

Legislative Bulletin.....July 7th, 2009

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H.R. 1129—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans (*Lynch, D-MA*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: There have been no major changes to the bill since the 110th Congress, when the bill passed by a vote of [302 – 72](#). H.R. 1129 would require the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), to provide grants to entities that provide iron working training programs for members of federally recognized Indian tribes. The bill would require any entity that receives such a grant to provide specialized training in iron working skills, provide classroom and on-the-job training, and facilitate job placement for participants upon successful completion of the program. The bill does not authorize any additional funds for the BIA to carry out the grant program.

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that the bill would establish a new federal grant program specifically for members of federally recognized Indian tribes to receive taxpayer funded iron working training.

Committee Action: On February 23, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which took no subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: While a CBO score is unavailable, the bill does not authorize additional funds for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to carry out the program.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes, the bill creates a new program within the BIA.

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. 1129.

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

H.R. 1275—The Utah Recreational Land Exchange Act of 2009
(Matheson, D-UT)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1275 directs the Secretary of the Interior, upon request of the state of Utah, to accept an offer from Utah to convey to the U.S., a parcel of non-federal land in Grand County, Utah. Upon accepting this land, the bill directs the Secretary to convey to Utah, a parcel of federal land located in Grand and Uintah Counties. The value of the two lands conveyed is to be approximately equal, or made equal by removing parcels of the non-federal land until the exchange value is equal.

The bill also sets forth provisions regarding the administration of non-federal land after the exchange, including mineral revenues, grazing permits, and hazardous materials.

Additional Background: According to the bill’s supporters, “the intent of the legislation is to place valuable recreation lands into public ownership while also benefiting public school funding in Utah. The exchange will also continue the process of consolidating State and federal ownership patterns in Utah.”

Committee Action: On March 3, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On June 10, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1275 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?: 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. 1275.

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

H.R. 762—Validate final patent number 27-2005-0081 (Heller, R-NV)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 762 would ratify the process used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management as well as the Army Corps of Engineers' permit for the reconfiguration of lands in Clark County and Lincoln County, Nevada, to help protect and facilitate the recovery of desert tortoises.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) asked BLM in 2001 to consider a change in the lease boundary to maintain desert tortoise habitat connectivity with Mormon Mesa Critical Habitat Unit and proceed with the development of a private facility.

Additional Background: The desert tortoise is a species of tortoise native to the Mojave desert and Sonoran desert of the southwestern United States. The tortoise is able to live where ground temperature may exceed 140 degrees Fahrenheit (60 degrees Celsius) because of its ability to dig underground burrows and escape the heat. Desert tortoise populations in some areas have declined since the 1980s and the Mojave population is listed as threatened. It is unlawful to touch, harm, harass or collect wild desert tortoises.

Committee Action: On January 28, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On June 10, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 762 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.

Constitutional Authority: No explanation of constitutional authority is provided for H.R. 762.

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

H.R. 556—Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act (*Farr, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 556 requires the Wildlife Service and the United States Geological Survey to conduct a recovery and research program affecting the southern sea otters along the coast of California through monitoring their population and restricting certain risk factors including human activity in their habitat. The program would authorize \$25 million over 5 years to include awarding grants for research and recovery efforts. Thirty percent of the authorizations are reserved for research, another thirty percent will be reserved for recovery activities, and the remainder will be reserved for additional grants for either research or recovery projects.

Additional Background: Since 1977, the sea otter has been listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In 1982, the FWS finalized a Southern Sea Otter Recovery Implementation Team to provide recovery efforts. Some conservatives on the committee expressed concerns that the bill may divert funds from other high priority recovery actions for threatened and endangered species in California. According to the committee, “1 percent of the total number of U.S. species listed have been recovered and/or removed from the endangered list. Today, of the 2531 listed species on the ESA list, 1,959 are US domestic species and 572 are foreign species.”

Committee Action: On January 15, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On June 10, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 556 would authorize \$5 million annually over the 2010 – 2014 period.

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 Committee Report 111-175, H.R. 556 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: According to Committee Report 111-175, article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

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**H.R. 1044—Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial
Enhancement Act of 2009 (Miller, D-CA)**

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Major Changes Since the Last Time This Legislation Was Before the House: There are no changes since the legislation was considered in the 110th Congress (H.R. 3111) and agreed to by voice vote.

