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S. 615 - Providing additional personnel authorities for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (Sen. Collins, R-ME)

Order of Business: S. 615 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill authorizes the Inspector General to select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the duties of the Inspector General in order to move forward with Afghanistan reconstruction.

Committee Action: S. 615 was introduced on March 17, 2009 and referred to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which reported the bill without amendment. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent on April 30, 2009. The bill was then referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: Because the bill expedites current hiring processes, CBO estimates the bill would have no significant effect on federal spending.

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?: Senate Committee reports do not have to cite compliance with House Rules and no House Committee report is available. However, the bill does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A House committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable. Senate Committee reports do not have to cite constitutional authority.

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**H.Res. 430 – Expressing condolences to the citizens of Italy and support for the Government of Italy in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy
(Pascrell, D-NJ)**

Order of Business: H.Res. 430 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 430 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Mourns the loss of life and expresses its deepest condolences to the families of those killed and injured in the earthquake;

- “Recognizes the deep ties between the United States and Italy and expresses continued solidarity with the people of Italy during this time of crisis;
- “Applauds the courageous response of Italian rescue workers;
- “Supports President Obama's offer of United States assistance to Italy in response to this catastrophic event;
- “Urges the people of the United States to generously support those humanitarian aid agencies working to assist the people of Italy in this time of need;
- “Commends the many United States organizations, including the National Italian-American Foundation, working to demonstrate support and solidarity with the Italian people and raising funds to provide needed help; and
- “Expresses gratitude to the people of the United States who have generously supported those humanitarian aid agencies working to assist the people of Italy in this time of need.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “In the early morning hours of April 6, 2009, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy, killing over 250 people, damaging or destroying up to 15,000 buildings, and leaving tens of thousands homeless;
- “The epicenter of the quake was the town of L'Aquila, located 60 miles northeast of Rome, and massive destruction was reported in 26 surrounding cities, towns, and villages;
- “Rescue workers, who have heroically pulled over 100 survivors from the rubble, continue to find survivors amongst the wreckage days after the quake struck;
- “Strong aftershocks continue to rock the region and create hazardous conditions for residents and rescue workers;
- “This was Italy's deadliest quake since 1980...”

Committee Action: H.Res. 430 was introduced on May 12, 2009 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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.

H.Res. 309 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that North Korea should immediately stop any hostile rhetoric and activity towards the Republic of Korea and engage in mutual dialogue to enhance inter-Korean relations (King, R-NY)

Order of Business: H.Res. 309 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 309 resolves a Sense of the House of Representatives that:

- “North Korea should immediately stop any hostile rhetoric and activity towards the Republic of Korea and engage in mutual dialogue to enhance inter-Korean relations;
- “North Korea should fully implement the Six-Party joint statement of September 19, 2005, verifiably abandon all of its nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs, and return to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) at an early date;
- “North Korea should comply with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718;
- “The United States remains committed to the promotion of inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation; and
- “The strategic importance of the strong alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea, in promoting peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia, should be recognized.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “North Korea's nuclear and missile programs, and their suspected proliferation, are threatening peace and stability in Northeast Asia and beyond;
- “The North Korean leadership continues to pursue its nuclear ambitions while up to 2,000,000 North Koreans reportedly starved to death during the late 1990s and hundreds of thousands fled North Korea in search of freedom and food;
- “On October 9, 2006, North Korea detonated a nuclear explosive device prompting the United Nations Security Council to adopt military and economic sanctions against North Korea through Resolution 1718;
- “On June 30, 2008, H.R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, became Public Law 110-252, granting the President the authority to waive the Glenn Amendment sanctions in order to facilitate North Korea's denuclearization process and to provide heavy fuel oil energy assistance to North Korea in support of the Six-Party Talks;
- “On October 11, 2008, North Korea was removed from the United States list of state sponsors of terrorism;
- “On January 30, 2009, North Korea announced that it would nullify all inter-Korean agreements that are in pursuit of putting an end to the state of political and

- military confrontations and abrogate the agreements on the Sea Demarcation Line, known as the `Northern Limit Line`;
- “On February 20, 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated, in a joint press conference with the Republic of Korea's Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan, that the United States and the Republic of Korea maintain a joint resolve to bring about the complete and verifiable denuclearization of North Korea through the Six-Party Talks and that North Korea is not going to get a different relationship with the United States while insulting and refusing dialogue with the Republic of Korea;
 - “For more than a year, North Korea has refused proposals from the Republic of Korea for mutual dialogue and also has refused to fully implement the Six-Party agreements on denuclearization;
 - “North Korea is reportedly preparing for an intercontinental ballistic missile test; and
 - “In the face of serious security challenges on the Korean Peninsula, including the recent North Korean hostilities towards the Republic of Korea, the alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea remains resilient and firm, based on shared values, mutual trust, and common interests.”

