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**Legislative Bulletin.....May 5, 2010**

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**H.R. 5160 - Haiti Economic Lift Program Act of 2010 (*Rangel, D-NY*)**

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 5160 would amend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to extend duty-free treatment for certain Caribbean countries until September 30, 2020. This provision is currently set to expire on September 30, 2010.

This legislation also allows certain types of clothing and textile articles that are imported from Haiti or the Dominican Republic to enter the United States duty free.

H.R. 5160 also extends preferential treatment for certain woven and knit articles from October 1, 2017 to October 1, 2019, and it increases the amount allowable to be imported duty free.

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner shall be responsible for verifying that apparel articles imported into the United States are not being illegally transshipped, and shall report to the President in such cases. In unlawful cases the President is allowed to modify the amount allowed to be imported duty free.

Under current law there is a program under the Department of Commerce that provides an import allowance certificate to producers controlling production of apparel articles imported from Haiti or the Dominican Republic. Current law states that one credit is given for every three square meters of woven fabric, this legislation lowers that requirement to every two square meters.

The legislation also extends the time period by which wire harness automotive components may be imported duty free from Haiti. The period will be extended from December 20, 2011 until December 20, 2016.

H.R. 5160 also instructs the Commissioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, in consultation with the U.S. Coast Guard, DEA, and other federal agencies, to send a rapid response team to Haiti. The team will assess the training needs of authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs. The team will also provide immediate assistance with respect to:

- “Reestablishing full capacity for commercial port operations at the seaport at Port-au-Prince;
- “Facilitating trade between the United States and Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as amended by this Act;
- “Preventing unlawful transshipment of goods through Haiti to the United States; and
- “Otherwise strengthening cooperation between the customs authorities of the United States, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic with respect to trade facilitation and economic development, customs compliance and law enforcement, and efforts to combat unlawful trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.”

After 75 days a report must be submitted to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee detailing:

- “A description of the short-term and long-term technical, capacity-building, and training needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services, including a prioritization of immediate infrastructure needs;
- “A multi-year plan for supplying technical, capacity-building, and training assistance to those authorities, including specific responsibilities to be undertaken by the support team authorized by subsection (b); and

- “A statement of the amount and purpose for which any funds were expended by the rapid response team in Haiti to administer the provisions of this section, including any expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated pursuant to subsection (c)(1).”

The support team will be terminated on September 30, 2020. Subject to appropriation, this legislation authorizes \$100,000 to “help meet the immediate infrastructure needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services for the purpose of facilitating trade between the United States and Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as amended by this Act.”

An additional \$750,000 is authorized each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2020 for the purpose of maintaining the support team.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 5160 was introduced on April 28, 2010 and was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, which took no public action.

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

**Cost to Taxpayers:** No CBO score is available.

**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.

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**H.Res. 1320 - Expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the attempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism  
(McMahon, D-NY)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1320 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Commends the actions of Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson for promptly alerting appropriate authorities about the suspicious vehicle in Times Square on May 1, 2010;
- “Urges all Americans to remain vigilant about potential terrorist or suspicious activity within their own communities and report such activity to the appropriate authorities;
- “Recognizes the New York City Police Department, in particular Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan of Mounted Unit Troop B, the Fire Department of New York, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, led by Lieutenant Mark Torre and other first responders, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut for their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism;
- “Recognizes the exceptional professionalism and investigative work by the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut in apprehending a suspect only 48 hours following the attempted bombing; and
- “Urges all Federal agencies to continue to work with State, local, and tribal partners to bolster preparedness for and prevention of terrorism.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “On Saturday, May 1, 2010, an individual drove a vehicle loaded with explosive materials to Times Square in New York City and attempted to detonate a car bomb;
- “On the same day, two alert citizens, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, notified the New York Police Department about a suspicious vehicle that was parked on 45th Street in Times Square;
- “On the same day, New York City Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan, while patrolling on horse, responded to the reports of a suspicious vehicle and acted swiftly with his colleagues in the New York Police Department and the Fire Department of New York to thwart the detonation of the car bomb;
- “New York City first responders safely evacuated hundreds of people from Times Square and responded in a prompt and effective manner, as the result of extensive terrorism preparedness efforts that are supported, in part, by the Department of Homeland Security; and

- “In response to the Times Square incident, the Transportation Security Administration has enhanced ongoing efforts to increase security on various transportation modes.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1320 was introduced on May 4, 2010 and introduced to the House Homeland Security 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.

