



Legislative Bulletin.....May 7, 2007

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Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 4

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$161.5 million over five years

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: Reduced by \$4 million

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 10

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 0

H.Res. 355 — Recognizing and welcoming the leaders of the Pacific Islands to Washington, D.C., and commending the East-West Center for hosting the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders (*Faleomavaega, D-AS*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 355 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 355 would express that the House of Representatives:

- “recognizes and welcomes the leaders of the Pacific Islands to Washington, D.C.; and
- “commends the East-West Center for hosting the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including

- “the East-West Center, as established by the United States Congress in 1960, contributes to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia Pacific community by conducting cooperative research, education, and dialogue programs on critical issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the United States;
- “the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders was created in 1980 at the East-West Center, which sponsors and supports this regional institution through its Pacific Islands Development Program;

- “the United States has maintained deep and enduring relations with the peoples of the Pacific islands during times of peace and war and is linked to the Pacific not only through geography but also through common interest and values;
- “the governments of the Pacific Islands Region are key partners with the United States in combating terrorism in all its forms; and
- “there are increasing numbers of Americans of Pacific islander ancestry making myriad contributions to America's dynamism and diversity.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 355 was introduced on May 1, 2007 and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no further action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.Con.Res. 124 — Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service (*Norton, D-DC*)

Order of Business: H.Con.Res. 124 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 124 would permit the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and their auxiliary to sponsor a free, public, event for the 26th annual National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service, on the Capitol grounds on May 15, 2007. The event would honor police officers who died in the line of duty in 2006.

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 124 was introduced on April 20, 2007 and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which held a mark-up on May 2, 2007, and reported the resolution by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 1595 — Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act *(Bordallo, D-Guam)*

Order of Business: H.R. 1595 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1595 would recognize the suffering of residents of Guam on account of their United States nationality during the invasion and occupation by Imperial Japan during World War II. It would also express the eternal gratitude to the residents of Guam for their loyalty and bravery while they were occupied by Imperial Japan.

The bill would direct the Secretary of Treasury to make payments to residents of Guam who suffered death, personal injury, forced labor, or internment. For this purpose, H.R. 1595 would authorize \$126 million over five years. Survivors of residents who died in the war would receive \$25,000. Residents who suffered rape or severe personal injury, such as the loss of a limb, would receive \$15,000. A resident that was subject to forced labor or suffered injuries such as scarring or burning would receive \$12,000. Residents who suffered forced marches or internment, or were forced to hide to avoid internment, would receive \$10,000.

If a resident had been subject to personal injury but was no longer alive to receive payment then the sum of \$7,000 would be dispersed to the resident's spouse, children, or parents. If no such relations are alive than no money would be dispersed.

The Foreign Claims Settlement Service would be responsible for adjudicating the claims and determining eligibility. All claims must be filed within one year after the Foreign Claims Settlement Service published a notice of the filing period. The notice would be publicized in newspapers, radio, and television media in Guam.

H.R. 1595 would also authorize \$5 million over five years for the Secretary of Interior to **create a new grant program** that would award grants research, educational, and media activities that memorialize the events surrounding the occupation of Guam.

Addition Information: On December 10, 1941, the U.S. territory of Guam fell to the Japanese, becoming the first American territory lost in World War II. According to the Department of Interior, in the months that followed, some 10,000 to 15,000 residents of Guam were forced to march to concentration camps in the central and southern jungles. Men, women, and children over the age of 12 were forced to build airfields, military installations, and bunkers. The people of Guam lived under the rule of the Imperial Japanese Navy until the island was liberated by the United States in July 1944.

In November of 1945, just three months after the defeat of Imperial Japan, the United States Congress passed the [Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945](#). The legislation was crafted for the purpose of “granting immediate relief to the residents of Guam by the prompt settlement of meritorious claims arising in Guam.” Under the bill, the Secretary

of the Navy was directed to establish claim commissions to determine just compensation for physical and property damages suffered by the resident of Guam and to implement the best strategy for dispersing the money.

