

Legislative Bulletin.....November 3, 2009

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H.Res. 858 - Congratulating the Inter-American Foundation (IAF) on its 40th anniversary and recognizing its significant accomplishments and contributions. (Engel, D-NY)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 858 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates the Inter-American Foundation (IAF) on its 40th anniversary;
- “Recognizes that the IAF has demonstrated that its grassroots model for United States foreign assistance is effective; and
- “Declares that the IAF is a vital component of United States foreign policy in the Americas and of the United States development agenda.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The IAF was originally created as an independent Federal agency to provide a new alternative model to traditional United States foreign assistance that promotes greater community-ownership and self-sustainability of development initiatives;
- “The IAF has enabled millions of marginalized and poor people in Latin America and the Caribbean to improve their lives through nearly 5,000 self-help grants for income and employment generation, civic education and citizen participation, access to credit and public resources, food security, environmental sustainability, and cultural and social development;
- “The IAF has proven that its people-to-people approach to foreign assistance, delivering aid funds directly to grassroots groups and local organizations of poor communities, is remarkably cost-effective, targeting aid funds to those with the greatest need and those who will use them best;
- “The IAF’s projects complement and strive to maximize the impact of other larger United States aid agencies operating in Latin America and the Caribbean by enabling an important link between poor communities and larger-scale development activities; and
- “The IAF was designed with strong bipartisan support and has maintained this balanced support throughout the four decades of its operations.”

Additional Information: The [Inter-American Foundation](#) (IAF) aims at reducing poverty and development democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean by supporting grants to grassroots organizations in self-help development projects. According to [ExpectMore.gov](#), the Foundation is rated as bring “Moderately Effective.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 858 was introduced on October 22, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.Res. 839 - Condemning the illegal extraction of Madagascar's natural resources. (*Blumenauer, D-OR*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 839 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Calls on people of Madagascar to immediately undertake a democratic, consensual process to restore constitutional governance, culminating in free, fair and peaceful elections;
- “Strongly condemns the illegal extraction of Madagascar's natural resources and its impact on biodiversity and livelihoods of rural communities, including illegal logging, smuggling of wild species, and illegal mining;
- “Supports action by competent authorities and the people of Madagascar to stop this illegal devastation and bring those perpetrating these crimes to justice;
- “Calls upon importing countries to intensify their inspection and monitoring processes to ensure that they do not contribute to the demand for illegally sourced precious woods from Madagascar; and
- “Calls upon consumers of rosewood and ebony products to check their origin, and boycott those made of Malagasy wood, until constitutional order is restored.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The Obama Administration has condemned Marc Ravalomanana's forced resignation as President of the Republic of Madagascar, and Andry Rajoelina's installation as de facto head of state, as tantamount to a coup d'etat, undemocratic, and contrary to the rule of law;
- “In March 2009, the Obama Administration announced a suspension of non-humanitarian assistance to the de facto Andry Rajoelina government;
- “The African Union and the Southern African Development Community have suspended Madagascar's participation until constitutional order is restored; and
- “In October 2009, the World Wide Fund (WWF), Conservation International, and the Wildlife Conservation Society condemned an interministerial order issued by the current administration granting sweeping authorization to export raw and

semi-processed hard wood as 'legaliz[ing] the sale of illegally cut and collected wood onto the market; allow[ing] for the potential embezzlement of funds in the name of environmental protection and constitut[ing] a legal incentive for further corruption in the forestry sector'.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 839 was introduced on October 15, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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

H.Res. 711 - Calling on the United States Government and the international community to address the human rights and humanitarian needs of Sri Lanka's Tamil internally displaced persons (IDPs) currently living in government-run camps by supporting the release of such IDPs, implementing and facilitating an independent oversight of the process of release and resettlement, and allowing foreign aid groups to provide relief and resources to such IDPs (*Davis, D-IL*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 711 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Urges the Sri Lankan Government to guarantee the safety and speedy release of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in camps and to ensure the rights and privileges of these refugees in the reestablishment of their homes and properties;
- “calls on the Sri Lankan Government to turn the operation of the camps over to civilian authorities and allow the day to day presence of international government

- agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and independent nongovernmental organizations to assist in the care of the IDPs;
- “Calls on the Sri Lankan Government to allow an independent group to assess the accuracy of the allegations of large numbers of deaths, diseases, and sicknesses due to poor sanitation and inappropriate healthcare in the camps containing the IDPs and to prepare a plan of action to resolve the problems;
 - “Request the Sri Lankan Government to establish reasonable conditions to allow foreign agencies access to the IDPs and to ensure the rebuilding process of war torn areas in Sri Lanka; and
 - “Urges the Tamil people to continue to be patient while the government reestablishes normalcy and urges the Sri Lankan Government to move forward in creating political reforms that will resolve the political concerns of the Tamil people.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “May 2009 marked the conclusion of the 26-year struggle between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Sri Lankan Government, and Sri Lankan Government committed itself to caring for and ensuring the speedy return of the civilians internally displaced as a result of the fighting;
- “The Sri Lankan Government is seeking to identify former combatants who were part of the LTTE and as part of the vetting process the Sri Lankan Government has set up make-shift camps to house over 280,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) who fled their homes as the war drew to an end;
- “Allegations are being reported that the current and actual standard of treatment and living conditions afforded to IDPs is grossly wanting when compared to the principles set as standards by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for guiding states and organizations dealing with internally displaced populations; and
- “Human Rights Watch believes that the Sri Lankan Government should immediately release the more than 280,000 Tamil IDPs held in detention camps since March 2008.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 711 was introduced on July 31, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.Res. 863 - Recognizing the scourge of pneumonia, urging the United States and the world to mobilize cooperation and prioritize resources to fight pneumonia and save children's lives, and recognizing November 2 as World Pneumonia Day. (Shea-Porter, D-NH)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 863 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Affirms its commitment to international child survival and development programs that prioritize protection, prevention, and treatment against pneumonia;
- “Salutes the health professionals and community health workers on the front lines in the world's poorest countries who are extending preventative care and treatment to children most at-risk of contracting pneumonia;
- “Reaffirms the United States commitment to reaching the Millennium Development Goals, particularly for reducing child mortality; and
- “Recognizes World Pneumonia Day.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “For every child who dies of pneumonia in an industrialized country, more than 2,000 children die of pneumonia in poor countries;
- “Immunizing children against measles, whooping cough, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), and pneumococcus could cut the rate of severe pneumonia in half;
- “In the context of child survival strategies, pneumonia control requires a three-prong program of protection, prevention, and treatment;
- “Preventing and treating childhood pneumonia is critical to reaching the Millennium Development Goals target to reduce by 2/3 , between 1990 and 2015, the mortality rate of children under the age of five; and
- “World Pneumonia Day is recognized on November 2 annually.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 863 was introduced on October 23, 2009 referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the bill does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.Res. 641 - Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. (Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 2, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 641 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the 60th anniversary of the founding of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) and honors its contribution to promoting freedom and liberty around the world; and
- “Commends the employees and reporters of RFE/RL for their commitment to provide fair and unbiased news to people living under oppressive regimes.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) was founded in 1949 with the mission to promote democratic values and institutions by broadcasting unbiased and factual information and ideas to audiences behind the communist ‘Iron Curtain’;
- “RFE/RL programs were so comprehensive that communist authorities relied on secret transcripts of the broadcasts for information they could not obtain from the local media they themselves controlled;
- “today, after having played a significant role in the collapse of communism, RFE/RL continues to provide news, information, and open discussion of domestic and international issues to countries where free and independent media are not permitted, or are not yet fully established; and
- “RFE/RL broadcasts in 28 languages to 30 million listeners in Eastern and Southeastern Europe, Russia, the Caucasus, the Middle East, and Central and Southwest Asia.”

Additional Information: Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides severely wounded veterans with grants.

