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H.R. 3689—To provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to establish a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitor center
(Rep. Rahall, D-MO)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3689 would extend the legislative authority for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitors' center beyond a seven-year period through to at least November 17, 2014.

Additional Information: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is the non-profit organization authorized by Congress in 1979 to build the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The Memorial Fund raised \$8.4 million in 1982 to build The Wall with contributions from individuals, veterans organizations, foundations and corporations.

In 2003, President Bush signed into law legislation that would create a Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitors center to provide visitors with an “experience with exhibits working in synergy with the Memorial.” The facility is planned to feature photographs of those who were killed or remain missing, some of the more than 60,000 items that have been left at The Wall and other displays. Estimate to cost more than \$13 million and take about three years to complete, no federal funds will be used for construct the Visitor Center.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is the most visited memorial in the nation’s capital with more than four million visitors each year. It is dedicated to all who served with U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and its black granite panels are inscribed with the names of the 58,235 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Committee Action: On October 1, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. No further subsequent public action was taken.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO cost estimate of H.R. 3689 is unavailable.

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

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

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

Constitutional Authority: No explanation of constitutional authority is provided for H.R. 3689.

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

H.R. 1593—To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (*Rep. Larsen, D-WA*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1593 would designate 14.3 miles of the Illabot Creek in Washington State as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The bill would designate a 4.3-mile segment as a wild river and a 10-mile segment as a recreational river.

Additional Information: Illabot Creek, a key tributary of the Skagit River, flows from Snow King Mountain in the Cascades to the Puget Sound and is home to spawning habitat for wild Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. Under the planning process for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the U.S. Forest Service conducted a study on and determined the river possessed 'outstandingly remarkable values' due to its fish populations and the presence of extraordinary wildlife in the surrounding habitat. A significant portion of the Skagit River and three of its major tributaries were designated in 1978 as National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Committee Action: On March 13, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On September 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: According to CBO, assuming the availability of appropriated funds, the Forest Service would spend about \$20,000 a year to maintain, protect, and enhance the creek. Enacting H.R. 1593 would not affect direct spending or 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? According to Committee Report 111-291, “H.R. 1593 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: Committee Report 111-291 cites Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact the bill.

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

**H.R. 3537—The Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program
Reauthorization Act of 2009 (Rep. Ortiz, D-TX)**

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: Authorizing \$2.5 million from 2010 through 2015, H.R. 3537 reauthorizes the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994 for an additional five years. The authorization is an increase of \$150,000 per year over current law.

Additional Information: The Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program (JDS) is an arts contest that is aimed at promoting wetlands and waterfowl conservation to students in kindergarten through high school. According to the committee, sales of the \$5 Junior Duck Stamp generated more than \$100,000 in revenue, all of which was used to provide educational materials for the program, fund scholarships for students, and support and promote the program's goal of connecting children with nature. More information on the contest can be found [here](#).

Committee Action: On September 8, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On September 30, 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: According to CBO, “implementing H.R. 3537 would cost about \$2 million over the 2010-2014 period and \$500,000 in 2015.”

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to Committee Report 111-297, “H.R. 3537 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: Committee Report 111-297 cites Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact the bill.

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

H.R. 3433—To amend the North American Wetlands Conservation Act to establish requirements regarding payment of the non-Federal share of the costs of wetlands conservation projects in Canada that are funded under that Act (Rep. Wittman, R-VA)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3433 amends the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) to allow non-Federal share of the costs projects to include cash contributions from non-United States sources. In the case of a project carried out in Canada, funds from Canadian sources may comprise up to 50 percent of the non-Federal share of the costs of the project. Under NAWCA, grants are made to nonprofit entities to promote migratory bird habitat in North America. The act requires 50 percent of each project to be paid for by non-federal dollars in U.S currency. H.R 3433 allows the cost share for Canadian projects to be paid for in Canadian dollars. The bill would not change the amounts authorized to be appropriated under NAWCA (currently, \$75 million through 2012).

Additional Information: In 1986, the United States, Canada, and Mexico signed the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) to create a cooperative effort to reverse the declines in waterfowl populations and their wetland habitats. Following the creation of the Act, Congress passed NAWCA into law in 1989 with the purpose of providing a funding mechanism for cooperative, public-private wetlands conservation efforts throughout North America which support the goals of NAWMP.