RSC Bonus Fact: The RSC's own Derek Baker was born in Agana, Guam, on Anderson Air Force Base. Thus, he is a Guamanian

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that the bill authorizes \$126 million in reparations to family members of residents of Guam who experienced suffering at the hands of our *enemy* in WWII, Japan, and not because of a policy or action of the United States Government.

Committee Action: H.R. 1595 was introduced on March 20, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark up, amended the bill, and reported it by voice vote on May 2, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1595 is not available, but the bill would authorize \$131 million over a five year period.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of Government?: Yes, H.R. 1595 creates a new federal grant program.

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain "a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution" [*emphasis added*].

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 407 — Columbia-Pacific National Heritage Area Study Act (Baird, D-WA)

Order of Business: H.R. 407 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 407 would direct the Secretary of Interior to commission a study to determine the feasibility of designating an area along the Columbia River, in Washington State, as the Columbia-Pacific National Heritage Area. The bill would authorize "such sums" for the Secretary, along with appropriate governmental agencies and interested organizations, to study the proposed designation and submit a report to the Committee on Natural Resources within three years.

H.R. 407 also lists a number of findings regarding the history of the Columbia River area.

Addition Information: The National Park Service (NPS) describes a National Heritage Area as a “complex matrix of public and private land” wherein conservation and preservation efforts are centrally managed. The designation creates a managing entity composed of federal, state, and local governments, along with private sector organizations. The managing entity creates a management plan and receives federal funds on the areas behalf. The National Park Service provides technical and financial assistance, for a limited number of years following designation. The Nation Heritage designation is not, however, permanent. National Heritage Areas cannot be created without a feasibility study. For more information on the NPS and National Heritage Areas visit their [website](#).

According to the findings listed in H.R. 407, the Columbia-Pacific area has been a vibrant cultural and economic center for the Chinookan people for thousands of years. The mouth of the Columbia River, in Astoria, Washington, has been explored by such Europeans as Vitus Bering, Sir Francis Drake, and Captain Cook during their search for a water passage in the West. Columbia was the final major American river to be mapped. Later, the famed American explorers Lewis and Clark reached the Pacific Ocean at the mouth Columbia River in 1805, and camped there for the winter. In addition, the bill states that the region “has an assemblage of natural, historic, cultural, educational, scenic, or recreational resources that together are nationally important to the heritage of the United States.”

Possible Conservative Concerns: Some conservatives may be concerned that National Heritage Area designations can lead to restrictive federal zoning and land-use planning. The management plan could restrict how residential and commercial property owners utilize their private property because of conservation concerns.

Committee Action: H.R. 407 was introduced on January 11, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On February 7, 2007 the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 407 is not available, but the bill would authorize “such sums” to conduct the study.

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

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 1080 — Grand Teton National Park Extension Act of 2007 (Cubin, R-WY)

Order of Business: H.R. 1080 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1080 would authorize the Secretary of Interior to accept the donation of any land or interest and include the donated land within the boundaries of the Grand Teton National Park to be administered in accordance with all applicable laws. The bill prohibits the Secretary from selling or otherwise transferring the acquired land without the consent of Congress.

Addition Information: According to the National Park Service, “Grand Teton National Park preserves a spectacular landscape rich with majestic mountains, pristine lakes and extraordinary wildlife. The abrupt vertical rise of the jagged Teton Range contrasts with the horizontal sage-covered valley and glacial lakes at their base, creating world-renowned scenery that attracts nearly four million visitors per year.” Grand Teton National Park’s boundaries include 310,000 acres in northwestern Wyoming. For more information on Grand Teton National Park, visit their [website](#).

Committee Action: H.R. 1080 was introduced on February 15, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which held a mark-up and reported the bill by unanimous consent on May 2, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1080 is not available, but the bill would authorize “such sums” to carry out this Act.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of Government?: Yes, the bill would allow the Secretary to expand the size of the Grand Teton National Park.