Committee Action: H.Res. 641 was introduced on July 14, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.Res. 867 - Calling on the President and the Secretary of State to oppose unequivocally any endorsement or further consideration of the "Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict" in multilateral fora. (Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 867 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Considers the ‘Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict’ to be irredeemably biased and unworthy of further consideration or legitimacy;
- “Supports the Administration's efforts to combat anti-Israel bias at the United Nations, its characterization of the ‘Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict’ as ‘unbalanced, one-sided and basically unacceptable’, and its opposition to the resolution on the report;
- “Calls on the President and the Secretary of State to continue to strongly and unequivocally oppose any endorsement of the ‘Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict’ in multilateral fora;

- “Calls on the President and the Secretary of State to strongly and unequivocally oppose any further consideration of the ‘Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict’ and any other measures stemming from this report in multilateral fora; and
- “Reaffirms its support for the democratic, Jewish State of Israel, for Israel's security and right to self-defense, and, specifically, for Israel's right to defend its citizens from violent militant groups and their state sponsors.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “On January 12, 2009, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed Resolution A/HRC/S-9/L.1, which authorized a ‘fact-finding mission’ regarding Israel's conduct of Operation Cast Lead against violent militants in the Gaza Strip between December 27, 2008, and January 18, 2009;
- “The resolution pre-judged the outcome of its investigation, by one-sidedly mandating the ‘fact-finding mission’ to ‘investigate all violations of international human rights law and International Humanitarian Law by . . . Israel, against the Palestinian people . . . particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip, due to the current aggression’;
- “The mandate of the ‘fact-finding mission’ makes no mention of the relentless rocket and mortar attacks, which numbered in the thousands and spanned a period of eight years, by Hamas and other violent militant groups in Gaza against civilian targets in Israel, that necessitated Israel's defensive measures;
- “The mission's flawed and biased mandate gave serious concern to many United Nations Human Rights Council Member States which refused to support it, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and
- “Efforts to delegitimize the democratic State of Israel and deny it the right to defend its citizens and its existence can be used to delegitimize other democracies and deny them the same right.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 867 was introduced on October 23, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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**H.Res. 868 - Honoring and recognizing the service and achievements of current and former female members of the Armed Forces.
(Davis, D-CA)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 868 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors and recognizes the service and achievements of current and former female members of the Armed Forces;
- “Encourages all people in the United States to recognize the service and achievements of women in the military and female veterans on Memorial Day;
- “Encourages all people in the United States to learn about the history of service and achievements of women in the military; and
- “Supports groups that raise awareness about the service and achievements of women in the military and female veterans through exhibitions, museums, statues, and other programs and activities.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “34,000 women served in World War I, 400,000 served in World War II, 120,000 served in the Korean War, over 7,000 served in the Vietnam War, and more than 41,000 served in the first Gulf War;
- “More than 185,000 women have been deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and other missions since 2001;
- “Over 350,000 women serving in the Armed Forces make up approximately 15 percent of active duty personnel, 15 percent of Reserves, and 17 percent of the National Guard; and
- “The women of America's military, past and present, have served their Nation in times of peace and war, at great personal sacrifice for both themselves and their families.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 868 was introduced on October 23, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.Con.Res. 139 - Congratulating the first graduating class of the United States Air Force Academy on their 50th graduation anniversary and recognizing their contributions to the Nation. (Lamborn, R-CO)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 139 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates the 207 graduates (157 surviving as of April 2009) of the first United States Air Force Academy class on the 50th anniversary of their graduation;
- “Acknowledges the continued excellence of the United States Air Force Academy and its critical role in the defense of the United States; and
- “Recognizes the outstanding service to the Nation that graduates from the United States Air Force Academy have provided.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The first class of 207 cadets graduated June 3, 1959, at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado;
- “50 classes and more than 37,000 cadets have graduated from the Air Force Academy in its 54-year history;
- “The Air Force Academy is recognized worldwide as the premier developer of air, space, and cyberspace officers and leaders with impeccable character and knowledge; and
- “June 3, 2009, marks the 50th anniversary of the first graduating class of the Air Force Academy.”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 139 was introduced on June 3, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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