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## **H.Res. 1272 - Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the May 4, 1970, Kent State University shootings (*Ryan, D-OH*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1272 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the tragedy of the May 4 shootings and the implications that the shootings have had not only on Kent State and the local community, but also on the Nation and the world; and
- “Applauds the development of the May 4 visitors center as an additional primary resource to preserve and communicate the history of the May 4 shootings, its larger ethical and societal context and impact, and its enduring meaning for our democratic Nation.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The year 2010 marks the 40th anniversary of the Kent State University shootings that occurred on May 4, 1970;

- “On such date, Ohio National Guardsmen opened fire on Kent State students who were protesting the United States invasion of Cambodia and the ongoing Vietnam War;
- “Four unarmed students (Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer, and William Schroeder) were killed and nine others (Alan Canfora, John Cleary, Thomas Grace, Dean Kahler, Joseph Lewis, Donald MacKenzie, James Russell, Robert Stamps, and Douglas Wrentmore) were injured;
- “The site of the May 4 shootings was entered in the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation, in February 2010; and
- “Kent State has engaged the internationally renowned design services firm, Gallagher & Associates, to assist in the development of the May 4 visitors center as a central place where individuals can explore and better understand the May 4 shootings.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1272 was introduced on April 20, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no further 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.

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## **H.Res. 1157 - Congratulating the National Urban League on its 100th year of service to the United States (*Hastings, D-FL*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1157 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Congratulates the National Urban League on its 100th year of service to the United States;

- “Expresses its deep gratitude for the hardworking and dedicated men and women of the League who, in the last 100 years, have struggled to improve American society and the lives of all Americans;
- “Commends the League's ongoing and tireless efforts to continue addressing areas of inequality and fighting for the rights of all Americans to live with freedom, dignity, and prosperity; and
- “Lends its full support as the National Urban League continues to create strong communities and leaders for generations to come, and encourages all agencies of the Federal Government to assist the League in its many beneficial endeavors.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The National Urban League, formerly known as the National League of Black Men and Women, is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to elevating the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities;
- “The National Urban League publishes the ‘State of Black America’, an annual report analyzing social and economic conditions affecting African-Americans;
- “The League has outlined 4 aspirational goals to mark its centennial anniversary as part of its I AM EMPOWERED campaign; I AM EMPOWERED will galvanize millions of people to take a pledge to help achieve the following by 2025:
  - “Education: Every American child is ready for college, work and life;
  - “Jobs: Every American has access to jobs with a living wage and good benefits;
  - “Housing: Every American lives in safe, decent, affordable and energy efficient housing on fair terms; and
  - “Healthcare: Every American has access to quality and affordable health care solutions;
- “The work of the League has been pivotal in improving the lives of millions of African-Americans through community-oriented programs, civil rights, and leadership opportunities, at times when these changes have been needed most; and
- “The National Urban League remains an essential organization today.”

**Additional Information:** Information regarding the National Urban League’s plan for job creation can be found [here](#). Information regarding the National Urban League’s legislative issues can be found [here](#). According to [Recovery.gov](#), the National Urban League received \$2,380,246 in taxpayer funds through the Democrats “stimulus,” and was therefore able to create/save 3.30 jobs (**a cost of \$721,287 per job**).

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1157 was introduced on March 10, 2010, and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, which took no further 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.

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### **H.Res. 1312 - Recognizing the roles and contributions of America's teachers to building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being (Graves, R-MO)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1312 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Thanks and promotes the profession of teaching by encouraging students, parents, school administrators, and public officials to participate in teacher appreciation events during ‘National Teacher Appreciation Week’.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Education and knowledge are the foundation of America's current and future strength;
- “Teachers and other education staff have earned and deserve the respect of their students and communities for their selfless dedication to community service and the future of our Nation's children;
- “The purpose of ‘National Teacher Appreciation Week’, held during May 3, 2010, through May 7, 2010, is to raise public awareness of the unquantifiable contributions of teachers and to promote greater respect and understanding for the teaching profession; and
- “Students, schools, communities, and a number of organizations representing educators are hosting teacher appreciation events in recognition of ‘National Teacher Appreciation Week.’”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1312 was introduced on April 29, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, which took no further 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.