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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H.R. 487 — Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Amendments Act of 2007 (*Herseth, D-SD*)

Order of Business: H.R. 487 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 487 would amend the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act, which established a fund to compensate the Cheyenne River Sioux for 104,492 acres of land acquired by the federal government for the Oahe Dam and Reservoir Project, to change the amount and change the timing of deposits. The changes would make member landowners eligible for additional funding.

H.R. 487 would direct the Secretary of Treasury to make five annual deposits of \$58 million into the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Recovery Trust Fund. The bill would also require that an additional amount be deposited for interest that would have accrued at the new rate.

The bill defines “member landowners” as members or heirs to members of the tribe that owned land on the Cheyenne Sioux Reservation that was acquired by the United States for the Oahe Dam and Reservoir Project. H.R. 487 requires that the Secretary assists member landowners and the tribe by disclosing any requested information that could identify heirs of member landowners.

Addition Information: According to a GAO report released in 1998 regarding the controversy between the federal government and the Cheyenne River Sioux, “In 1948, the federal government began to construct the Oahe dam as a flood control project on the Missouri River. The reservoir created by the dam flooded over 100,000 acres of the Cheyenne River Reservation. In 1954, the Cheyenne River Sioux tribe requested about \$23.5 million for damages (losses resulting from the government’s taking of the Indians’ land) and general rehabilitation (funds for improving the Indians’ standard of living). Later that year, Congress authorized the payment of about \$10.6 million to the tribe for damages, rehabilitation, and administrative expenses related to the settlement. In March 1993, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council unanimously passed a resolution stating that the tribe had not received adequate compensation for the damages resulting from the flood control project.”

As a result, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act was passed and enacted in 2000, becoming Public Law 106-511. H.R. 487 would amend this to adjust the rate of the deposits to the fund.

Committee Action: H.R. 487 was introduced on January 16, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Water and Power on February 7, 2007. On April 19, 2007, the Subcommittee on Water and Power held a mark-up and reported the bill to the full committee, which held a mark-up on May 2, 2007, and reported H.R. 487 by unanimous consent on May 2, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to the CBO, H.R. 487 would increase direct spending by \$14 million in 2008, but would decrease direct spending by \$9 million over both the 2008-2012 and 2008-2017 periods.

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

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 1737 — To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities for the GREAT project to reclaim, reuse, and treat impaired waters in the area of Oxnard, California (*Capps, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 1737 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1737 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the City of Oxnard, California, in the planning, design, and construction of the Phase 1 facilities of the Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) project to treat and reuse water. The legislation prohibits the Secretary from providing funds for the operation and maintenance of the facility or the construction of a visitor’s center related to the project. The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions would terminate after tens years.

Addition Information: According to the sponsor’s office, “The GREAT Program combines wastewater recycling and reuse, groundwater injection, storage and recovery, and groundwater desalination to provide regional water supply solutions to the Oxnard community.” For more information on the city of Oxnard’s GREAT project visit this [website](#).

Committee Action: H.R. 1737 was introduced on March 28, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On April 6, 2007, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Water and Power, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1737 was not available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of Government?: Yes. The bill would create a new water project.

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 30 — Eastern Municipal Water District Recycled Water System Pressurization and Expansion Project (Issa, R-CA)

Order of Business: H.R. 30 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 30 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the Eastern Municipal Water District, California, in the planning, design, and construction of the permanent facilities for operational pressure zones to provide recycled water in the district. H.R. 30 would authorize \$12 million over ten years for this purpose.

The legislation prohibits the Secretary from providing more than 25 percent of funds or funds for the operation and maintenance of the facility. The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions would terminate after ten years.

Addition Information: The Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), which was created in 1950, serves roughly 630,000 customers. According to the EMWD, “the logical result from collecting wastewater is to clean it up to a quality which has value as a revenue producer to help offset treatment costs. That process not only conserves limited local fresh water and makes managed water resources more efficient, but makes water management more economical.” H.R. 30 would provide federal funds for this local project. For more information on the EMWD’s wastewater treatment visit this [website](#).

Committee Action: H.R. 30 was introduced on January 4, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On February 7, 2007, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Water and Power, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 30 is not available, but the bill would authorize \$12 million for the project.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of Government?: Yes. The bill would create a new water project.

