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H.R. 2938—To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (*Rep. Costello, D-IL*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2938 would extend the deadline for commencement of construction of the Price Dam Project LTD, located on the Mississippi River in city of Alton, Wood River Township, Madison County, Illinois, for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods from the date of the expiration of the extension originally issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Additional Background: In 2007, the U.S Army Corps of Engineers reached a legal agreement with Price Dam Partnership, Ltd to begin on designing a possible hydroelectric power generating plant at the Melvin Price Dam near Alton, Ill. The agreement gave the Corps the ability to proceed on a potential design of a hydroelectric power plant and if determined feasible, begin construction. Any potential development plans can not interfere with the Dam's congressionally authorized purpose of supporting navigation on the Mississippi River.

Committee Action: On June 18, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which took no further subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO cost estimate for H.R. 2938 is not provided.

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 is 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 available.

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

**H.Res. 69—Recognizing the need to continue research into the causes, treatment, education, and an eventual cure for diabetes
(Rep. Baca, D-CA)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res.69 would resolve that the Congress:

- “Recognizes the need to continue research into the causes, treatment, education, and an eventual cure for diabetes;
- “Commends those hospitals, community clinics, educational institutes, and other organizations that are--
 - Working to increase awareness of diabetes; and
 - Conducting research for methods to help patients and families in the Latino community suffering from diabetes;
- “Congratulates the work of the Latino Diabetes Association for its great efforts to educate, support, and provide hope for individuals and their families who suffer from diabetes;
- “Supports the designation of an appropriate month to recognize ‘Latino Diabetes Awareness Month’; and
- “Calls upon the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Diabetes mellitus is a chronic disease caused by the inability of the pancreas to produce insulin or to use the insulin produced in the proper way;
- “In the case of Type I diabetes or insulin-dependent diabetes, formerly called juvenile-onset diabetes because it tends to affect persons before the age of 20, the pancreas makes almost no insulin;
- “This year 23.6 million Americans suffer from one form or another of this disease, and 5.7 million people go undiagnosed, commonly known as pre-diabetes;
- “2.0 million or 8.2 percent of all Latino Americans aged twenty years or older have diabetes, and Latino Americans are 1.5 times more likely to have diabetes than non-Latino whites of similar age;
- “Mexican-Americans, the largest Latino subgroup in the United States, are more than twice as likely to have diabetes as non-Latino whites of similar age;
- “Individuals suffering from diabetes can reduce their risk for complications if they are educated about their disease; learn and practice the skills necessary to better control their blood glucose, blood pressure, and cholesterol levels; exercise; and receive regular checkups;
- “The month of July of 2009 would be an appropriate month to recognize Latino Diabetes Awareness Month in order to educate Latino communities across the Nation about diabetes and the need for research funding, accurate diagnosis, and effective treatments.”

Committee Action: H.Res.69 was introduced on January 15, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. No further official action was taken.

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.J.Res. 56—Approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 (*Crowley, D-NY*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.J.Res.56 would extend the sanctions that are currently in place against the illegitimate Burmese regime by one more year. The sanctions, originally enacted in 2003 by the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act, ban imports of any product that is from Burma. The sanctions are set to expire on the on July 26, 2009. The legislations would extend the sanctions through July 26, 2010.

Additional Background: The ruling military junta in control of Burma for almost 20 years, the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), has engaged in human rights abuses during that time in control. In response to this behavior, Congress and President Bush signed into law the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act that prohibited the import of any Burmese product into the United States. The regime continues to engage in anti-democratic actives. Recently, the junta arrested and detained Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and Burma's democratically elected leader, Aung San Suu Kyi on questionable charges of violating her house arrest.

Committee Action: H.J.Res.56 was introduced on June 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Way and Means. No further official action was taken.

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.R. 3119—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 867 Stockton Street in San Francisco, California, as the "Lim Poon Lee Post Office" (*Pelosi, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 3119 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3119 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 867 Stockton Street in San Francisco, California, as the "Lim Poon Lee Post Office."