Summary: H.R. 1044 would authorize the Secretary of Interior to take over administration of the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial, near Concord, California, as a unit of the National Park Service (NPS). The bill would require the Secretary of the Defense to determine that the five acre National Memorial is no longer needed by the military before it is transferred. The bill would also require the Secretary of the Defense to perform any and all necessary environmental remediation actions.

H.R. 1044 would allow the Secretary of Interior to enter into an agreement with the City of Concord to establish and operate a visitor's center and administrative building for the memorial.

Finally, the bill would express the sense of Congress that the Secretaries of Defense and Interior should work together to "repair storm damage to the Port Chicago site and develop a process by which future repairs and necessary modifications to the site can be achieved in as timely and cost-effective a manner as possible."

Addition Information: According to [House Report 110—506](#), the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial commemorates the site of the single largest homeland disaster during WWII. On the site in 1944, 320 men were killed (the majority of whom were African-American) during an explosion at the ammunition loading station. Following the explosion, Port Chicago became the site of another controversial incident when 258 of the battalion's 328 sailors refused to go back to work until conditions were improved. After the incident, 208 sailors faced court martial charges, while 50 men served prison sentences for mutiny. In 1992, the site was designated as the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial by Congress.

Committee Action: On February 12, 2009, the bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Armed Services. On February 19, 2009, the bill was referred to the subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, which took no subsequent public action.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: While no CBO score exists for H.R. 1044, CBO estimates that implementing identical legislation in the 110th Congress would cost the NPS about \$200,000 a year to operate the memorial as a park unit.

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: Bruce F. Miller, bruce.miller@mail.house.gov, (202)-226-9720.

H.R. 1945—Tule River Tribe Water Development Act (Nunes, R-CA)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1945 would authorize \$3 million for the Secretary of Interior to carry out a feasibility study to investigate possible future construction of a domestic, commercial, municipal, industrial, and irrigation water supply facility for the Tule River Tribe of the Tule River Reservation. The bill would require that the study be completed within two years of the enactment of the bill and its results be transmitted to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate. The bill would stipulate that no water provided as a result of the feasibility study may be used to supply water. There have been no major changes to the legislation since the bill was considered in the 110th Congress, and passed by a voice vote

Additional Background: According to [House Report 110-812](#), The Tule River Indian Reservation is located 75 miles north of Fresno, California, in Tulare County. The Tule Tribe consists of approximately 1,500 individuals and their reservation covers nearly roughly 58,000 acres. The Tribe has requested that a federal study be conducted in order to look at options for increasing the access to water on the reservation.

Committee Action: On April 2, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On April 13, 2009, the bill was referred to the subcommittee on Water and Power, which took no subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: The legislation authorizes \$3 million over a three year period.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes, it would require the Secretary of Interior to carry out a new feasibility study to investigate the future construction of a water development system.

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. 1945.

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

H.R. 934—To convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged land (*Sablan, D-MP*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 934 provides the Northern Mariana Islands with the same ownership and jurisdiction over offshore submerged lands as has been provided to other United States territories like Guam. Additionally, the legislation provides a less formal mechanism for the Governor to raise issues with the Federal Government than the current procedures agreed upon in the covenant that established the Commonwealth in political union with the United States. Currently, section 902 of the Covenant requires among other items, the formal appointment of negotiators during disputes. Proponents of H.R. 934 argue a less formal approach will serve to improve Federal-commonwealth relations and the ability of both sides to reach agreements.

Additional Background: After World War II, the Islands were administered by the United States and chose to keep close ties with the United States in 1975 by approving a covenant to establish a commonwealth in political union with the U.S. A new government and constitution went into effect in 1978. Similar to other U.S. territories, the islands do not have representation in the U.S. Senate, but are represented in the U.S. House of Representatives by a delegate (beginning January 2009 for the CNMI) who may vote in committee but not on the House floor.

Committee Action: On February 10, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On June 10, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO cost estimate for H.R. 934 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?: 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. 934.