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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H.R. 1025 — Lower Republican River Basin Study Act (Moran, R-KS)

Order of Business: H.R. 1025 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1025 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, along with the states of Nebraska, Kansas, and Colorado, to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of implementing a water supply project in order to improve water supply reliability in the Republican River Basin between Harlan County Lake in Nebraska and Milford Lake in Kansas, increase the capacity of water storage through projects that serve areas in the Republican River Basin, and improve water management efficiency in the Republican River Basin and, where appropriate, evaluate integrated water resource management and supply needs in the Republican River Basin.

The legislation prohibits the Secretary from proving more than 50 percent of the total costs of the study. The Secretary would be required to submit the study to the Congress within three years on enactment. The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions would terminate after ten years.

Addition Information: According to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, in 1943, “the States of Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska entered into the Republican River Compact with the approval of Congress. The Compact provided for equitable apportionment of the Republican River stream flows for beneficial consumptive use.” In the time since the Compact there have been numerous disputes between the three states regarding water supply, storage and management efficiency in the Lower Republican River Basin that the study would attempt to resolve.

Committee Action: H.R. 1025 was introduced on February 13, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. On February 20, 2007, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Water and Power, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1025 is not available.

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

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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H.R. 1114 — Alaska Water Resources Act of 2007 (Young, R-AK)

Order of Business: H.R. 1114 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1114 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study that includes, a survey of accessible water supplies, including aquifers, on the Kenai Peninsula and in the Municipality of Anchorage, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the city of Fairbanks, and the Fairbanks Northstar Borough, a survey of water treatment needs and technologies, including desalination, applicable to the water resources of the State, and a review of the need for enhancement of the streamflow information collected by the United States Geological Survey in the State relating to critical water needs (such as infrastructure risks to state transportation, flood forecasting, resource extraction, and fire management).

The Secretary would be required to submit the study to the Congress within two years on enactment. The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions would terminate after ten years.

Addition Information: According to the bill’s sponsor, H.R. 1114 was “designed to conduct studies on Alaska’s groundwater resources and water treatment needs was approved today by the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee. The bill will also improve streamflow information in Alaska to improve flood forecasting, resource extraction and fire management.

“Alaska’s combined water bodies comprise one-third of all the fresh water in the United States, but many of our communities are struggling to provide drinking water due to an outdated water distribution system and lack of adequate information on ground-water resources.”

Committee Action: H.R. 1114 was introduced on February 16, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Water

and Power on February 26, 2007. On April 19, 2007, the Subcommittee on Water and Power held a mark-up and reported the bill to the full committee, which held a mark-up on May 2, 2007, and reported H.R. 1114 by unanimous consent on May 2, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1114 is not available.

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

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.R. 1140 — South Orange County Recycled Water Enhancement Act (Calvert, R-CA)

Order of Business: H.R. 1140 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1140 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the City of San Juan Capistrano, in the planning, design, and construction of an advanced water treatment plant facility and recycled water system. H.R. 1140 would authorize \$18.5 million for the local water project.

H.R. 1140 would also authorize \$18.5 million over ten years for the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the San Clemente, California, in the planning, design, and construction of a project to expand reclaimed water distribution, storage and treatment facilities.

The legislation prohibits the Secretary from providing more than 25 percent of funds or the operation and maintenance of either project. The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions would terminate after ten years.

Addition Information: According to the South Orange County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, “the region has transitioned to one of the fastest growing areas of urban development in the State. Cities, once only sleepy rural communities, have become burgeoning urban centers. And the population, which just a few years ago numbered a few thousand residents, has now exploded to more than 500,000.” The plan suggests that new facilities will diversify the mix of water supplies and can help to meet South Orange County’s water needs through “developing local sources such as recycled

water, groundwater and ocean water” For more information on the plan visit this [website](#).