Committee Action: On September 8, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On September 30, 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: According to CBO, “enacting H.R. 3433 would not affect the federal budget....In 2009, more than \$40 million was appropriated for the program.”

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to Committee Report 111-296, “H.R. 3433 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.”

Constitutional Authority: Committee Report 111-296 cites Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact the bill.

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

H.R. 3476—To reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission (*Rep. Garrett, R-NJ*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3476 would extend the Delaware Water Gap Civilian Advisory Commission through October 31, 2018. Originally created in 1988, the commission was created in response to the federal government's purchases of the Delaware Water Gap for the purpose of creating a dam and reservoir in the area. Due to heavy resistance from local residents, the dam was never made instead made a national recreation area that is home to a number of homes and historical landmarks. The commission was created in order to allow citizens to voice concerns and opinions to the National Park Service on the management and operations of the DWG.

Additional Information: The number of years for the commission was changed from 10 to 20 in 1996. The commission expired last year. HR 3476 changes the number of years for the commission from 20 to 30 years so that it would now expire October 31, 2018. According to the bill's sponsor, the commission is important to residents of New Jersey and Pennsylvania in order to provide direct access to the NPS.

Committee Action: On July 31, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. No further subsequent public action was taken.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO cost estimate of H.R. 3476 is unavailable.

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

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

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

Constitutional Authority: No explanation of constitutional authority is provided for H.R. 3476.

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

H.R. 2877 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office" (Hall, D-NY)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2877 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, as the '1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office.'

Additional Information: 1st Lieutenant Louis Allen died of injuries sustained on June 7, 2005 in Tikrit, Iraq, when an explosion occurred near his location. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 42nd Infantry Division, Troy, New York. He died on June 8, 2005.

Committee Action: H.R. 2877 was introduced on June 15, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the bill was considered en bloc and passed by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 2877 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. federal building 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?: 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: 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. 209 - Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope, a preeminent international women's association and affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA). (Maloney, D-NY)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 209 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the significant contributions of American citizens of Greek ancestry, and Philhellenes, to the United States; and
- “Commemorates the 80th anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope, applauds its mission, and commends the many charitable contributions of its members to organizations and communities around the world.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The Daughters of Penelope is a leading international organization of women of Hellenic descent and Philhellenes, founded November 16, 1929, in San Francisco, California, to improve the status and well-being of women and their families and to provide women the opportunity to make significant contributions to their community and country;
- “The chapters of the Daughters of Penelope sponsor affordable and dignified housing to the Nation's senior citizen population by participating in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's section 202 housing program;
- “The Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc., supports the educational objectives of the Daughters of Penelope by providing tens of thousands of dollars annually for scholarships, sponsoring educational seminars, and donating children's books to libraries, schools, shelters, and churches through the ‘Open Books’ program; and
- “The Daughters of Penelope provides financial support for many medical research and charitable organizations, such as the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (formerly the Papanicolaou Cancer Center), the Alzheimer's Foundation, the American Heart Association, the Special Olympics, the Barbara Bush Foundation for Literacy, the Children's Wish Foundation, UNICEF, Habitat for Humanity, St. Basil Academy, and others.”

Additional Information: The [Daughters of Penelope](#) is a non-profit organization open to all Christian women of good moral character. They were founded in 1929 through the effort of Ahepan Emmanuel Apostolides, who formed "EOS" Chapter #1 in San Francisco, California, with 25 charter members.

Committee Action: H.Res. 209 was introduced was introduced on March 4, 2009, and was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the bill was considered en bloc and passed by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: This 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. 791 - Congratulating the Aldine Independent School District in Harris County, Texas, on winning the 2009 "Broad Prize for Urban Education". (*Greene, D-TX*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 791 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the Aldine Independent School District in Harris County, Texas, for the outstanding achievement of winning the 2009 ‘Broad Prize for Urban Education’, the largest education award for school districts in the United States; and
- “Congratulates the entire Aldine Independent School District community on the hard work and dedication the community has demonstrated toward student achievement, particularly the efforts of the community toward reducing the achievement gaps among ethnic groups and between high- and low-income students.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Data from the Texas Education Agency indicates that the Aldine Independent School District consistently ranks among the highest performing school districts in the State;
- “The Aldine Independent School District ranks among the top large school districts in Texas for educating African-American students and Hispanic students, according to recent studies conducted by Texas Agricultural & Mechanical University and the University of Texas-Pan American;
- “Between 2005 and 2008, the SAT and Advanced Placement participation rates for African-American and Hispanic students in the Aldine Independent School District increased significantly;