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## **H.Res. 1149 - Supporting the goals and ideals of National Charter School Week, to be held May 2 through May 8, 2010 (Bishop, R-UT)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1149 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of the 11th annual National Charter Schools Week;
- “Acknowledges and commends charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education and improving and strengthening our public school system; and
- “Calls on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools during this weeklong celebration in communities throughout the United States.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Charter schools are public schools authorized by a designated public entity that are responding to the needs of our communities, families, and students, and promoting the principles of quality, choice, and innovation;
- “39 States, the District of Columbia, and Guam have passed laws authorizing charter schools;
- “4,956 charter schools, an increase of 292 schools from last school year, are now serving almost 1,500,000 children;
- “Charter schools nationwide serve a higher percentage of low-income and minority students than the traditional public system; and
- “The 11th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 2 through May 8, 2010, is an event sponsored by charter schools and grassroots charter school

organizations across the United States to recognize the significant impacts, achievements, and innovations of charter schools.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1149 was introduced on March 9, 2010, and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, 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.

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## **H.R. 2421 - Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (Capito, R-WV)**

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 2421 instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue not more than 400,000 \$1 coins. The coins shall be legal tender according to title 31 of United States Code, Section 5103.

The coins shall be illustrative of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of President Wilson’s proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother’s Day. The coins shall be dated 2014, and shall include the words: “Liberty,” “In God We Trust,” “United States of America,” and “E Pluribus Unum.”

The design of the coins will be selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and then review by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee. The coins may be minted between January 1, 2014 and December 21, 2014.

These coins will be uncirculated and will be sold by the Secretary. All sales shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin. Half of the surcharges will go to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure for the purpose of furthering research funded by the organization. Half of the

surcharges will go to the National Osteoporosis Foundation for the purpose of furthering research funded by the Foundation. These two organizations shall be subject to audit requirements with regard to the amounts they receive.

**Additional Information:** [Susan G. Komen for the Cure](#) is “dedicated to education and research about causes, treatment, and the search for a cure” to breast cancer. The [National Osteoporosis Foundation](#) is “the nation’s leading voluntary health organization solely dedicated to osteoporosis and bone health”

**Committee Action:** H.R. 2421 was introduced on May 14, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, which took no public action.

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

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score 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.

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## **H.Res. 1295 - Celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day (*Fortenberry, R-NE*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1295 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of each May;
- “In 1908, Elmer Burkett, a U.S. senator from Nebraska, proposed making Mother's Day a national holiday;

- “George Washington said, ‘My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her’; and
- “May 9, 2010, is recognized as Mother's Day.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1295 was introduced on April 22, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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.

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**H.Res. 1247 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 3 through 9, 2010, and throughout the year (*Lynch, D-MA*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1247 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;
- “Salutes government employees for their unyielding dedication and spirit of public service;
- “Honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;
- “Calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and
- “Encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;
- “Federal, State, and local governments are responsive, innovative, and effective because of the outstanding work of public servants;
- “Public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;
- “Government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants; and
- “Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 26th anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1247 was introduced on April 14, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which took no further 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.

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## **H.R. 1722 - Telework Improvements Act (*Sarbanes, D-MD*)**

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 1722 would require each federal agency head to establish a policy authorizing employees to telework.

This legislation will not require an agency to authorize teleworking for an employee whose duties require daily access to classified information, require daily face-to-face

contact with members of the public, require daily use of equipment at the employee's regular place of employment, or in cases where teleworking is infeasible.

The Office of Personnel Management shall submit a summary of denials of permission to telework to the Comptroller General for inclusion in their annual report.

