

Legislative Bulletin.....September 28, 2010

Contents:

H.Res. 1605 - Recognizing the service of the medical and air crews in helping our wounded warriors make the expeditious and safe trip home to the United States and commending the personnel of the Air Force for their commitment to the well-being of all our service men and women

H.Con.Res. 319 - Recognizing the anniversary of the tragic shootings that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009

H.Res. 1630 - Expressing support for National POW/MIA Recognition Day

H.Res. 1378 - Condemning the theft from the Mojave National Preserve of the national Mojave Cross memorial honoring American soldiers who died in World War I

H.Res. 1636 - Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Hoover Dam

Senate Amendment to H.R. 714 - To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park

H.R. 5360 - Blinded Veterans Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2010

H.R. 6132 - Veterans Benefits and Economic Welfare Improvement Act of 2010

H.R. 3685 - To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website

H.R. 3787 - To amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the reserve components as active service for purposes of laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs

H.R. 5630 - To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for qualifications for vocational rehabilitation counselors and vocational rehabilitation employment coordinators employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs

H.R. 5993 - SAVINGS Act of 2010

H.R. 2853 - All-American Flag Act

H.R. 4602 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the "Emil Bolas Post Office"

H.R. 5606 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building"

H.R. 5605 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 East Fayette Street in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, as the "George C. Marshall Post Office"

H.R. 6026 - Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act

H.R. 6014 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 212 Main Street in Hartman, Arkansas, as the "M.R. 'Bucky' Walters Post Office"

H.Res. 1442 - Supporting the goals and ideals of United States Military History Month

H.Res. 1546 - Congratulating the Washington Stealth for winning the National Lacrosse League Championship

H.Res. 1479 - Supporting the United States Paralympics, honoring the Paralympic athletes

H.R. 6118 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building"

H.Res. 1617 - Supporting the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is observed on the last Sunday in September of each year in remembrance of the supreme sacrifice made by mothers who lose a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces

H.Res. 1603 - Expressing support for designation of September 2010 as National Craniofacial Acceptance Month

H.R. 3243 - To amend section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay

H.Res. 1605 - Recognizing the service of the medical and air crews in helping our wounded warriors make the expeditious and safe trip home to the United States and commending the personnel of the Air Force for their commitment to the well-being of all our service men and women (*Thompson, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1605 resolves that the House of Representatives”

- “Recognizes the service of the medical and air crews in helping our wounded warriors make the expeditious and safe trip home to the United States; and
- “Commends the personnel of the Air Force for their commitment to the well-being of all our service men and women.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Since September 11, 2001, the aeromedical evacuation system has moved over 74,000 patients, including almost 14,000 battle-injured soldiers;
- “Troops wounded in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom reach United States military hospitals in 30 hours on average;
- “Now troops wounded in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom arrive at United States hospitals on average 7 days faster than they did during Operation Desert Storm and over 40 days faster than during the Vietnam conflict;
- “A normal aeromedical evacuation crew is composed of 2 flight nurses and 3 technicians; and
- “Air Mobility Command plays a crucial role in providing humanitarian support at home and around the world.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1605 was introduced on July 30, 2010, and referred to the House Armed Services Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy 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.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report stating constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.Con.Res. 319 - Recognizing the anniversary of the tragic shootings that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009 (Carter, R-TX)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 319 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the shootings that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009, as a tragic event in the history of the Army and the United States;
- “Extends its deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the victims of the shootings who had already sacrificed a great deal by righteously answering their country's call to serve;
- “Honors the civilian law enforcement personnel of the Department of Defense for effectively implementing their training to promptly eliminate the threat, thereby limiting additional loss of life or injury;
- “Commends the Fort Hood command team for its timely response and situational control; and
- “Expresses gratitude to the Fort Hood communities, military personnel stationed at Fort Hood, military service organizations, and the American people for promptly extending comfort and assistance to the victims of the shootings and their families.

