

Legislative Bulletin.....May 4, 2010

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H.Res. 1307 - Honoring the National Science Foundation for 60 years of service to the Nation (*Gordon, D-TN*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1307 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the significance of the anniversary of the founding of the National Science Foundation;
- “Acknowledges that 60 years of National Science Foundation achievements and service to the United States have advanced our Nation's leadership in discovery, innovation, and learning in science, engineering, and mathematics; and
- “Reaffirms its commitment to support investments in basic research, education, and technological advancement through the National Science Foundation, one of the premier scientific organizations in the World.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Congress created the National Science Foundation in 1950 to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, and to secure the national defense;
- “The National Science Foundation supports a network of 200,000 individuals each year, including scientists, engineers, students, and educators at over 2,000 colleges and universities, schools, nonprofit organizations, science centers and museums, and small businesses throughout our Nation, and funds multi-user facilities and tools for conducting world-class research and research training;
- “The National Science Foundation, through its National Hazards Reduction Program, the George E. Brown, Jr., Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation, the Approaches to Combat Terrorism program, and similar research activities, has contributed to predicting and reducing the risk of devastation from natural and manmade disasters, and during the past decade has funded quick-response research at the sites of unprecedented national and international tragedies, including the September 11 attacks on the United States, the South Asian earthquake and tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, and the Haitian earthquake, which in turn will contribute to further preventing and mitigating the impact of future disasters; and
- “The research and observations supported by the National Science Foundation and conducted in the United States in the polar regions and across the planet increasingly contribute to our understanding of the climate.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1307 was introduced on April 29, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no public action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional 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?: 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.

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H.Res. 1213 - Recognizing the need to improve the participation and performance of America's students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, supporting the ideals of National Lab Day (*Fudge, D-OH*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1213 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the ideals of National Lab Day;
- “Calls upon the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the National Science Foundation to continue fostering partnerships such as those involved in National Lab Day; and
- “Encourages scientists, volunteers, and educators to participate in National Lab Day.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “In 2005 the National Academy of Sciences published a report entitled ‘Rising Above the Gathering Storm’, which estimated that in the United States innovations generated by the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields account for nearly half of the growth in gross domestic product;
- “In 2006 only 4.5 percent of college graduates in the United States received a diploma in engineering, compared with 25.4 percent in South Korea, 33.3 percent in China, and 39.1 percent in Singapore;
- “Strengthening partnerships between the Federal and State governments, the private sector, nonprofit organizations, professional societies, and the education community will improve STEM education in our Nation's schools;
- “The President has launched an ‘Educate to Innovate campaign’ which aims to increase STEM literacy so that all students can learn deeply and think critically in STEM, to move American students from the middle of the pack to the top in the next decade, and to expand STEM education and career opportunities for underrepresented groups, including women and girls; and
- “National Lab Day is a nationwide initiative to foster community-based collaborations between educators and STEM professionals and other volunteers across the country to support high-quality, hands-on, discovery-based laboratory experiences for students.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1213 was introduced on March 24, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no further action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional 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?: 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.

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H.Res. 1310 - Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the laser (Ehlers, R-MI)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1310 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the 50th anniversary of the laser; and
- “Recognizes the need for continued support of scientific research to maintain America's future competitiveness.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The invention of the laser was one of the groundbreaking scientific achievements of the 20th century;
- “In 1953, Charles H. Townes, along with graduate students James Gordon and Herbert Zeiger produced the first master device, which was a precursor to the laser that relied on microwave radiation instead of visible or infrared radiation;
- “In 1960, Theodore H. Maiman constructed the first functioning laser at Hughes Research Laboratories in Malibu, California, and the laser was first operated on May 16, 1960;
- “Since being created in 1960, lasers have become an integral and essential part of our daily lives. Lasers can be found in a wide range of applications including in compact disc players, laser printers, barcode scanners, digital video devices (DVDs), industrial welders, and surgical apparatus, amongst others; and
- “LaserFest is a year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary intended to bring public awareness to the story of the laser and scientific achievement generally, and was founded by the following partners: the Optical Society of America, the American Physical Society, the International Society for Optical Engineering, and IEEE.”

Additional Information: Everybody loves laser beams, especially [this guy](#).

Also, Dr. Evil has one simple request, explained [here](#).

Committee Action: H.Res. 1310 was introduced on April 29, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no further action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional 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?: 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.

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H.Res. 1231 - Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the United States Television Infrared Observation Satellite, the world's first meteorological satellite, launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on April 1, 1960, and fulfilling the promise of President Eisenhower to all nations of the world to promote the peaceful use of space for the benefit of all mankind (*Holt, D-NJ*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1231 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Celebrates the achievement of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Television Infrared Observation Satellite (TIROS I) team who worked together to enable the successful launch and operation of TIROS I by the United States to establish applications of space systems and technology for the benefit of people worldwide;
- “Supports science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education programs which are critical for preparing the next generation of engineers and scientists to lead future United States space endeavors;
- “Recognizes the role of the United States space program in strengthening the scientific and engineering foundation that contributes to United States innovation and economic growth; and