Additional Background: The launch of its recent missile is in direct violation of UN Resolution 1718, which imposed a series of economic and commercial sanctions on North Korea. The UN Resolution also expressly prohibits North Korea from testing any ballistic missiles. Additionally, North Korea recently backed out of the Six-Party talks, which tried to find a peaceful solution to North Korea’s weapons program.

Committee Action: H.Res. 309 was introduced on March 31, 2009 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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: Natalie Farr, natalie.farr@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718

H.Res. 479 - Honoring the contributions of Takamiyama Daigoro to United States-Japan relations (*Hirono, D-HI*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 479 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 479 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors Takamiyama Daigoro's achievements to Sumo and his contributions to enhancing United States-Japan relations; and
- “Encourages the international community to recognize the successes of Takamiyama Daigoro in Sumo.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Takamiyama Daigoro was the first United States born sumo wrestler and also became the first foreigner to win the top division championship of Sumo in 1972;
- “Upon his 1972 victory, United States Ambassador Robert Ingersoll read a congratulatory message from President Richard Nixon, marking the first time English words were spoken at a sumo tournament;
- “Takamiyama Daigoro competed in over 1400 matches, established numerous records, and earned many awards over his 20-year career;
- “Takamiyama Daigoro became the first and only foreign born wrestler to become an oyakata, or training master, by establishing a training stable for sumo wrestlers...”

Committee Action: H.Res. 479 was introduced on May 21, 2009 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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: Natalie Farr, natalie.farr@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718

H.R. 2422—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 702 East University Avenue in Georgetown, Texas, as the "Kile G. West Post Office Building" (Carter, R-TX)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2422 designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 702 Scenic Drive in Georgetown, Texas, as the "Kile G. West Post Office Building."

Additional Information: First Lieutenant Kile G. West died with four other soldiers on May 28, 2007 in Abu Sayda, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device struck their vehicle. Kile West achieved the rank of Sergeant in the Texas National Guard while serving as a cadet in the ROTC Program at Stephen F. Austin University and serving as Secretary for Delta Chi Fraternity. He graduated and took his oath into the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant in December 2005. In January 2006 Lieutenant West went to Fort Sill, OK for officers training and then in June 2006 was assigned to Fort Hood where he was a Field Artillery Officer for the 1st CAV, 3rd Brigade, 6th Squadron - 9th Regiment, Apache Troop. Kile deployed to Iraq on October 4, 2006, and was promoted to First Lieutenant the morning before his death on Memorial Day, May 28, 2007. On a volunteer rescue mission to save a downed helicopter, his Bradley was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED) in route to save the pilots. Kile was due home for R&R two weeks before his death and six weeks before his 24th birthday. Kile received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star among other awards. He was also honored with the Valor Award from Delta Chi Headquarters.

Committee Action: H.R. 2422 was introduced on May 14, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a markup on June 4, 2009, and the bill was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 2422 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

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

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

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

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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

H.R. 2325—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Matamoros Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "Laredo Veterans Post Office" (Cuellar, D-TX)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2325 designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Matamoros Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "Laredo Veterans Post Office."

Additional Information: A number of citizens from Laredo have been killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan since the beginning of the global war on terror. Additionally, Laredo is home to a large veterans population.

Committee Action: H.R. 2325 was introduced on May 7, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a mark-up on June 4, 2009, and the bill was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 2325 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

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

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

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

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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

H.R. 2470—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 19190 Cochran Boulevard FRNT in Port Charlotte, Florida, as the "Lieutenant Commander Roy H. Boehm Post Office Building" (Rooney, R-FL)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2470 designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 19190 Cochran Boulevard FRNT in Port Charlotte, Florida, as the "Lieutenant Commander Roy H. Boehm Post Office Building."

Additional Information: A veteran of World War II and Korea, Boehm was a deep-sea diver who tested prototype submersibles and swimmer-delivery vehicles. In 1960, he developed, designed, implemented, and led the US Navy's commando organization known as the United States Navy Sea, Air, and Land Forces, commonly known as the Navy SEALs. After his implementation of the SEALs, he was named head of the Navy's River Patrol Craft Division where he developed tactical procedures, organized, and trained River Patrol Boat sailors for Operation Game Warden in Vietnam. According to reports, he passed away December 30, 2008, at his home in Punta Gorda, Florida at the age of 84. His wife Susan wanted his death to go unpublicized. "He wanted no obituary, no funeral service and no fanfare."