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “On November 5, 2009, a gunman entered the Soldier Readiness Processing Center at Fort Hood, Texas, and opened fire on military and civilian personnel

- who were preparing for deployment or who had recently returned to the United States from overseas;
- “13 people were killed, including 12 soldiers, one of whom was an expecting mother, and one former soldier;
 - “Civilian and military law enforcement personnel of the Department of Defense acted swiftly and courageously to neutralize the threat;
 - “Nearby Army personnel selflessly evacuated wounded individuals to safety prior to the threat being eliminated; and
 - “The Fort Hood regional communities, the State of Texas, military service organizations and countless Americans united in support of the Fort Hood victims and their families.”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 319 was introduced on September 22, 2010, and referred to the House Armed Services Committee, which took no public action.

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

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

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates? No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Although 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: A committee report stating constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.Res. 1630 - Expressing support for National POW/MIA Recognition Day (*Lipinski, D-IL*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1630 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes that National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified by law (pursuant to section 902 of title 36, United States Code) as a day

- on which the POW/MIA flag is to be flown over specified Federal facilities and national cemeteries, military installations, and post offices;
- “Extends the gratitude of the House of Representatives and the nation to those who have served the United States in captivity to hostile forces as prisoners of war;
 - “Recognizes and honors the more than 84,000 members of the Armed Forces who remain unaccounted for and their families;
 - “Recognizes the untiring efforts of national POW/MIA organizations in ensuring that America never forgets the contribution of the nation's prisoners of war and unaccounted for military personnel;
 - “Applauds the personnel of the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, the Armed Forces Identification Laboratory, the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, and the military departments for continuing their mission of achieving the fullest possible accounting of all Americans unaccounted for as a result of the previous conflicts of the United States; and
 - “Calls on all Americans to recognize National POW/MIA Recognition Day with appropriate remembrances, ceremonies, and activities.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The United States depends upon the service and sacrifices of courageous young Americans to protect and uphold the nation's ideals;
- “More than 138,000 members of the United States Armed Forces who fought in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, the Gulf War, and Operation Iraqi Freedom were detained or interned as POWs, many suffering and thousands dying from starvation, forced labor, and severe torture;
- “In addition to those POWs, more than 84,000 members of the Armed Forces who served in those wars remain listed by the Department of Defense as unaccounted for;
- “There remains today members of the Armed Forces being held captive in Iraq and Afghanistan; and
- “Congress first passed a resolution commemorating ‘National POW/MIA Recognition Day’ in 1979.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1630 was introduced on September 16, 2010, and referred to the House Armed Services Committee, which took no public action.

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

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

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

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. 1378 - Condemning the theft from the Mojave National Preserve of the national Mojave Cross memorial honoring American soldiers who died in World War I (Lewis, R-CA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1378 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Condemns the illegal removal of the Mojave Cross memorial by vandals as a repulsive act that is an insult to the brave men and women who have served in the Armed Forces and who have given their lives to defend the country; and
- “Urges the National Park Service and Federal law enforcement to continue working with the Veterans of Foreign Wars to recover the Mojave Cross memorial.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “In 1934, World War I veterans placed a cross memorial on Sunset Rock near Barstow, California, with a wooden plaque proclaiming the simple monument honored the lives of all who have defended America and freedom;
- “In 2002, Congress declared the Mojave Cross a national memorial, the only such memorial dedicated to the war dead of World War I;
- “In 2003, Congress passed legislation to protect the Mojave Cross memorial by providing for a land swap that would leave the cross on private land, to be maintained by the Veterans of Foreign Wars;
- “On April 28, 2010, the United States Supreme Court, in *Salazar v. Buono*, reversed a Court of Appeals judgment that invalidated an effort by Congress to preserve the Mojave Cross memorial through a land transfer and remanded the case for further proceedings; and
- “On May 9, 2010, the Mojave Cross memorial was reportedly vandalized and stolen.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1378 was introduced on May 19, 2010, and referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, and the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.Res. 1636 - Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Hoover Dam (*Napolitano, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1636 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Celebrates and acknowledges the thousands of workers and families that overcame difficult working conditions and great challenges to make construction of the facility possible;
- “Celebrates and acknowledges the economic, cultural, and historic significance of the Hoover Dam and its role in meeting future challenges;
- “Recognizes the past, present, and future benefits of its construction to the agricultural, industrial, and urban development of the Southwestern United States; and
- “Joins the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, and the entire Nation in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the Hoover Dam.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The Hoover Dam, a concrete arch-gravity storage dam, was built in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River between the States of Nevada and Arizona, forever changing how water is managed across the West;
- “The construction of the dam created Lake Mead, a reservoir that can store two years average flow of the Colorado River providing vitally critical flood control, water supply, and electrical power to help create and support the economic growth and development of the Southwestern United States;
- “The Hoover Dam has prevented an estimated \$50,000,000,000 in flood damages in the Lower Colorado River Basin, provides water for more than 18,000,000 people, for 1,000,000 acres of farmland in Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for 500,000 acres in Mexico, and produces on average 4,000,000,000 kilowatt-hours of hydroelectric power each year; and
- “The Hoover Dam is registered as a National Historic Landmark on the United States National Register of Historic Places and is considered one of seven modern engineering wonders by the American Society of Civil Engineers.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1636 was introduced on September 16, 2010, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