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

H.Res. 476—Celebrating the 30th anniversary of June as "Black Music Month" (*Cohen, D-TN*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res.476 would resolve that the Congress:

- “That the House of Representatives celebrates the 30th anniversary of ‘Black Music Month.’”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “In 1979, the month of June was proclaimed ‘Black Music Month’ and all people in the United States were encouraged to learn more about the important role that African-American artists have played in shaping history and culture;
- “America’s cultural story is heavily influenced by the celebration and struggle of Black people through their musical expression;
- “These genres of music illustrate the complexities of the African-American experience and they give a voice to many social movements and inspiration to countless generations of people in the United States;

- “Conductor and producer Quincy Jones was heavily influenced by the improvisational nature of jazz performed in Harlem by Sarah Vaughn, Duke Ellington, and Dizzy Gillespie;
- “The Motown empire attracted creative individuals such as Smokey Robinson, The Four Tops, Holland Dozier Holland, Martha Reeves, The Temptations, The Supremes, Marvin Gaye, The Jacksons, and Stevie Wonder to Detroit;
- “African-American music illustrates exceptional musicianship;
- “African-American music embodies an original expression of the human experience by entertaining, inspiring, and stirring countless people in the United States and around the world:”

Committee Action: H.Res. 476 was introduced on May 21, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On June 18, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

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.

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

H.Res. 469—Honoring the life of Wayman Lawrence Tisdale and expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on his passing (Cole, R-OK)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res.469 would resolve that the Congress:

- “Gratitude to Wayman Lawrence Tisdale for his exceptional character and for the example that he served as a testament to the powers of positive thinking; and
- “Profound sorrow at the death of Mr. Tisdale and condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues, and to the State of Oklahoma that he represented so well.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Wayman Lawrence Tisdale was born and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and became an outstanding athlete as a student at Booker T. Washington High School;
- “1982 Mr. Tisdale was named Oklahoma's only McDonald's All American and was named Converse National High School Player of the Year;
- “Mr. Tisdale in 1983, 1984, and 1985 received the honor of being named Big Eight Player of the year for the University of Oklahoma;
- “Tisdale left his mark on the sport of professional basketball with the Indiana Pacers, Sacramento Kings, and Phoenix Suns, scoring more than 12,800 points and pulling down more than 5,000 rebounds in a 12-year career;
- “Mr. Tisdale subsequently released 8 albums of jazz music following his extraordinary basketball career;
- “Mr. Tisdale's admirable character has served as a strong example to thousands of Americans to persevere and not be bound by one calling in life, but to achieve all which they hope and aspire to for themselves and their families.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 469 was introduced on May 21, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On June 18, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

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.

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

H.Con.Res. 142—Supporting National Men's Health Week (Cummings, D-MD)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res.142 would resolve that the Congress (the Senate concurring):

- “Supports the annual National Men's Health Week; and
- “Requests that the President of the United States issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups to observe National Men's Health Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Despite the advances in medical technology and research, men continue to live an average of almost 6 fewer years than women and African-American men have the lowest life expectancy;
- “9 of the 10 leading causes of death, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, affect men at a higher percentage than women;
- “Between the ages of 45 and 54, men are 3 times more likely than women to die of heart attacks;
- “African-American men in the United States have the highest incidence in the world of prostate cancer;
- “National Men's Health Week was established by Congress and first celebrated in 1994 and urged men and their families to engage in appropriate health behaviors, and the resulting increased awareness has improved health-related education and helped prevent illness;
- “June 15 through 21, 2009, is National Men's Health Week, which has the purpose of heightening the awareness of preventable health problems and encouraging early detection and treatment of disease among men and boys:”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 142 was introduced on June 3, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On June 18, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

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.Con.Res. 127—Recognizing the significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month (*Lee, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res.127 would resolve that the Congress:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of Caribbean-American Heritage Month;
- “Encourages the people of the United States to observe Caribbean-American Heritage Month with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and activities; and
- “Affirms that--
 - “The contributions of Caribbean-Americans are a significant part of the history, progress, and heritage of the United States; and
 - “The ethnic and racial diversity of the United States enriches and strengthens the Nation.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Emigration from the Caribbean region to the American Colonies began as early as 1619 with the arrival of indentured workers in Jamestown, Virginia;
- “During the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, a significant number of slaves from the Caribbean region were brought to the United States;
- “Like the United States, the countries of the Caribbean faced obstacles of slavery and colonialism and struggled for independence
- “Alexander Hamilton, a founding father of the United States and the first Secretary of the Treasury, was born in the Caribbean;
- “Caribbean-Americans have played an active role in the civil rights movement and other social and political movements in the United States;
- “In June 2008, President George W. Bush issued a proclamation declaring June National Caribbean-American Heritage Month after the passage of H. Con. Res. 71 in the 109th Congress by both the Senate and the House of Representatives.”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 127 was introduced on May 14, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On June 18, 2009, the committee held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