Additional Information: Lim Poon Lee was the first-ever Chinese-American postmaster in the country establishing a branch in San Francisco's Chinatown district in 1977. Lee immigrated to the United States at young age in 1911 where his father worked as a laundry operator in San Francisco. Lee went to college, graduate school, and law school after serving as a U.S. Army counterintelligence specialist during World War II. In addition, Lee worked with the Chinese community, WWII Veterans, and the Democratic Party and was one of the founding members of the Chinese American Democratic Club (CADC). The CADC was active in countering the 'confession program' and active in lobbying against the Chinese Exclusion Act until it was repealed in 1943. Mr. Lee passed away in 2002.

Committee Action: H.R. 3119 was introduced on July 7, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a mark-up on July 10, 2009, 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. 2972 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office 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?: 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: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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

H.Res. 534 – Supporting the goals and ideals of "National Children and Families Day" (*Edwards, D-MD*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 534 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 534 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of `National Children and Families Day'.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Research shows that a supportive and encouraging family is critical to raising strong and resilient children;
- “Strong healthy families improve the quality of life and the development of children;
- “Spending time engaging in family activities supports the development of healthy and well-adjusted children; and
- “The country's greatest natural resource is its children.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 534 was introduced on July 11, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform 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.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576

H.R. 2972—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, as the "Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office" (Boustany, R-LA)

Order of Business: H.R. 955 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2972 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, as the "Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office."

Additional Information: Conrad Snooks "Snookie" Derouen Jr., was born an only child on February 12, 1921 to Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Derouen. Enlisting into at the age of twenty-one into the Marine Corps to serve in World War II, he was killed two years later when he was shot in the neck by a Japanese sniper on July 17, 1944. He was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross. Derouen was a standout track and field athlete in high-school. Erath High School in Louisiana plays host to the Snooks Relays Track Meet each year, which draws the best track champions in the area.

Committee Action: H.R. 2972 was introduced on June 19, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a mark-up on July 10, 2009, 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. 2972 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office 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?: 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: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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

H.Res. 566—Congratulating the 2008-2009 National Basketball Association Champions, the Los Angeles Lakers, on an outstanding and historic season (*Waters, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res.556 states that Congress resolves that:

- “The 2008-2009 National Basketball Association (NBA) World Champions, the Los Angeles Lakers, are to be congratulated for an outstanding and historic season; and
- “The Lakers, in winning their 15th NBA World Championship, capped a remarkable, unprecedented single-season turnaround that captivated basketball fans across America and around the world.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The Los Angeles Lakers are one of the most successful and respected franchises in the history of the National Basketball Association (NBA);
- “In the off-season, the Lakers' General Manager, Mitch Kupchak, with the support of the team's owner, Jerry Buss, maintained the Lakers core of Kobe Bryant, Lamar Odom, Derek Fisher, Pau Gasol, and Trevor Ariza;
- “The combination of Bryant, Odom, Fisher, Gasol, and Ariza, led the 2008-2009 Lakers to a 65-17 regular season record and the number one spot in the Western Conference playoffs;
- “The Lakers won Game 5 against the Magic by a final score of 99-86, clinching a historic championship, Kobe Bryant's first championship without Shaquille O'Neal, Head Coach Phil Jackson's 10th title as a coach, and the Lakers organization's 15th championship;
- “The Lakers' Kobe Bryant was presented with the Bill Russell NBA Finals Most Valuable Player Award;

- “The hustle, team defense, and overall unselfish play of the 2008-2009 Lakers are emblematic of the tradition that has been a hallmark of the franchise for more than 63 years, and serves as a model for coaches and players everywhere.”