Senate Amendments to H.R. 714—Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes (*Del. Christensen, D-Virgin Islands*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill originally passed by a voice vote on February 22, 2009. Identical legislation passed in the 110th Congress by a vote of 378-0. The Senate Amendments add a requirement that any lease entered into under this Act include provisions to ensure the protection of the natural, cultural, and historic features of the Caneel Bay resort and associated property, consistent with the laws and policies applicable to National Park System lands.

H.R. 714 would authorize the Secretary of Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Island National Park to the Caneel Bay Resort on the island of St. John. The bill would require that the lease agreement:

- Requires the resort to maintain and operate the land in a manner consistent with the preservation and conservation objectives of the park.
- Does not exceed 40 years.
- Prohibits any transfer of the land without approval of the Secretary of the Interior.
- Prohibits any increase in the number of guest accommodations.
- Prohibits any increase in the overall size of the resort.
- Prohibits the sale of timeshares in the resort.
- Facilitates the transfer of all property to the federal government at the end of the lease.

H.R. 714 would also require the resort to pay the U.S. government a fair market value rent based on an appraisal conducted pursuant to the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisition. Eighty percent of the resort's payments would be given to the Department of Interior, while the remaining twenty percent would be deposited in the U.S. Treasury.

Additional Information: The Caneel Bay Resort currently maintains a luxury resort within the Virgin Island National Park pursuant to a Retained Use Estate (RUE) through 2023. When the RUE expires, all the resort's land and property will revert back to the federal government. The resort is currently undertaking a major renovation and improvement project that would significantly increase the value of the resort. The current RUE holder, CBI Acquisitions, LLC, has complained that the length of the RUE does not provide enough time for the resort to retain long-term financing for the improvements. This bill would allow the Secretary of Interior to enter into a lease with the RUE holder for up to 40 years, through 2048.

Committee Action: On February 4, 2009, the bill was referred to the Natural Resources subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, which took no subsequent public action. On February 22, 2009, the bill passed the House by a voice Vote. On December 16, 2009, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources ordered to be reported with amendments favorably. On May 13, 2010, bill passed the Senate with amendments by unanimous consent.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 714 would have no effect on discretionary spending. Enacting the legislation would increase both offsetting receipts (from lease payments) and direct spending of those receipts beginning in fiscal year 2010, but CBO estimates that any net effect on the federal budget would be negligible. Enacting H.R. 714 would not affect revenues.

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 the accompanying committee report does not cite the earmark rule, (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under 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. 5360 - Blinded Veterans Adaptive Housing Improvement Act (*Herseth Sandlin, D-SD*)

Order of Business: H.R. 5360 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill aims to modify the standard of visual acuity required for eligibility for specially adapted housing assistance provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA). Specifically, the bill would change the standard of visual acuity required for eligibility for veterans' specially adapted housing from "5/200 visual acuity or less" to "20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of standard correcting lenses" (or less of a peripheral field of 20 degrees or less).

The bill also includes provisions that do the following:

- Requires any real estate housing loan shall be secured by a first lien on the realty. In determining whether a loan is secured, the Secretary may disregard or allow for subordination to a superior lien that is created in favor of a public entity that provides assistance in response to a major disaster; or a private entity to secure an obligation to such entity for the homeowner's share of the costs of the management, operation, or maintenance of property, services, or programs within and for the benefits of the community in which the veteran's realty is located; and the Secretary determines will not prejudice the interests of the veteran borrower.