The legislation requires that each federal agency designate an officer, known as the "Telework Managing Officer" who will be compensated at a rate not less than the minimum rate of pay for grade GS-15 of the General Schedule. If the agency has less than 100 employees, they may waive the required minimum pay rate. The Telework Managing Officer shall serve as:

- "An advisor on teleworking to the head of such agency and to the Chief Human Capital Officer of such agency (if any);
- "A resource on teleworking for supervisors, managers, and employees of such agency;
- "The primary point of contact for any agency employee who elects to telework, in the event of a telework-related dispute between the employee and a supervisor or manager; and
- "The agency's primary point of contact on teleworking matters for employees of such agency, Congress, and other agencies."

Other responsibilities of the Teleworking Managing Officer include:

- "Ensuring that the agency's teleworking policy is communicated effectively to employees;
- "Ensuring that electronic or written notification is provided to each employee of specific telework programs and the agency's teleworking policy, including authorization criteria and application procedures;
- "Developing and administering a tracking system for compliance with Governmentwide telework reporting requirements;
- "Providing to the Comptroller General and to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management such information as the Comptroller General may require to prepare the annual reports under section 6505(b);
- "Establishing a system for receiving feedback from agency employees on the telework policy of such agency;
- "Developing and implementing a program to identify and remove barriers to telework and to maximize telework opportunities in the agency;
- "Ensuring that employees are notified of grievance procedures available to them (if any) with respect to any disputes that relate to telework; and
- "Performing such other duties and responsibilities relating to telework as the head of the agency may require.

The Comptroller General shall submit an annual report to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. The report shall evaluate the telework policy of each agency, include

information about employees who teleworked, evaluate the compliance of each agency with this act, and identify best practices in agency telework programs. This report is required annually for the first four years after this legislation is enacted.

The agency head shall be required by this legislation to see that employees authorized to telework receive proper training as directed by the Teleworking Managing Officer of that agency. No distinction between teleworkers and nonteleworkers is allowed when appraising job performance, training, rewarding, reassigning, promoting, firing or other acts involving managerial discretion.

When determining what constitutes diminished performance in the case of an employee who teleworks, the agency shall consult the performance management guidelines of the Office of Personnel Management.

The General Services Administration, in coordination with the Office of Personnel Management, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Chief human Capital Officers Council shall report to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on:

- “The extent to which such incorporation has occurred within each of the respective agencies;
- “The extent to which each agency has conducted continuity of operations tests and exercises incorporating telework for essential and non-essential personnel;
- “The extent to which agencies have used telework in response to emergencies; and
- “Any recommendations the General Services Administration considers appropriate.”

**Additional Information:** This legislation would require that the Teleworking Managing Officer be paid at a GS-15 level, linked [here](#).

**Potential Concerns:** Some conservatives may be concerned that this legislation requires each federal agency to create a Teleworking Managing Officer. Some agencies may not be of the size to which this position is needed. Some conservatives may believe that creating such a position should be up to the discretion of the agency head and not required by law.

Some conservatives may be concerned that teleworking—working from home or a remote locating—may disincentivize efficiency among federal employees and reduce the productivity of the federal government.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 1722 was introduced on March 25, 2009 and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Post Office, and the District of Columbia. A full committee markup was held on April 14, 2010 and the bill was approved by voice vote.

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

**Cost to Taxpayers:** CBO estimates that H.R. 1722 “would increase the administrative costs of federal agencies by \$2 million in 2010 and by \$30 million over the 2010-2015 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.”

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

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

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

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## **H.Res. 1301 - Supporting the goals and ideals of National Train Day (Brown, D-FL)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1301 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Recognizes the contribution trains make to the national transportation system;
- “Urges the people of the United States to recognize such a day as an opportunity to learn more about trains; and
- “Supports the goals and ideals of National Train Day as designated by Amtrak.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided \$8,000,000,000 for intercity passenger rail and high-speed rail corridor development as well as an additional \$1,300,000,000 to Amtrak for capital, safety, and security improvements;
- “The United States has built on this commitment to expanding the Nation's high-speed and intercity passenger rail network, appropriating \$2,500,000,000 for development of high-speed rail corridors and intercity passenger rail service and \$1,564,625,000 to Amtrak in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010;
- “In January 2010, the President announced the recipients of \$8,000,000,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act awards for the development of high-speed and intercity passenger rail service in 13 corridors spanning 31 States;

- “Developing this pipeline of national high-speed and intercity passenger rail ready-to-go and future projects will revitalize the domestic manufacturing industry and create additional jobs in the United States;
- “Amtrak has designated May 8, 2010, as National Train Day to celebrate the way trains connect people and places.”