Committee Action: H.Res.556 was introduced on June 19, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On July 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 (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. 350 - Honoring the life and accomplishments of Harry Kalas for his invaluable contributions to the national past-time of baseball, the community, and the Nation. (*Sestak, D-PA*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 350 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 350 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the life and accomplishments of Harry Kalas for his invaluable contributions to the national past-time of baseball, the community, and the Nation.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Harry Kalas, an iconic and beloved sports broadcaster passed away on April 13, 2009;
- “Harry Kalas was born on March 26, 1936, in Naperville, Illinois;
- “Immediately following graduation, Harry Kalas served in the United States Army for two years in Hawaii;

- “Harry Kalas was a member of the original Houston Astros broadcast team in 1965; and
- “Harry Kalas, not just as a voice, but also as a husband, father, friend, and veteran, will be sorely missed in both the Philadelphia region and the United States.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 350 was introduced on April 21, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform 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.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576

H.Res. 654 – Honoring the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation (*Hastings, D-FL*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 654 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 654 resolves that Congress:

- “Honors the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the State of Israel, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Kingdom of Morocco, and the Tunisian Republic for their participation in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) as Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation;
- “Welcomes the representatives of the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation to Washington, DC, on the occasion of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe Seminar on OSCE Mediterranean Partner Engagement, July 22-23, 2009;

- “Encourages the OSCE to re-evaluate its past practices and ongoing activities in the Mediterranean dimension in order to further empower the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation in the work of the OSCE, and to support the Partners' leadership on matters which impact their citizens, their governments, and the region; and
- “Encourages the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation to continue to work with the OSCE participating states to enhance trade, economic development, security, and stability in the Mediterranean region, and to embrace existing OSCE commitments, including those in the Human Dimension.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The 1975 Helsinki Final Act and subsequent agreements and the work of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), as well as its Parliamentary Assembly and affiliated institutions, encompass what is referred to as the Helsinki Process;
- “The 1975 Helsinki Final Act included a specific section on ‘Questions relating to Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean’ in recognition of the interrelation between security in Europe and security in the Mediterranean region;
- “The long-standing relationship between the participating states of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, currently Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia, dates back to the origins of the Helsinki Process and is rooted in the important geographical, historical, cultural, economic, and political links between them and the states of the Mediterranean region; and
- “The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has convened Mediterranean Seminars at its fall meetings since 2003, with the active participation of members of parliament representing the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 654 was introduced on July 16, 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.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576

**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 21, 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.

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

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 21, 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.

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576

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. 1511 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.

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

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 21, 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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H.Res. 508 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the general aviation industry should be recognized for its contributions to the United States. (Fortenberry, R-NE)

Order of Business: H.Res. 508 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 508 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the many contributions of the general aviation industry; and
- “Encourages general aviation activities.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “General aviation includes all civilian flying except scheduled passenger airlines;
- “There are nearly 600,000 licensed pilots in the United States and an estimated 500,000 of these pilots fly general aviation aircraft;
- “There are 5,200 public use airports and more than 13,000 privately owned landing facilities in the United States; and
- “Only about 500 of these airports have commercial airline service, making general aviation an integral part of the transportation system that supports communities across the United States and provides essential air travel options to businesses and the public.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 508 was introduced on June 4, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Subcommittee on Aviation.

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. 2093—Clean Coastal Environment and Public Health Act of 2009 *(Pallone, D-NJ)*

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: Similar legislation was considered in the 110th Congress (H.R. 2537) and passed by voice vote. H.R. 2093 reauthorizes the BEACH Act grant program. Authorized discretionary spending levels for the BEACH Act grant program—used by states and localities for coastal recreation water quality monitoring and notification programs—would be set at \$60 million a year from 2009 to 2013, up from the previous authorized spending level of \$30 million a year. Specifically, the bill would:

- Require the EPA Administrator to publish criteria for the use of “rapid testing methods” to be used by states with the aim of reducing the testing period of coastal water quality from 24 hours to 2 or 3 hours;
- Require local officials to notify the EPA within 24 hours if results from a water quality sample do not meet water quality standards (a change from current law which requires such notification be given “promptly”);
- Require states and local governments to post information about coastal water quality on a publicly accessible and searchable database;

- Require the EPA to carry out a study on possible revisions to the formula for distributing money under the BEACH Act grants program.
- Requires the EPA to conduct a study on the long-term impact of climate change on pollution of coastal recreation waters specifically highlighting the “necessary Federal actions to help advance the availability of information and tools to assess and mitigate these effects in order to protect public and ecosystem health.”