- Extend the authority for the VA to pool mortgages for sale on the secondary market from 2011 to 2016;
- Reauthorizes the VA's Small Business Loan Program for disabled veteran owned small businesses. The veteran is required to be at least 30% disabled and the program will be paid for by a combination of \$25 million that is authorized to be appropriated and by funding fees associated with making the loan;
- Increases the assistance payments for flight training from 60 percent to 75 percent;
- Amends the On-Job Training/Apprenticeship programs to increase the amount of assistance for individuals pursuing apprenticeships or on-job training;
- Extends work-study programs from June 30, 2010 to June 30, 2020 and expands it to include work in Congressional offices;
- Temporarily reduces the required amount of wages for on-the-job training programs until October 1, 2013;
- Reauthorizes the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education through December 31, 2020;
- **Creates a new homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.** Grants may be used to provide job training, counseling, placement services, and child care services to expedite the reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children into the labor force. The Secretary of Labor shall issue a report evaluating the program biennially. **The grant program is funded at \$10 million each year from FY2011 through FY2016;**
- **Creates a new grant program** to assist in the creation of new adaptive housing assistive technologies. Each grant awarded shall be no more than \$250,000 a year;
- Provides reimbursement of up to \$2,000 a month for childcare for veterans participating in the vocational rehabilitation program who are single parents;
- Increases the amount of the reporting fees paid by the VA to schools that enroll veterans for educational programs;
- Modifies when advanced educational payments are taken out of veterans entitlement;
- Increases the amount of subsistence allowance (stipend) payable to veterans in the Vocational Rehab program by 5 percent;
- Increases the amount of time a veteran with a service-connected disability who the Secretary has determined has reached a point of employability can continue to receive the Vocational Rehab stipend while looking for a job from two months to three months;
- Promotes jobs for service-disabled veterans teaching in rural areas by allowing the Secretary to give teachers a monthly allowance of \$500 for up to 24 months. The House Committee on Veterans Affairs estimates that 2,500 veterans would be eligible for this stipend. **Authorizes to be appropriated \$15 million for FY2012 and each year thereafter;**
- Establishes an internship program at the Veterans Benefits Administration that promotes jobs for veterans. The program would be for 2000 veterans each year.

The interns would be paid between the GS-3 rate and the GS-5 rate and the internship would last no more than one year for each veteran;

- Requires the VA to contract with veteran-owned small businesses over other small business groups.
- Establishes the Veterans Entrepreneurial Development Summit, which would occur once every year to provide networking opportunities, outreach, education, training, and support to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans or veterans service organizations. Authorizes \$1 million for each year for FY2011 and FY2021;
- Increase the larger Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) assistance grant by \$2,000 and the smaller SAH grant by \$1,000;
- Includes Congressman Boozman's (R-AR) WARMER Act that will allow VA to back loans to veterans to increase the energy efficiency of their home. Requires that no later than 90 days after enactment, the Secretary must give interim policy guidance on energy efficiency audits and the conditions under which the performance of such audits may be included in the loan guaranteed by the Secretary. Require the Secretary to prescribe regulations on this subject; and
- Creates a one year pilot program on specially adapted housing assistance for veterans residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.

Committee Action: H.R. 5360 was introduced on May 20, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, which passed the bill by voice vote, as amended, on September 15, 2010.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score was available at press time.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes. The bill creates new grant programs within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: A committee report citing the constitutional authority for Congress to enact this bill is unavailable.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Although 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: A committee report citing the constitutional authority for Congress to enact this bill is unavailable.

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

H.R. 6132 - Veterans Benefits and Economic Welfare Improvement Act of 2010 (*Filner, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6132 incorporates language from H.R. 929, H.R. 4545, H.R. 5064, H.R. 5484, and H.R. 5549.

Section 2: H.R. 6132 creates the a new program under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training to provide job training to eligible veterans. Eligible veterans are veterans who are unemployed, have not been employed since discharged, and received an honorable discharge.

This new program pays employers who hire veterans for apprenticeship or on-the-job training. H.R. 6132 lays out criteria for eligible apprenticeships or on-the-job training. Employers shall be reimbursed quarterly at a rate of 50% of what they pay the veteran in earned hourly wages, up to \$20,000 for one year (or 1,666.67 per month). Employers will only be eligible for these payments during the first year of the veteran's employment. If the veteran is not employed full-time, then the legislation allows for employers to continue to receive payments until the \$20,000 per year threshold is reached, or 24 months pass.