- “In 2008, African-American students in the Aldine Independent School District achieved higher proficiency rates in math at all school levels and in reading at the middle and high school levels compared with other students in Texas;
- “In 2008, a greater percentage of Hispanic students in the Aldine Independent School District performed at the highest achievement level on State reading and math assessments at all school levels compared to other school districts in the State; and
- “The Aldine Independent School District was selected from among 100 of the largest school districts in the country to win the 2009 ‘Broad Prize for Urban Education’.”

Additional Information: The \$2 million [Broad Prize for Urban Education](#), established in 2002, is the largest education award in the country given to school districts. The Broad Prize is awarded each year to the urban school districts that demonstrate the greatest overall performance and improvement in student achievement while reducing achievement gaps among poor and minority students.

Committee Action: H.R. 791 was introduced on October 1, 2009, and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: This 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 report 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. 659 - Congratulating Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., on 98 years of serving local communities and enriching the lives of collegiate men throughout the Nation. (*Hastings, D-FL*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 659 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., on 98 years of serving local communities and enriching the lives of collegiate men throughout the Nation.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The founders of Kappa Alpha Psi were God-fearing, clean living, serious minded young men who possessed the imagination, ambition, courage, and determination to defy custom in pursuit of college educations and careers during an oppressive time in American history for African-Americans;
- “Kappa Alpha Psi stressed high Christian ideals and the importance of achievement in seeking to set the sights of African-American youth on accomplishments greater than those they otherwise would have imagined or realized;
- “Kappa Alpha Psi has emphasized financial literacy in its community-based outreach, implementing two major programs, Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) and Greeks Learning to Avoid Debt (GLAD) in partnership with the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council; and
- “Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., will hold its 79th Grand Chapter Meeting in Washington, DC, August 4 through August 9, 2009.”

Additional Information: [Kappa Alpha Psi](#) was founded on the campus of Indiana University on January 5, 1911.

Committee Action: H.R. 659 was introduced was introduced on July 17, 2009, and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: This 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. 730 - Honoring the 100th anniversary of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. (*Kind, D-WI*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 730 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, on its 100th anniversary and commends the institution's status as a leading public university that excels in academics, athletics, and quality of life for students.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “La Crosse was incorporated as a city in 1856;
- Thomas Morris sponsored a bill in the Wisconsin State Senate that led to the creation of the current day University of Wisconsin-La Crosse;
- “University of Wisconsin-La Crosse offers 88 undergraduate programs in 44 disciplines and 26 graduate programs;
- “University of Wisconsin-La Crosse celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1959, the same year that presidential candidate John F. Kennedy visited the campus and spoke to the student body in Graff Main Hall auditorium; and
- “2009 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.”

Committee Action: H.R. 659 was introduced on September 10, 2009, and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: This 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. 768 - Expressing support for the designation of the month of October as "National Work and Family Month". (McCarthy, D-NY)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 768 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the designation of `National Work and Family Month';
- “Recognizes the importance of balancing work and family to job productivity and healthy families;
- “Recognizes that an important job characteristic is a work schedule that allows employees to spend time with families;
- “Supports the goals and ideals of `National Work and Family Month', and urges public officials, employers, employees, and the general public to work together to achieve more balance between work and family; and
- “Requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe `National Work and Family Month' with appropriate ceremonies and activities.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Employees who are able to effectively balance family and work responsibilities feel healthier and more successful in their relationships with their spouses, children, and friends;
- “85 percent of United States wage and salaried workers have immediate, day-to-day family responsibilities outside of their jobs;
- “Job flexibility often allows parents to be more involved in their children's lives, and parental involvement is associated with higher child achievement in language and mathematics, improved behavior, greater academic persistence, and lower dropout rates;
- “Unpaid family caregivers will likely continue to be the largest source of long-term care for elderly United States citizens, and the Department of Health and Human Services estimates the number of such caregivers to reach 37,000,000 by 2050, an increase of 85 percent from 2000, as baby boomers reach retirement age in record numbers; and
- “The month of October would be an appropriate month to designate as `National Work and Family Month.’”