Additional Background: The Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act of 2000, P.L. 106-284, authorized grants for coastal states under the Clean Water Act to be used for monitoring and notification programs for water quality. The legislation authorized discretionary spending for the program, subject to appropriation, at \$30 million annually from 2001 to 2005.

According to a committee report based on similar legislation, the BEACH Act of 2000 “was introduced to limit and prevent human exposure to polluted coastal recreation waters (including those along the Great Lakes) by assisting States and local governments to implement beach monitoring, assessment, and public notification programs.”

According to CBO, over the previous five years, the BEACH Act grants program has received an average of \$10 million in appropriations. The authorization for the BEACH Act grants program lapsed at the end of 2005.

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned with the higher authorized spending levels. H.R. 2093 would authorize the BEACH Act grant program at double the current authorized spending level.

Committee Action: On April 23, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. On June 4, 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 provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, the bill authorizes \$205 million over the 2010-2014 period. Additionally, “assuming the appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2093 would cost \$17 million in 2010 and \$175 million over the 2010-2014.”

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes, the bill increases the annual authorized spending level for the BEACH Act Grant program from \$30 million to \$60 million a year.

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 is

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 available.

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H.R. 1665—Coast Guard Acquisition Reform Act of 2009 *(Cummings, D-MD)*

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1665 would overhaul and place new requirements on the U.S. Coast Guard's Integrated Deepwater Program. The \$25 billion program was designed to upgrade and replace dilapidated Coast Guard ships, aircraft, and equipment that is specifically designed for deepwater use. The bill would ban the use of a private-sector Lead System Integrator (LSI) for the program within 180 days of enactment. The bill would provide some exceptions to this ban to allow private-sector entities already operating to continue their projects and make deliveries of ordered equipment through fiscal year 2011.

The bill would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in coordination with the LSI, to conduct a "full and open" competition in any acquisition that uses a private-sector contractor. Under certain circumstances, the Secretary may forego competition if it is in the best interest of the government. The bill would prohibit the LSI from having any financial interest in a subcontractor that was selected for a contract if the subcontractor received their contract without going through a full and open competition.

The bill would require DHS to ensure that every contract is certified for procurement by the department or by an independent third party. Private contractors would be barred from certifying subcontractors and self-certification would be prohibited. In addition, H.R. 1665 would set testing and verification standards for assets that are acquired through the Deepwater Program. The bill would prohibit a contract of more than \$10 million from being executed until DHS certifies certain standards.

H.R. 1665 would establish the Agency Chief Acquisition Officer and require the Commandant of the Coast Guard to appoint a person to the position. This individual would be responsible for monitoring the Deepwater Program and ensuring the use of detailed performance specifications and performance based contracts. H.R. 1665 also requires DHS to alter and update the Integrated Deepwater Program's project management plan within 180 days of enactment.

Additional Background: In 1998, the Coast Guard unveiled the Integrated Deepwater Program for replacing and refurbishing aging and decrepit ships, aircraft, and other deepwater equipment (50 miles offshore). The project was initially slated to be complete in 2018 and cost an estimated \$17 billion. In 2002 Integrated Coast Guard Systems (ICGS), a joint venture of Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin was awarded the contract as the Lead System Integrator (LSI) for the program. Since that time the costs and timetables for the program have grown. In 2005, an estimate stated that the project would be completed in 2028 and now cost \$28 billion. During that same time period the GAO has released a number of reports critical of the projects handling. The 110th the House passed similar legislation (H.R. 2722) by a vote of 426-0, on July 31, 2007. Companion legislation was also passed in the Senate, however, conferees were not appointed.

Committee Action: On March 23, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. On April 2, 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 provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the Coast Guard “would spend less than \$5 million over the next two or three years, mostly to develop life-cycle cost estimates for capital assets.”

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 is 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 available.

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H.R. 2498—To designate the Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building" (Oberstar, D-MN)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, June 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.R. 2498 would designate the Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "William O. Lipinski Federal Building."