H.R. 6132 would authorize (subject to appropriation) \$60 million from FY 2011 – FY 2016.

Section 3: This section allows veterans, who send fully developed claims to the Secretary, the option to waive any claim development period and expedite the process. Expedited cases must be fully processed and adjudicated within 90 days after the Secretary receives the claim. This section also requires the Secretary to notify the veteran if the veteran submits a fully developed claim and the claim is not fully developed.

This section defines “fully developed claim” as a claim:

- “For which the claimant--
 - “Received assistance from a veterans service officer, a State or county veterans service organization, an agent, or an attorney; or
 - “Submits, together with the claim, an appropriate indication that the claimant does not intend to submit any additional information or evidence in support of the claim and does not require additional assistance with respect to the claim; and
- “For which the claimant or the claimant's representative, if any, each signs, dates, and submits a certification in writing stating that, as of such date, no additional information or evidence is available or needs to be submitted in order for the claim to be adjudicated.”

Section 4: This section extends the 120 day limit for the filing of an appeal to the Court of Veterans Appeals after a final decision of the Board of Veterans' Appeals if the veteran was unable to file due to a service-connected disability. This will be retroactive to Board decision issued on or after July 24, 2008.

Section 5: This section excludes from annual income, for pension purposes of veterans and surviving spouses and children reimbursements for any:

- Accident;
- Theft or loss;
- Casualty loss;
- Medical expenses resulting from any accident, theft, or casualty loss; and
- Pain and suffering.

Section 6: This section extends the expiration date by which the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs may obtain income information from other agencies from September 30, 2011 through September 30, 2015.

Section 7: This section establishes a VetStar Award Program to annually recognize business for their contributions to veterans' employment.

Section 8: This section increases the amount of pension for Medal of Honor Recipients. Under current law, Medal of Honor Recipients receive a special pension of \$1,000 monthly. This section increases that amount to \$2,000.

Section 9: This section states that, for purposes of VA laws and benefits, a person who is mentally incapacitated, emotionally incompetent, or experiencing an extended loss of consciousness shall not be considered adjudicated as a mental defective without the order or finding of a judge, magistrate, or other judicial authority of competent jurisdiction that such person is a danger to himself or herself or others.

Potential Conservative Concern: Some conservatives may argue that with record breaking deficits and high unemployment, a new award program (Section 7 of this legislation) is unnecessary and will do little to spur economic growth.

Committee Action: H.R. 6132 was introduced on September 15, 2010, and referred to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time. Section 2 of this legislation would authorize (subject to appropriation) \$60 million from FY 2011 – FY 2016. Section 8 of this legislation increases the special pension amount for Medal of Honor Recipients from \$1,000 to \$2,000 monthly.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes. The legislation creates two new programs under the Department of Veterans' Affairs. They

include a job training program, and an award program. The legislation also increases spending on pensions for Medal of Honor Recipients.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.R. 3685 - To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website (Stearns, R-FL)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3685 would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include a hyperlink on the homepage for the Department of Veterans Affairs, with a drop-down menu titled "Veterans Employment." This menu shall include a direct hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website, the USA Jobs Internet website, the Job Central website, and other appropriate employment websites.

This legislation also directs the Secretary to purchase advertising in national media outlets for the purpose of promoting awareness of the VetSuccess Internet website to veterans. The Secretary is also required to conduct outreach to veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom to inform such veterans of the VetSuccess Internet website.

Committee Action: H.R. 3685 was introduced on September 30, 2010, and referred to the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, which held a markup on July 15, 2010, and ordered the bill to be reported, as amended. A full committee markup was held on September 15, 2010, and the legislation was ordered to be reported, as amended.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time. However, this legislation requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to purchase advertising in national media outlets for the purpose of promoting awareness of the VetSuccess Internet website to veterans.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes. The legislation requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to purchase advertising in national media outlets for the purpose of promoting awareness of the VetSuccess Internet website to veterans.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.R. 3787 - To amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the reserve components as active service for purposes of laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (*Walz, D-MN*)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3787 would deem military personnel that are entitled to retiree pay for the reserve service as having been on active duty. This allows personnel to count their non-active (reserve) service towards their active duty service, for the purposes of VA benefits.