- “Looks forward to the next 50 years of United States achievements in the peaceful use of space to benefit all mankind.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “April 1, 2010, is the 50th anniversary of the launch by the United States of the Television Infrared Observation Satellite (TIROS I), the first weather observation satellite, that was capable of taking television images on command and remotely at locations around the world, and either recording the pictures as television signals for subsequent playback or transmitting the images to ground stations in real time;
- “TIROS resulted from the actions by President Eisenhower and Congress to create the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), a civilian space agency, which applied technology from several military programs that had been directed by the U.S. Army Signal Corps Development and Research Labs (USASCDRL) at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and the United States Army Ballistic Missile Agency in Huntsville, Alabama;
- “NASA's Nimbus Satellites and Advanced Communications Technology Satellite continued to enhance understanding and performance by further testing and development of space power systems, sensor development, and other technologies;
- “The next 50 years of United States accomplishments in space, like other important fields, will rely on individuals possessing strong mathematics, science, and engineering skills and the educators who will train such individuals; and
- “The United States space program enables the development of advanced technologies, skills, and capabilities that support the competitiveness and economic growth of the United States.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1231 was introduced on March 25, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no further action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional 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?: 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.

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H.Res. 1269 - Commemorating the 400th anniversary of the first use of the telescope for astronomical observation by the Italian scientist Galileo Galilei (Tiberi, R-OH)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1269 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Commemorates the 400th anniversary of the first use of the telescope by Galileo Galilei for astronomical observation and marks this discovery as one of the major events impacting mankind, and expresses its gratitude for Galileo's expansion of the universe and mankind's understanding of his place in the cosmos, and that the Congress of the United States of America joins the world in celebration of ‘The International Year of Astronomy’.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “2009 is the 400th anniversary of the first use of the improved telescope capable of astronomical observations by its developer, the Italian Renaissance scientist Galileo Galilei;
- “Galileo is universally regarded as the ‘Father of Modern Astronomy’, ‘Father of Modern Physics’, and ‘Father of Modern Science’;
- “Galileo's use of his telescope, the central instrument of the Scientific Revolution, enabled his discovery of certain features of the surface of the moon, the moons of Jupiter, the phases and motion of Venus, and sunspots;
- “The United Nations ‘The International Year of Astronomy 2009’ is a global effort with over 140 countries participating, initiated by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and UNESCO, at the request of Italy, Galileo's native country; and
- “Organizations, educational institutions, government entities, most notably in Italy, Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza and in the United States, NASA, Smithsonian Institution, Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, Italian Embassy and Italian Consulates, National Italian American Foundation and Italian Heritage and Culture Committee of New York, Inc., are celebrating the genius of Galileo Galilei and ‘The International Year of Astronomy 2009’ with numerous public programs, publications, symposia, proclamation ceremonies, and tributes to Galileo and his legacy.”

Additional Information: The [International Year of Astronomy 2009](#) is “a global effort initiated by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and UNESCO to help the citizens of the world rediscover their place in the Universe through the day- and night-time sky, and thereby engage a personal sense of wonder and discovery.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1269 was introduced on April 15, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology, which took no public action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional 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?: 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.

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H.R. 24 - To redesignate the Department of the Navy as the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps (Jones, R-NC)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 24 would redesignate the Department of the Navy as the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps. The positions of the Under Secretary of the Navy, the four Assistant Secretaries of the Navy, and the General Counsel of the Department of the Navy are redesignated as the Under Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps, the Assistant Secretaries of the Navy and Marine Corps, and the General Counsel of the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps, respectively. The legislation also makes technical changes to United States Code to reflect this redesignation.

Additional Information: The National Security Act of 1947 reorganized the U.S. Armed Forces and defined the Marine Corps, Army, Navy and Air Force as the four services. The Marine Corps is a legally distinct military service that is within the Department of the Navy, and this legislation further clarifies this fact. A statement from the sponsor (Jones, R-NC) can be found [here](#). A related bill, S. 504 (Sen. Roberts, R-KS) was introduced on February 27, 2009.

Committee Action: H.R. 24 was introduced on January 6, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, which took no public action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score is unavailable.

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.

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H.Res. 1132 - Honoring the USS New Mexico as the sixth Virginia-class submarine commissioned by the U.S. Navy to protect and defend the United States (*Heinrich, D-NM*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1132 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the USS New Mexico (SSN 779) as one of the most advanced submarines in the history of the U.S. Navy;
- “Commends the diligence of the New Mexico Council, Navy league of the United States, and the USS New Mexico Commissioning Committee who contributed to the support of the USS New Mexico;
- “Recognizes the hard work of the individuals and organizations who contributed to the construction of the USS New Mexico; and
- “Honors the U.S. Navy and the crew of the USS New Mexico for their commitment to helping maintain the United States supremacy of the seas.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Whereas the mission statement of the United States Navy is to ‘maintain, train and equip combat-ready Naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression and maintaining freedom of the seas’;
- “The Virginia-class submarine is the first U.S. Navy attack submarine to be designed for post-Cold War missions and is capable of operating in the open ocean as well as close to shore;
- “The Secretary of the Navy has named the U.S. Navy's sixth Virginia-class fast-attack nuclear submarine the USS New Mexico (SSN 779);
- “This submarine honors the legacy of the battleship USS New Mexico (BB-40), which served in both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters during World War II;

- “The USS New Mexico was constructed 4 months ahead of schedule, achieving the shortest construction period of any Virginia-class submarine; and
- “New Mexico, ‘The Land of Enchantment’, is proud to be honored with the most modern and sophisticated attack submarine in the world, providing undersea supremacy well into the 21st century

Committee Action: H.Res. 1132 was introduced on March 2, 2010, and referred to the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces, which took no public action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional 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?: 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.

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