H.Res. 856 - Recognizing the Commissioning of the USS New York LPD 21. (Nadler, D-NY)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 856 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the commissioning of the USS New York LPD 21;
- “Congratulates the captain and commissioning crew of the USS New York LPD 21 on the occasion of their vessel entering into the service of the United States Navy;
- “Recognizes the sacrifices made by the men and women in uniform who put themselves in harm's way in order to protect and defend the United States;
- “Honors those who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, on September 11, 2001; and
- “Recommits itself to the counter-terrorism mission of the USS New York LPD 21 and all the members of the United States Armed Forces.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Nearly 3,000 people were killed on September 11, 2001, in the most lethal terrorist attack ever committed against the United States;

- “On September 6, 2002, the Secretary of the Navy announced the name of the fifth vessel of the San Antonio-class Amphibious Transport Dock ships would be named USS New York LPD 21;
- “The USS New York LPD 21's primary mission will be to deploy amphibious assault capability anywhere in the world, on short notice, and that this force is the only force in the United States Armed Forces with such capability, and that such amphibious operation is central and key to suppression of terrorist organizations; and
- “The USS New York LPD 21 has a main passageway dubbed ‘Broadway’, the ship's insignia references the Statue of Liberty, the Twin Towers, the New York Police Department, and the Fire Department of New York, and the galley features a pre-9/11 neon outline of the city.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 856 was introduced on October 22, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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**H.Res. 880 - Recognizing the efforts of career and technical colleges to educate and train workers for positions in high-demand industries.
(Cassidy, R-LA)**

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 866 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the efforts of career and technical colleges to educate and train workers for positions in high-demand industries; and

- “Supports the connection career and technical colleges provide between employers and students.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “More than 80 percent of respondents in the 2005 National Association of Manufacturers Skills Gap report indicated that they are experiencing a shortage of qualified workers;
- “Career and technical colleges' connections with local business leaders allow the use of workforce readiness credentials to spread from the ground up in a way that is mutually beneficial to students and employers;
- “14 percent of all employers reported being a member of a career and technical education advisory committee in a Census Bureau Survey; and
- “Employers assist career and technical colleges in developing programs that reflect the needs of industry.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 880 was introduced on October 29, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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

H.Res. 752 - Recognizing the tragic loss of life that occurred at the Cherry Mine in Cherry, Illinois, on its 100th anniversary and the contributions to worker and mine safety that resulted from this and other disasters. (Halvorson, D-IL)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 752 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the 259 miners lost in the tragedy known as the Great Cherry Mine Disaster on its 100th anniversary;
- “Supports the important safety measures that were enacted as a result of this terrible incident and others around the country like it; and
- “Recognizes the important role organized labor has played in protecting the physical and economic security of workers in the United States.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “490 men and boys were working in the mine on Saturday, November 13, 1909;
- “An electrical outage at the Cherry Mine caused the workers to light kerosene lanterns and torches;
- “A torch caught fire 500 feet below the surface in the Cherry Mine;
- “259 miners, including 4 children, perished in what became known as the Great Cherry Mine Disaster; and
- “The United States Bureau of Mines was created in 1910 as a result of disasters like the Great Cherry Mine Disaster.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 752 was introduced on September 17, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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

H.Res. 878 - Expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Family Literacy Day. (Platts, R-PA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 878 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of National Family Literacy Day; and
- “Recognizes the benefits of parental involvement in a child's education.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “National Family Literacy Day is held on November 1;
- “Children spend 5 times as much time outside the classroom as they do in school, and a parent's education and income are 2 of the biggest factors in determining a child's success in school;
- “National Family Literacy Day encourages parents to become involved in their children's education and schoolwork; and
- “National Family Literacy Day highlights multigenerational learning, the importance of literacy for children and adults, and parental involvement in the education of their children.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 878 was introduced on October 29, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.R. 2136 – Stephanie Tubbs Jones College Fire Prevention Act (Fudge, D-OH)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2136 would establish the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones Fire Suppression Demonstration Incentive Program at the Department of Education to

promote installation of fire sprinkler systems, or other fire suppression or prevention technologies, in qualified student housing and dormitories. Specifically, the bill would:

- Establish a demonstration program to award grants to eligible to install fire sprinkler systems in student housing and dormitories. As a condition of receipt of a grant, the applicant shall provide non-federal matching funds equal to not less than 50 percent of the cost of the activities for which assistance is sought. Funds shall be used to supplement, not supplant other funds that would otherwise be expended to carry out fire safety activities.
- Require a report not later than 12 months after the date of the first award of a grant and annually thereafter until completion of the program. The report shall include:
 - The number and types of eligible entities receiving assistance;
 - The amounts of such assistance, the amounts and sources of non-federal funding, and any other relevant financial information;
 - The number and types of student housing fitted with fire suppression or prevention technologies with assistance under this act;
 - Identification of federal and state policies that present impediments to the development and installation of fire suppression or prevention technologies; and
 - Any other information that is useful to evaluating the overall effectiveness of the program.
- Prohibits the use of the application, any negative determination, or any statement of reasons for the determination from being used as evidence in a proceeding of any court, agency, board, or other entity.

Committee Action: H.R. 2136 was introduced on April 28, 2009, and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness, which took no further public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: H.R. 2136 does not have a CBO estimate. However, the bill authorizes “such sums as may be necessary” for FY 2010, FY2011, and FY2012.

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Yes.

Constitutional Authority: No committee report is available.

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H.R. 3276 – American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2009
(Markey, D-MA)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3276 authorizes \$163 million to be appropriated to produce molybdenum-99, which is a radioactive isotope produced from uranium, used for medical procedures. The bill also authorizes the Secretary of Energy to make low enriched uranium (LEU) available through lease contracts to producers of molybdenum-99. These lease contracts allow the Secretary to be fiscally responsible for radioactive waste generated by the irradiation process of LEU.

There are no facilities within the U.S. that are dedicated solely to the production of molybdenum-99 for medical uses, and therefore molybdenum must be imported. Prior to May 14, 2009, 60% of molybdenum-99 in the U.S. was imported from a 51-year-old National Research Universal reactor in Canada. That reactor was shut down after a leak of radioactive water was discovered. The closure of this reactor has caused a shortage of molybdenum-99.

Committee Action: H.R. 3276 was introduced on July 21, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Environment. The Committee held a markup of the bill on October 21, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that by providing funding for these projects, completing studies and reports, and managing radioactive waste would increase discretionary spending by \$130 million between 2010 and 2014. CBO estimates that leasing LEU would have a minor net impact on direct spending. CBO also estimates that this legislation would have a minor net impact on direct spending for any year. The bill would also 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?: Yes.

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

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H.R. 1849—World War I Memorial and Centennial Act of 2009 *(Rep. Cleaver, D-MO)*

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1849 designates the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, as the National World War I Memorial. The legislation also establishes the World War I Centennial Commission to “ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I that promotes the values of honor, courage, patriotism, and sacrifice” that is consistent with the Memorial. The primary duties of the Commission are to:

- “Plan, develop, and execute programs, projects, and activities to commemorate the centennial of World War I;
- “To encourage private organizations and State and local governments to organize and participate in activities commemorating the centennial of World War I;
- “To facilitate and coordinate activities throughout the United States related to the centennial of World War I; and
- “To serve as a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of information about events and plans for the centennial of World War.”

The membership of the Commission will consist of members appointed by majority and minority members of the House and Senate, Executive Office of the President, executive director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (or the director's delegate), executive director of the American Legion (or the director's delegate), and the president of the Liberty Memorial Association, the nonprofit entity responsible for the management of America's National World War I Museum (or the president's delegate).

Additional Information: According to the bill’s findings, more than 4,000,000 men and women from the United States served in uniform in the defense of liberty during World War I, among them two future presidents, Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower. The United States suffered 375,000 casualties during World War I, which lasted from 1914 to 1918.

Kansas City is home to the Liberty Memorial and America's National World War I Museum (as recognized in the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005), and home to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. More information on the Memorial can be found [here](#).

Committee Action: On April 1, 2009, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Committee on Natural Resources. The Oversight and Government Reform Committee held a mark-up on October 29, 2009, and the legislation was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

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

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1849 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. Such a report is technically not required because the bill is being considered under a suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee Report citing Constitutional authority is not available.

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