Committee Action: H.R. 3787 was introduced on October 8, 2009, and referred to the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. The subcommittee held a markup and reported the bill. A full committee markup was held on September 15, 2010, and the legislation was reported as amended.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.R. 5630 - To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for qualifications for vocational rehabilitation counselors and vocational rehabilitation employment coordinators employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (Boozman, R-AR)

Order of Business: H.R. 5630 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R.5630, would amend title 38, United States Code (Veterans' Benefits) to "provide provide for qualifications for vocational rehabilitation counselors and vocational rehabilitation employment coordinators employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs." Specifically, the bill would set forth qualifications for individuals employed by Veterans Affairs (VA) as vocational rehabilitation counselors and employment coordinator. Vocational rehabilitation counselors must have completed of a masters degree in vocational rehabilitation before being employed and obtained (not later than five years after employment) and maintained certification by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. A Vocational rehabilitation employment coordinator must also obtain and maintain certification, and have completed a degree in a relevant field before being employed.

Finally, if a vocational rehabilitation counselor or a vocational rehabilitation employment coordinator employed by VA fails to meet the conditions laid out in this bill, the Director of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service will develop a remediation plan for the individual. Failure of such individual to complete this remediation plan will result in termination.

Committee Action: H.R. 5630 was introduced on June 29, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, which passed the bill by voice vote, on September 15, 2010.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score was available at press time.

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. A committee report citing the constitutional authority for Congress to enact this bill is unavailable.

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: A committee report citing the constitutional authority for Congress to enact this bill is unavailable.

RSC Staff Contact: Emily Henehan Murry; Emily.Murry@mail.house.gov; 202-225-9286

H.R. 5993 - SAVINGS Act of 2010 (*Halvorson, D-IL*)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5993 would require that certain life insurance companies (provide group life insurance services to veterans) provide financial counseling to beneficiaries. The life insurance company would also be prohibited from charging any fees to the beneficiary. The annual report that is required to be sent to Congress would be required to contain information on individuals who received financial counseling.

This counseling must be provided orally and in writing, and at a minimum must contain:

- “A comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of maintaining such payment with the life insurance company and maintaining such payment with a financial institution;
- “A comparison of the rate of interest bearing to such payment if the payment is maintained with the life insurance company and if the payment is maintained with a financial institution;
- “An explanation of whether maintaining such payment with the life insurance company results in the payment not being insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The Secretary of Veterans’ Affairs would be allowed to hire additional personnel in order to carry out this legislation.

Committee Action: H.R. 5993 was introduced on July 30, 2010, and referred to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.R. 2853 - All-American Flag Act (*Braley, D-IA*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2853 requires that all United States flags that are acquired for use by the federal government must be 100% manufactured in the United States, from articles, materials, or supplies of which are grown, produced, or manufactured in the United States.

The federal government may only purchase flags from manufacturers that certify that:

- “The manufacturer does not employ aliens who are not authorized to be employed in the United States; and
- “The manufacturer participates in the E-Verify Program under section 401 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note).”

Potential Conservative Concern: Some conservatives might be concerned that the bill contains buy American provisions that discriminate against less expensive foreign goods. These provisions have the potential to raise the cost of a good or service to taxpayers by requiring that an American product is used over a foreign product.

Committee Action: H.R. 2853 was introduced on June 12, 2009, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.R. 4602 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the "Emil Bolas Post Office" (*Boccieri, D-OH*)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4602 would designate the facility of the United State Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the "Emil Bolas Post Office."

Additional Background: According to a [Press Release from Rep. Boccieri's office](#), Emil Bolas was the zoning appeals board chairman in Medina County for 11 years. He was also the Sharon Township trustee, and he served in the U.S. Army from 1953 – 1961.

Committee Action: H.R. 4602 was introduced on February 4, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup on September 23, 2010, and then reported the bill.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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

H.R. 5606 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building" (*Critz, D-PA*)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5606 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the "James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building."

Additional Background: Information on Jimmy Stewart can be [found here](#), at the Jimmy Stewart Museum.