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. 507 – Supporting the goals of National Dairy Month (Courtney, D-CT)

Order of Business: H.Res 507 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res 507 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals of National Dairy Month;
- “Encourages States and local governments to observe National Dairy Month with appropriate activities and events that promote the dairy industry;
- “Recognizes the important role that the dairy industry has played in the economic and nutritional well being of Americans;
- “Commends dairy farmers for their continued hard work and commitment to the United States economy and to the preservation of open space; and
- “Encourages all Americans to show their continued support for the dairy industry and dairy farmers”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “There are nearly 70,000 dairy farms throughout the United States, and approximately 99 percent of these farms are family owned;
- “The dairy industry in the United States produces more than 170 billion pounds of milk annually and contributes tens of billions of dollars to the economy; and
- “The American Dairy Association and National Dairy Council have designated June 2009 as National Dairy Month.

Committee Action: H.Res 507 was introduced on 6/4/2009, and referred to the House Committee on Agriculture 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.

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**H.Con.Res. 135 - Directing the Architect of the Capitol to place a marker in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center which acknowledges the role that slave labor played in the construction of the United States Capitol
(Lewis, D-GA)**

Order of Business: H.Con.Res. 135 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 135 resolves that the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring):

- “Shall design, procure, and place in a prominent location in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center a marker which acknowledges the role that slave labor played in the construction of the United States Capitol.”

In developing the design for the marker required under subsection (a), the Architect of the Capitol:

- “Shall take into consideration the recommendations developed by the Slave Labor Task Force Working Group;
- “Shall, to the greatest extent practicable, ensure that the marker includes stone which was quarried by slaves in the construction of the Capitol; and
- “Shall ensure that the marker includes a plaque or inscription which describes the purpose of the marker.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Enslaved African-Americans provided labor essential to the construction of the United States Capitol;
- “The report of the Architect of the Capitol entitled ‘History of Slave Laborers in the Construction of the United States Capitol’ documents the role of slave labor in the construction of the Capitol;

- “Enslaved African-Americans performed the backbreaking work of quarrying the stone which comprised many of the floors, walls, and columns of the Capitol;
- “Enslaved African-Americans also participated in other facets of construction of the Capitol, including carpentry, masonry, carting, rafting, roofing, plastering, glazing, painting, and sawing;
- “The marble columns in the Old Senate Chamber and the sandstone walls of the East Front corridor remain as the lasting legacies of the enslaved African-Americans who worked the quarries;
- “Slave-quarried stones from the remnants of the original Capitol walls can be found in Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia;
- “The Statue of Freedom now atop the Capitol dome could not have been cast without the pivotal intervention of Philip Reid, an enslaved African-American foundry worker who deciphered the puzzle of how to separate the 5-piece plaster model for casting when all others failed...”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 135 was introduced on May 21, 2009 and referred to the House Administration Committee, which reported the bill out of Committee on June 12, 2009 by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, the resolution would cost approximately \$300,000.

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?: The committee report does not cite compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits (though no such citation is required for concurrent resolutions). However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: The committee report does not cite a constitutional authority provision.

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H.Con.Res. 131 – Directing the Architect of the Capitol to engrave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the National Motto of “In God We Trust” in the Capitol Visitor Center (Lungren, R-CA)

Order of Business: H.Con.Res. 131 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 131 resolves that the Architect of the Capitol shall engrave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the National Motto of ‘In God we trust’ in the Capitol Visitor Center, in accordance with a plan submitted to and approved by House Administration and Senate Rule and Administration Committees.

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 131 was introduced on May 20, 2009 and referred to the House Administration Committee, which reported the bill out of Committee on June 12, 2009. See the committee report [here](#).

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, the resolution would cost approximately \$100,000.