Committee Action: H.R. 768 was introduced on September 23, 2009, and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: This 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. __ - Expressing support for students to learn about Christopher Columbus (Rep. Thompson, R-PA)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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

- “Supports the recognition of Christopher Columbus and his role in the discovery and history of the United States;
- “Recognizes that it is important for young people to learn about Christopher Columbus and the discovery, heritage, and history of the Nation; and
- “Encourages all people to take advantage of educational opportunities to learn about Christopher Columbus’ discovery of the Americas and United States history.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Christopher Columbus arrived in the Americas on October 12, 1492, and is credited with initiating the European colonization of the Americas
- “The discovery and colonization of the Americas is an integral part of history and heritage
- “A proficient knowledge of the history and heritage of the United States is important to promoting additional civic involvement; and
- “Educating today’s young people about the about American history and heritage is essential to creating an informed generation of citizens.”

Committee Action: H.R. ___ was introduced was introduced on October 13, 2009, and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: This 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. 1327—Iran Sanctions Enabling Act (*Frank, D-MA*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1327 includes a statement of policy that the U.S. will support the decisions of state governments, local governments, and educational institutions to divest from individuals that have more than \$20 million in Iran’s energy sector.

The legislation provides state and local governments with the authority to divest from an individual that the state or local government determines engages in investment activities of more than \$20 million in Iran’s energy sector. Any divestiture made per the legislation would require the state or local government to submit to the Attorney General a written notice that describes the measure.

In order to make such a divestiture, the legislation requires the state or local government to meet the following conditions:

- Provide written notice to each person to which the state or local government intends to apply the measure.
- Give an individual affected by the legislation at least 90 days written notice prior to the divestiture.

- Give an individual affected by the legislation a hearing to demonstrate that the individual does not engage in investment activities in Iran (that meet the requirements of the legislation).

H.R. 1327 includes a sunset provision, which terminates the provisions of the legislation 30 days after the President certifies that:

- The government of Iran has ceased providing support for acts of international terrorism (and no longer satisfies the requirements for designation as a state-sponsor of terrorism).
- Iran has ceased the pursuit of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, as well as ballistic missile technology.

Committee Action: H.R. 1327 was introduced on March 5, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, which held a mark-up and ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on April 28, 2009.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, the legislation would not have a significant impact on 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?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under suspension of the rules.

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

RSC Staff Contact: Brad Watson, brad.watson@mail.house.gov, (202)-226-9719.

H.R. 621— Girl Scouts USA Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (Kingston, R-GA)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 621 requires the Secretary of the Treasury to mint 350,000 \$1 silver coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of the Girl Scouts of America.

The legislation specifies certain requirements on the design of these coins, including a requirement that the year “2011” be included on the coins, as well as requirement that all of the following words appear: “In God We Trust,” “Liberty,” “United States of America,” and “E Pluribus Unum.”

H.R. 621 requires that coins sold include a \$10 surcharge.

Committee Action: H.R. 621 was introduced on January 21, 2009 and referred to the House Financial Services Committee which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score exists, but such coin-minting legislation usually yields some revenue for the federal government.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under suspension of the rules.

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

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H.R. 3606—Credit CARD Technical Corrections Act (*Welch, D-VT*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, October 13, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The Credit Cardholder’s Bill of Rights (P.L. 111-24) includes a provision that states: “A creditor may not treat a payment on an open end consumer credit plan as late for any purpose, unless the creditor has adopted reasonable procedures designed to ensure that each periodic statement including the information required by section 127(b)

is mailed or delivered to the consumer not later than 21 days before the payment due date.”

This legislation would limit the applicability of this provision to credit card accounts.

Additional Background: The RSC Legislative Bulletin on the Credit Cardholder’s Bill of Rights may be found [here](#).

Committee Action: On September 17, 2009, the bill was introduced and referred to the Committee on Financial Services, which took no further subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO cost estimate report is unavailable.

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

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No, the bill would clarify existing mandates from previously enacted legislation.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under suspension of the rules.

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

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