Committee Action: H.R. 5606 was introduced on June 25, 2009 and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and then reported the bill.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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

H.R. 5605 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 East Fayette Street in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, as the "George C. Marshall Post Office" (Critz, D-PA)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5605 would designate the United States Postal Service at 47 East Fayette Street in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, as the “George C. Marshall Post Office.”

Additional Background: Information on his long career and military service can be found [here](#).

Committee Action: H.R. 5605 was introduced on June 25, 2010 and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and then reported the bill.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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

H.R. 6026—Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act (Rep. Driehaus, D-OH)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to establish and maintain a single website accessible by the public that allows the public to obtain electronic copies of congressionally mandated reports within one year of enactment. Each Congressional report must provide an electronic copy of the report, including the transmittal letter associated with the report, through a hyperlink or machine readable file, and be able to be easily retrieved. The bill clarifies that nothing in the bill should be construed to require the disclosure of information or records that are exempt from disclosure of the Freedom of Information Act.

Conservative Concern: Some conservatives have expressed concern that because the bill requires the Director of the OMB to post reports, it distracts from the primary purpose of what the OMB should be doing - tracking and posting what our government is spending. Additionally, without a CBO report, the cost of implementing the measure could be concern. Finally, according the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Republicans, the bill does nothing to increase Congressional oversight because the “Clerk of the House is already required by House rules to compile a list of congressionally mandated reports. The Clerk (and the Secretary of the Senate, if the Senate should require) should be required to publicly report whether agencies have complied with these mandates, and Congressional committees should have the opportunity to post majority and minority views on the same site on which the reports are accessible. This would encourage Congress to give full consideration to the reports, and the dissemination of Congressional views could provide important context for members of the public who access the reports.”

Committee Action: On July 30, 2010, the bill was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which took no further public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report for H.R. 6026 is unavailable at press time.

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 at press time. However, such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report sighting Constitutional authority is not available at press time.

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

H.R. 6014 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 212 Main Street in Hartman, Arkansas, as the "M.R. 'Bucky' Walters Post Office" (Boozman, R-AR)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6014 would designate the United States Postal Service at 212 Main Street in Hartman, Arkansas as the "M.R. 'Bucky' Walters Post Office."

Additional Background: Mr. Walters served as a master mechanic in the Arkansas National Guard at Camp Robinson in Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1956, President Eisenhower appointed him as a full time carrier for the Hartman Post Office in Hartman, Arkansas. After eleven years he was appointed to the office of Postmaster of Hartman by President Johnson. Additional information can be found [here](#).

Committee Action: H.R. 5591 was introduced on July 30, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and then reported the bill.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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

H.Res. 1442 - Supporting the goals and ideals of United States Military History Month (Duncan, R-TN)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1442 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of United States Military History Month; and
- “Encourages the President to issue a proclamation to emphasize the importance of United States Military History Month.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “United States citizens of every race, class and ethnic background from every State and territory have made memorable sacrifices as members of the United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy that have revolutionized armed conflict;
- “3,468 Medals of Honor--the Nation's highest decoration--have been awarded to United States veterans for Homeric courage and sacrifices above and beyond the call of duty in the line of fire defending the Nation;
- “November 11 was originally declared Armistice Day to commemorate the sacrifices of United States soldiers in World War I and later designated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1954 as a day to honor all United States veterans;
- “November would be an appropriate month to designate as United States Military History Month and State legislatures and assemblies have been requested to issue proclamations designating November as United States Military History month and to encourage students to study this vital subject and participate in Veterans Day activities.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1442 was introduced on June 15, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and reported the resolution.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.Res. 1546 - Congratulating the Washington Stealth for winning the National Lacrosse League Championship (*Inslee, D-WA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1546 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates the Washington Stealth for winning the National Lacrosse League Championship; and
- “Recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, and support staff who were instrumental in the victory.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “On May 15, 2010, the Washington Stealth defeated Toronto Rock 15 to 11 in the National Lacrosse League Championship in Everett, Washington;
- “The Stealth franchise won the Western Division during the regular season with a NLL-best 11 and 5 record, capturing the Western Divisional Championship by defeating the Edmonton Rush;
- “2010 marked the National Lacrosse League's 24th season; and
- “Over 1,000,000 fans enter the doors of the National Lacrosse League arenas on a yearly basis.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1546 was introduced on July 21, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and reported the resolution.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.Res. 1479 - Supporting the United States Paralympics, honoring the Paralympic athletes (Lance, R-NJ)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1479 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the work of the United States Paralympics;
- “Congratulates all of the United States Paralympics Team medal winners from the 2010 Winter Paralympic Games in Vancouver, British Columbia;
- “Honors all of the Paralympic athletes for their contributions to the games; and
- “Recognizes the contributions of the athletes' families, schools, and communities to the Paralympic Games, and the United States Team.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Today there are more than 21 million Americans with a physical disability;
- “In the past few years thousands of military personnel have sustained serious injuries during active duty;
- “United States Paralympics, a division of the United States Olympic Committee, is dedicated to becoming the world leader in the Paralympic sports movement, and promoting excellence in the lives of people with physical disabilities;
- “The United States Paralympics Team won gold medals in Ice Hockey (Ice Sledge Hockey), Women's Super Combined (Sitting), Women's Downhill (Sitting), and Women's Giant Slalom (Sitting).”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1479 was introduced on June 25, 2010, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs, and Oversight and Government Committees, which held a markup and reported the resolution. The resolution was also referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.R. 6118 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building"
(Del. Norton – D-DC)

Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 6118 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the "Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building."

Additional Background: Dorothy I. Height was a civil rights activist. In a statement issued by the White House, President Obama called Ms. Height "the godmother of the Civil Rights Movement and a hero to so many Americans." She passed away on April 20, 2010, at the age of 98.

Committee Action: H.R. 6118 was introduced on September 14, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and then reported the bill.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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

**H.Res. 1617 - Supporting the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is observed on the last Sunday in September of each year in remembrance of the supreme sacrifice made by mothers who lose a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces
(Roskam, R-IL)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1617 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is observed in remembrance of the supreme sacrifice made by mothers who lose a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces; and
- “Urges the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Mothers Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The American Gold Star Mothers have suffered the supreme sacrifice of motherhood by losing a son or daughter who served in the Armed Forces, and thus perpetuate the memory of all whose lives are sacrificed in war;

- “The American Gold Star Mothers assist veterans of the Armed Forces and their dependents in the presentation of claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs and aid members of the Armed Forces who served and died or were wounded or incapacitated during hostilities;
- “By doing so much for the home, the American mother is a source of moral and spiritual guidance for the people of the United States and thus acts as a positive force to promote good government and peace among all mankind; and
- “The last Sunday in September of each year is observed as Gold Star Mothers Day.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1617 was introduced on September 14, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and reported the resolution.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

H.Res. 1603 - Expressing support for designation of September 2010 as National Craniofacial Acceptance Month (*Ross, D-AR*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1603 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the designation of National Craniofacial Acceptance Month to encourage all citizens to become better informed of craniofacial conditions and advances in medical treatment.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “There are 100,000 children born each year in the United States with a craniofacial anomaly affecting the head, neck, extremities, or organs;
- “Craniofacial treatment will often last from infancy to adulthood;
- “Many groups have developed to help advocate on the behalf of those with craniofacial anomalies and to encourage greater acceptance and support of individuals with craniofacial anomalies; and
- “September 2010 would be an appropriate month to designate as National Craniofacial Acceptance Month.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1603 was introduced on July 30, 2010, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and reported the resolution.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report was unavailable at press time.

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: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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

**H.R. 3243—To amend section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay
(Sarbanes, D-MD)**

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill amends U.S Code to provide that any hours worked by federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement to be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay.

Additional Background: According to supporters of the bill, “H.R. 3243 would allow federal fire fighters to swap shifts, subject to management approval, without disrupting their overtime pay. Under present law, swapping shifts can impact the calculation of overtime pay. This legislation will make it easier for federal fire fighters to trade time.”

Committee Action: On July 16, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. On May 27, 2010, the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Post Office, and the District of Columbia held a mark-up and forwarded the bill to the full committee by a voice vote. On September 23, 2010, the full committee held a mark-up.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO report for H.R. 3243 is unavailable at press time.

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 at press time. However, such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report sighting Constitutional authority is not available at press time.

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