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Contents:

Amendments to H.R. 3082— The FY2010 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act

H.R. 3082, the FY 2010 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act (sponsored by *Rep. Edwards, D-TX*), is scheduled to be considered on the House floor on Friday, July 10, 2009 under a restrictive *structured rule* ([H.Res. 622](#)) that provides one hour of general debate, and waives all points of order against the bill’s consideration, except for clauses 9 (the earmark rule) and 10 (PAYGO) of Rule XXI. The rule also waives points of order against provisions of the bill for failures to comply with various rules for appropriations bills (such as prohibitions on appropriating funds to unauthorized programs).

The bill would be considered as read through the last page before the short title of the bill.

The rule prohibits re-votes on amendments and allows the Chair to reduce to two minutes the time for electronic voting. Only the Appropriations Committee Chairman or his designee could offer a motion that the Committee of the Whole rise (i.e. stop considering amendments). The Minority would get one motion to recommit the bill, with or without instructions.

Total amendments submitted to the Rules Committee: **32**
 Total allowed under this restrictive rule: **8**

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AMENDMENTS MADE IN ORDER UNDER THE RULE

1. Cohen (D-TN). Increases by \$1.0 million (from \$71.841 billion to \$71.842 billion) funds to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, Medical services account and decreases by \$1.0 million (from \$2.084 billion to \$2.083 billion) funds to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, General Operating Expenses account.

2. Filner (D-CA)/ Langevin (D-RI). Increases by \$3.5 million (from \$2.084 billion to \$2.087 billion) funds for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, General Operating Expenses account (the amendment sponsors assert that this increase is aimed at the Office of National Veterans' Sports Programs and Special Events) and decreases by \$3.5 million (from \$10.207 billion to \$10.204 billion) funds for the VA's Medical Support and Compliance account.

3. Capito (R-WV). Increases by \$1.0 million (from \$1.8 million to \$2.8 million) funds for legal assistance to veterans (via the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims) and decrease by \$1.0 million (from \$107.0 million to \$106.0 million) funds for the Office of Inspector General.

4. Garrett (R-NJ). Increases by \$4.0 million (from \$42.0 million to \$46.0 million) funds for Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries and decreases by \$4.0 million (from \$726.8 million to \$722.8 million) funds for Construction, Minor Projects.

5. Sessions (R-TX). Requires, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report detailing the current and planned use of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) in Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities. The report would have to include the number of veterans being treated with HBOT, the types of conditions being treated with HBOT and their respective success rates, and the current inventory of hyperbaric chambers.

6. Flake (R-AZ). Prohibits funding for all of the member-requested earmarks for military construction projects (as detailed in the amendment text).

7. Hensarling (R-TX). Prohibits funds under the Military Construction—Navy and Marine Corps account from being used for the Marine Mammal Surgical Center at Point Loma Naval Base and reduces the aggregate amount provided under this section by \$2.33 million.

8. Moore (D-WI). Prohibits funds in this bill from being used for the processing of new enhanced-use (long-term) leases in the three original National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (Soldier's Home Branches) established before 1868. The three homes are located in Ohio, Maine, and Wisconsin. The amendment sponsor's office notes that this amendment would prohibit these homes from being leased out for any purpose in contravention of their original intent for disabled veterans.

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