Committee Action: H.R. 1140 was introduced on February 16, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, which referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Water and Power on February 26, 2007. On April 19, 2007, the Subcommittee on Water and Power held a mark-up and reported the bill to the full committee, which held a mark-up on May 2, 2007, and reported H.R. 1114 by unanimous consent on May 2, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1140 was not available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of Government?: Yes, creates a new local water project.

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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H.R. 1642 — Homeless Veterans Housing at Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center Promotion Act (*Sherman, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 1642 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1642 would authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to enter into an enhanced-use lease to provide housing for homeless veterans at the Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center in California.

Addition Information: According to a [New York Times article](#) published on April 3, 2007, “Los Angeles has the highest concentration of homeless veterans in the nation, some 20,000, according to the Veterans Affairs Department. Nationwide, there is a need for 27,000 units of permanent housing with support services for homeless veterans, federal officials say, but fewer than 1,000 are available.” H.R. 1642 would address the issue by using federally funded, enhanced-use leases to create between 150 and 225 new housing units for homeless veterans.

According to CBO, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has the “authority to use enhanced-use leases to enter into an array of long-term agreements with property developers who establish a limited-liability company, partnership, or other special-

purpose entity, specifically for the purpose of renovating, constructing, operating, and maintaining the facilities for each project. Those agreements establish government control over the project, protect the government's interests, and ensure that VHA will receive guaranteed access to whatever facility is being developed."

Committee Action: H.R. 1642 was introduced on March 22, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, which held a mark-up and reported the bill by voice vote on April 18, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that H.R. 1642 would have no significant impact on spending.

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

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

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain "a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution" [*emphasis added*].

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.Res. 325 — Commending the Michigan State University Spartans for their victory in the 2007 NCAA Hockey Championship (*Stupak, D-MI*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 325 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 325 would express that the House of Representatives:

- "commends the Michigan State University Spartans for their victory in the 2007 NCAA Hockey Championship;
- "recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, and staff whose hard work and dedication helped Michigan State University win the championship; and
- "directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit a copy of this resolution to Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon, hockey Head Coach Rick Comley, and Athletic Director Ron Mason for appropriate display."

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- "on April 9, 2007, the Michigan State University Spartans won their first National Collegiate Athletic Association Hockey Championship in 21 years;

- “Head Coach Rick Comley and Assistant Coaches Tom Newton, Brian Renfrew, and Rob Woodward are to be commended for outstanding coaching throughout the 2007 season;
- “the Spartans won the championship game by coming from behind to score 3 goals in a stunning third-period upset;
- “in the championship game, the Spartans beat Boston College, a team that had won 13 straight games, featured 12 National Hockey League draft picks, and had played in the 2006 NCAA championship game as well;
- “Michigan State University and the East Lansing community honored the Spartans upon their return in a manner befitting of champions; and
- “Michigan State University students, faculty, alumni, and all Michigan State fans are deeply committed to bringing pride to Michigan State University and to the entire state of Michigan.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 325 was introduced on April 19, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

RSC Staff Contact: Andy Koenig; andy.koenig@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717.

H.Res. 290 — Honoring the contributions of the Rocky Mountain Senior Games on its 30th anniversary for significantly improving the health and well-being of older Americans (Musgrave, R-CO)

Order of Business: H.Res. 290 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 290 would express that the House of Representatives “honors the contributions of the Rocky Mountain Senior Games on its 30th anniversary for significantly improving the health and well-being of older Americans.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “in 1978 the Colorado Senior Sports Development Council (CSSDC) began hosting athletic competitions for individuals 50 years of age and older;
- “the Rocky Mountain Senior Games originated as a 1-day event featuring swimming, basketball, and track and field;
- “the Rocky Mountain Senior Games now features a variety of sports and recreational activities during the week-long competition, including archery,

badminton, basketball, billiards, bowling, cycling, golf, horseshoes, dancing, pickleball, race walking, racquetball, running, shuffleboard, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, triathlon, trap and skeet shooting, and weight lifting;