**Additional Information:** Amtrak received \$1.3 billion in the “stimulus” and \$1.564 billion in the [Consolidated Appropriations Act](#). Also, the “stimulus” and the [Conference Report](#) for the Consolidated Appropriations Act passed without any Republican support. In total, Amtrak received \$2.864 billion in taxpayer funds for 2009.

**Potential Conservative Concern:** The resolution expresses support for taxpayer subsidies of Amtrak. Amtrak was created by Congress in 1970. Since then, it has received \$37 billion in federal subsidies. Taxpayer subsidies enable Amtrak to avoid necessary reforms and keep losing money. For example, in one year, Amtrak lost \$600 million on long-distance trains (on these routes Amtrak cannot compete with other, more economical modes of transportation). Amtrak also has taken losses of between \$75 million and \$158 million a year on its sleeper car service, as well as losses of \$80 million (in one year) on food (an impressive feat considering it has a captive audience).

Amtrak and the National Association of Railroad Passengers (NARP) use National Train Day to advocate for taxpayer subsidies for passenger rail. Here, for example, is what NARP had to [say](#) about its plans for the first Train Day in 2008: “NARP and its members will use the opportunity to promote NARP’s [Grow Trains Campaign and Vision Plan](#) and to call on policy makers to renew their commitment to expanding the nation’s passenger train network.” By contrast, many conservatives believe that federal subsidies to Amtrak should come to an end, and may therefore believe that Congress should not express support for the “goals and ideals of National Train Day as designated by Amtrak,” as this resolution would do.

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1301 was introduced on April 27, 2010, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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.

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## **H.Con.Res. 247 - Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby (*Hoyer, D-MD*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Con.Res. 247 would permit the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to sponsor a public event on the Capitol Grounds on June 19, 2010.

The event shall be open to the public and free of charge, and shall be arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress. The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association will be responsible for all expenses and liabilities associated with the event.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association will be authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds a stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event.

**Additional Information:** Information about the Soap Box Derby can be found [here](#).

**Committee Action:** H.Con.Res. 247 was introduced on March 4, 2010 and was referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management. The legislation was discharged from the subcommittee. A full committee markup was held on April 29, 2010 and the bill passed by voice vote.

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

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score 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.

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**H.Con.Res. 263 - Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run  
(Del. Norton, D-DC)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Con.Res. 263 would allow the 25th Annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be held on June 4, 2010 on the Capitol Grounds.

**Committee Action:** H.Con.Res. 263 was introduced on March 21, 2010 and was referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. A committee markup was held on April 29, 2010 and the bill passed by voice vote.

**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.

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**H.Res. 1278 - In support and recognition of National Safe Digging Month, April, 2010 (Shuster, R-PA)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1278 would resolve that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month, and encourages homeowners and all excavators throughout the country to call 811 before conducting any digging or excavation activities.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Each year there are over 200,000 incidences of unintentional damage to underground utility infrastructure (including pipelines, electrical, telecommunications, water, and sewer lines), many as a result of an individual who fails to have underground utilities lines located before digging;
- “Congress first established minimum standards for State one-call notification programs and authorized appropriations for Federal grants to improve State one-call notification programs in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century in 1998;
- “Congress required a 3-digit, nationwide toll-free number be established to be used by State one-call systems in the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002;
- “The 1,400 members of the Common Ground Alliance, who are dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention practices, promote the national ‘Call Before You Dig’ campaign to increase public awareness about the importance of calling 811 to identify the exact location of underground utility lines;
- “The Common Ground Alliance has designated April as National Safe Digging month in order to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the country and to celebrate the anniversary of the designation of 811 as the national ‘Call Before You Dig’ number; and
- “April is the beginning of the peak of excavation projects around the Nation.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1278 was introduced on April 20, 2010, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials. A full committee markup was held on April 29, 2010 and Rep. Shuster offered an amendment which was agreed to. The resolution then passed by voice vote.

**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.

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