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?: The committee report does not cite compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available (thought no such compliance is required for concurrent resolutions). However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: The committee report does not cite constitutional authority.

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**H.Res. 538 - Supporting Olympic Day on June 23, 2009, and
encouraging the International Olympic Committee to select Chicago,
Illinois, as the host city for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games
(Rep. Schakowsky, D-IL)**

Order of Business: H.Res. 538 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 538 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports Olympic Day and the goals that Olympic Day pursues; and
- “Encourages the International Olympic Committee to select Chicago, Illinois, as the host city for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Olympic Day, June 23, 2009, celebrates the Olympic ideal of developing peace through sport;
- “June 23 marks the anniversary of the founding of the modern Olympic movement, the date on which the Congress of Paris approved the proposal of Pierre de Coubertin to found the modern Olympics;
- “For more than 100 years, the Olympic movement has built a more peaceful and better world by educating young people through amateur athletics, by bringing together athletes from many countries in friendly competition, and by forging new relationships bound by friendship, solidarity, and fair play; and
- “The United States and Chicago, Illinois, advocate the ideals of the Olympic movement...”

Committee Action: H.Res. 538 was introduced on June 12, 2009 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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.

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H. Res. 285 – Congratulating the people of the Republic of Lithuania on the 1000th anniversary of Lithuania and celebrating the rich history of Lithuania (Shimkus, R-IL)

Order of Business: H.Res 285 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 285 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates the people of the Republic of Lithuania on the occasion of the 1000th anniversary of Lithuania;

- “Commends the Government of Lithuania for its success in implementing political and economic reforms, for establishing political, religious and economic freedoms, and for its commitment to human rights; and
- “Recognizes the close and enduring relationship between the United States Government and the Government of Lithuania.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “On February 16, 1918, the Act of Independence of Lithuania led to the establishment of Lithuania as a sovereign and democratic state, according to the resolution's findings;
- “In 1940, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania were forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union in violation of pre-existing peace treaties;
- “On March 11, 1990, the Republic of Lithuania was restored, and Lithuania became the first Soviet republic to declare independence; and
- “Lithuania has developed into a democratic country, with a free market economy and is a member of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).”

Committee Action: H.Res 285 was introduced on 3/24/2009, and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs 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.

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H.R. 1511 - Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2009 (Rep. Smith, R-NJ)

Order of Business: H.R. 1511 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1813 reauthorizes the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (TVRA).

Domestic Treatment Centers: Centers run by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to treat victims of torture. Authorizes \$25 million for fiscal year 2010, and \$25 million for fiscal year 2011.

Foreign Treatment Centers: Centers run through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to treat victims of torture overseas. Authorizes \$12 million for fiscal year 2010, and \$12 million for fiscal year 2011.

U.S. contribution to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture: Authorizes \$12 million for fiscal year 2010, and \$12 million for fiscal year 2011.

Committee Action: H.R. 1511 was introduced on March 16, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available. However, the bill authorizes \$25 million for each year, FY2010 and FY2011 for section 2 of the bill; \$12 million each year for two years for section 3 of the bill; and \$12 million each year for FY2010 and FY2011 for section 4 of the bill. The total authorized sums for FY2010 and FY2011 are \$98 million for FY2010 and FY2011.

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?: No committee report is available. However, the bill does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: No committee report is available.

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H.Res. 519 - Expressing appreciation to the people and Government of Canada for their long history of friendship and cooperation with the people and Government of the United States and congratulating Canada as it celebrates "Canada Day" (Stupak, D-MI)

Order of Business: H.Res. 519 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 519 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Expresses its appreciation to the people and Government of Canada for their long history of friendship and cooperation with the people and Government of the United States; and
- “Congratulates Canada as it celebrates its annual ‘Canada Day’.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The United States has a long-cherished economic, social, and political partnership with Canada;
- “The United States and Canada share not only a 5,500-mile border, but also common ideals and cultural affinities;
- “In this era of heightened security, the United States and Canada have renewed cooperative efforts to safeguard the movement of people and goods, improve information-sharing, and strengthen border infrastructure and technology; and
- “July 1st of each year is officially celebrated in Canada as ‘Canada Day’ in recognition of the anniversary of the establishment of the union of the British North American provinces in a federation called Canada.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 519 was introduced on June 8, 2009 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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.

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