- “participants in the Rocky Mountain Senior Games experience the friendly fellowship, camaraderie, and exhilaration of competition, as well as the enjoyment of associated social events;
- “volunteers and event coordinators of all ages make the week’s events possible; and
- “the 30th annual Rocky Mountain Senior Games will be held from June 6-10, 2007.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 290 was introduced on March 29, 2007 and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

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H.Res. 371 — In observance of National Physical Education and Sports Week (*Altmire, D-PA*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 371 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 371 would express that the House of Representatives:

- “recognizes National Physical Education and Sports Week and the central role of physical activity and sports in creating a healthy lifestyle for all children and youth;
- “calls on communities to work with schools, in concert with key stakeholders of the community, to craft and implement a local wellness plan as required by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 that includes goals for physical activity, nutrition education, and other school-based activities to promote physical education and wellness as well as nutrition guidelines for foods sold in schools, implementation plans, and measures to determine effectiveness; and
- “encourages schools to offer physical education classes to students and work with community partners to provide opportunities and safe spaces for physical activities before and after school and during the summer for all children and youth.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “May 1 through 7, 2007, is observed as National Physical Education and Sports Week;
- “physical inactivity of both youth and adults is a major health risk factor in this country today;
- “nationally, 1 out of 4 children does not attend any school physical education classes and fewer than 1 in 4 children get 20 minutes of vigorous activity every day;
- “children and youth with low fitness levels tend to have low fitness levels during adulthood and healthy weight management programs suggest that approximately 300 minutes of exercise are required per week for an adult to maintain his or her weight over the course of a single year;
- “physical activity reduces the risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, chronic low back pain, and certain types of cancers and Type II diabetes can no longer be called ‘late in life’ or ‘adult onset’ diabetes because we are seeing Type II diabetes (and other chronic illnesses) in children as young as 10;
- “participation in sports and physical activity improves self-esteem and body image in children and adults;
- “the social and environmental factors affecting children are in the control of the adults and the communities in which they live, and therefore this Nation shares a collective responsibility in reversing the childhood obesity trend; and
- “Congress strongly supports efforts to increase the physical activity and participation of youth in sports.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 371 was introduced on May 3, 2007 and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

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H.Res. __ — Recognizing annually a National Classified School Employee of the Year and honoring the valuable contributions of Classified School Employees in the United States (*Woolsey, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.Res. ____ is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. ____ would express that the House of Representatives:

- “supports the recognition of the National Classified School Employee of the Year and urges the United States Department of Education, all States, State education agencies, local education agencies, community colleges, and members of the public to join in this observance;
- “congratulates the National Classified School Employee of the Year; and
- “congratulates all classified school employees across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring student achievement, student safety and well-being.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “classified school employees provide valuable service to America’s public schools and community colleges;
- “classified school employees contribute to the establishment and promotion of a positive instructional environment as parent educators and library aides;
- “classified school employees provide other essential educational services such as transportation, facilities maintenance and operations, food and support services, and health care;
- “classified school employees strive for excellence in all areas relative to the education community; and
- “in order that classified school employees are acknowledged for their outstanding contribution to quality education across America, the National Classified School Employee of the Year is recognized.”

Committee Action: H.Res. ____ will likely be introduced on May 7, 2007.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

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H.Res. 264 — Supporting the goals and ideals of “National Correctional Officers and Employees Week” and honoring the service of correctional officers and employees (*Holden, D-PA*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 264 is scheduled for consideration on Monday, May 7, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 264 would express that the House of Representatives:

- “supports the goals and ideals of ‘National Correctional Officers and Employees Week’; and
- “honors all correctional officers and employees for their service to their communities and States, and to the Nation.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “the operation of correctional facilities represents a crucial component of the criminal justice system of the United States;
- “correctional personnel play a vital role in protecting the right of the public to be safeguarded from criminal activity;
- “correctional personnel are responsible for the care, custody, and dignity of the human beings charged to their care;
- “correctional personnel work under demanding circumstances and face danger in their daily work lives; and
- “the first week of May is recognized as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week”

Committee Action: H.Res. 264 was introduced on March 23, 2007, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. On April 20, 2007, the bill was referred to the Committee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

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

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

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