspector General for the TARP program to review the Treasury Department's efforts to “minimize any potential long-term negative impact on the taxpayer' in its implementation of TARP.” Representative Lee (R-NY) offered an amendment intended to improve oversight of TARP by requiring the Special Inspector General of the TARP program to immediately seek out and hire as subcontractors private auditors who are knowledgeable in the operation of financial institutions.

**Committee Action:** S. 383 was introduced on February 4, 2009 and passed the Senate on the same day by unanimous consent. On March 12, 2009, the House Financial Services Committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** According to CBO, the 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?:** According to the committee report, “S. 383 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule.”

**Constitutional Authority:** According to the committee report, “the Constitutional Authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 1, section 8, clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States) and clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).”

**RSC Staff Contact:** Brad Watson, [brad.watson@mail.house.gov](mailto:brad.watson@mail.house.gov), (202) 226-9719