Additional Information: A Democrat, Bill Lipinski represented two Congressional districts in Illinois from 1983 through January 2005. After his retirement, he was succeeded by his son, Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL). While representing the Chicago based district, Rep. Lipinski served on the Transportation and Infrastructure committee and was a member of the Blue Dog Coalition

Committee Action: H.R. 2498 was introduced on May 19, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The committee held a mark-up on June 4, 2009, and the bill was ordered to be reported by voice vote.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1817 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office 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?: 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: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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H.R. 1752— To provide that the usual day for paying salaries in or under the House of Representatives may be established by regulations of the Committee on House Administration (*Brady, D-PA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 1752 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. A similar bill (H.R. 5493) passed the House of Representatives by voice vote, on April 15, 2008.

Summary: H.R. 1752 would amend the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 2002 to authorize the Committee on House Administration to provide for the payment of

salaries each month on a date other than the current payment date, as may be necessary to conform to generally accepted accounting practices.

Currently, the usual day for paying salaries in the House is the last day of each month – except when the last day of a month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a legal public holiday, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House pays salaries on the first weekday proceeding the last day of the month. H.R. 1752 would remove this payment requirement and begin the process of altering House employees’ payment schedule. The bill would not affect Members of the House.

Committee Action: H.R. 1752 was introduced March 26, 2009, and referred to the Committee on House Administration. On June 19, 2009, a mark-up was held in Committee, and the bill was reported, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to the CBO estimate, “...one-time costs to modify or purchase required computer systems would total about \$1 million over the next two years, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.”

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?: H.R. 1752 does not include 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: The committee report cites article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

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H.R. 2510 —Absentee Ballot Track, Receive, and Confirm Act (Davis, D-CA)

Order of Business: H.R. 2510 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2510 would provide grants to states that establish a tracking system for absentee mail-in-ballots. The tracking system would allow voters to check the status of their ballots on the internet or by calling an automated number. The bill “requires a program receiving funds to track ballots, confirm receipt of ballots, provide information regarding whether the ballot was counted, and if a ballot was not counted explain the reason why it was rejected.” The reimbursement for such a system may not exceed

\$3,000 per election jurisdiction. CBO estimates there are approximately 7,000 election jurisdictions in the United States.

Background: According to [Committee Report 111-169](#), many states are seeing an increase in absentee ballots. According to a study conducted by the Overseas Vote Foundation, over half of the surveyed military who tried to vote in 2008 received their ballots too late or were not received at all.

Committee Action: H.R. 2510 was introduced May 20, 2009, and referred to the Committee on House Administration. On June 19, 2009, the bill was reported out of committee by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$20 million over the 2010-2014 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? Yes. The bill creates a new grant program.

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 reports that the Absentee Ballot Track, Receive, and Confirm Act does not include 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: The committee report sites Article 1, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution, which grants Congress the authority to make laws governing the time, place and manner of holding Federal elections

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H.R. 2728— William Orton Law Library Improvement and Modernization Act (*Lofgren, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 2728 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2728 authorizes \$3.5 million to the Librarian of Congress for maintaining and administering the operations of the Law Library. The bill provides the Law Library with a line item appropriation in order to fund the program.

The bill would also establish the William Orton Program, named after former Representative William Orton who represented Utah's 3rd District from 1991-1997. The

program would support the mission of the law library through donations and in-kind support.

Committee Action: H.R. 2728 was introduced June 4, 2009, and referred to the Committee on House Administration. On June 19, 2009, the bill was reported out of Committee, as amended, by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2728 would cost \$3.5 million over the 2009-2013 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 the committee report, “Clause 9 of House rule XXI requires committee reports on public bills and resolutions to contain an identification of congressional `earmarks,' limited tax benefits, limited tariff benefits, and the names of requesting Members. The bill contains no such items either as introduced or as reported to the House.”

Constitutional Authority: The committee report sites Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. The committee report also cites that “Clause 1(j)(4) of House rule X charges the Committee on House Administration with jurisdiction of the Library of Congress, including management thereof.”

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