Committee Action: H.R. 2470 was introduced on May 18, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee held a mark-up on June 4, 2009, and the bill was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 2470 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. post office renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

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

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

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

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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

H.Res. 493 - Recognizing the significant contributions of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life to college campus communities in the United States and around the world (*Klein, D-FL*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 493 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 493 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports Hillel's mission of service to Jewish college students and partnership with the campus community; and
- “Congratulates the students, lay leaders, and professionals of the Hillel movement on reaching its milestone 85th birthday.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life was founded at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1923 and has become the world's largest Jewish campus organization, serving Jewish college students on over 500 campuses across the globe;
- “Hillel has educated students about American values and has helped them to provide leadership for social justice causes, including the civil rights movement, the campaign to free Soviet Jewry, the effort to stop the genocide in Darfur, and the promotion of AIDS Awareness and interfaith understanding;
- “Hillel has been at the forefront of educating campuses about Israel, an ally of the United States;
- “Hillel has helped to provide students with the tools to combat anti-Semitism on campus...”

Committee Action: H.Res. 493 was introduced on June 2, 2009 and referred to the House Education and Labor Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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: Natalie Farr, natalie.farr@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718

H.Res. 428 - Recognizing the immeasurable contributions of fathers in the healthy development of children, supporting responsible fatherhood, and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father’s Day (*McIntyre, D-NC*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 428 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 428 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Commends the millions of fathers who serve as a wonderful, caring parent for their children;
- “Calls on fathers across the United States to use Father's Day to reconnect and rededicate themselves to their children's lives, to spend Father's Day with their children, and to express their love and support for their children;
- “Urges men to understand the level of responsibility fathering a child requires, especially in the encouragement of the mental, moral, social, academic, emotional, physical, and spiritual development of children; and
- “Encourages active involvement of fathers in the rearing and development of their children, including the devotion of time, energy, and resources.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “Fathers factor significantly in the lives of children;
- “Fathers play an important role in teaching their children life lessons and preparing them to succeed in school and in life;
- “Children with involved fathers are more likely to do well in school, have a better sense of well-being, and have fewer behavioral problems;
- “Supportive fathers promote the positive physical, social, emotional, moral, and mental development of children;
- “Promoting responsible fatherhood can help increase the chances that children will grow up with two caring parents;
- “When fathers are actively involved in the upbringing of children, the children demonstrate greater self-control and a greater ability to take initiative;
- “Responsible fatherhood can help reduce child poverty;
- “Responsible fatherhood strengthens families and communities; and
- “Father's Day is the third Sunday in June.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 428 was introduced on May 12, 2009 and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no additional federal 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: Natalie Farr, natalie.farr@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718

H.R. 729 – Phylicia’s Law (*Rothman, D-NJ*)

Order of Business: H.R. 729 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill requires that each local educational agency that receives Title IV (Safe & Drug Free School Grants) funding “shall develop and make publicly available a written school safety policy for off-premises, overnight field trips.” The bill also directs the Department of Education to have conferences to help local school districts come up with these policies. This would only affect public schools.

Background: The bill is named after Phylicia Moore, an 18-year-old student whose body was found at the bottom of a hotel pool in April 2007, while on a school-sponsored trip to bring supplies to schools and an AIDS orphanage in Ghana.

Committee Action: H.R. 729 was introduced on January 27, 2009 and referred to the House Education and Labor Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no additional expenditures.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Some conservatives may be concerned at yet another federal mandate on local schools.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: Yes. Every public school would be required to develop a written school safety policy for off-premises, overnight field trips.

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. 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.”

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

H.R. 780 – Student Internet Safety Act of 2009 (Putnam, R-FL)

Order of Business: H.R. 780 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The bill amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow local educational agencies that receive Title II (teacher grants) funds and Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities funds, to develop and implement programs promoting safe internet use by students (i.e. how to prevent online stalking and promoting parental involvement).

Committee Action: H.R. 780 was introduced on January 28, 2009 and referred to the House Education and Labor Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: 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. 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.”

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H.Res. 390 - Recognizing the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library in Fulton, Missouri, as "America's National Churchill Museum", and commending its efforts to recognize the importance of the historic legacy of Sir Winston Churchill and to educate the people of the United States about his legacy of character, leadership, and citizenship (Luetkemeyer, R-MO)

Order of Business: H.Res. 390 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 390 resolves that the House of Representatives recognizes:

- “The Winston Churchill Memorial and Library in Fulton, Missouri, as ‘America's National Churchill Museum’;
- “The importance of the continuing collection, preservation, and interpretation of the historical materials held by the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library toward enhancing the knowledge and understanding of Sir Winston Churchill's historic legacy; and
- “The immense historical importance of World War I, World War II, and the Cold War, and commends the ‘Lessons of Leadership’ offered by the Winston Churchill Museum and Library educational outreach programs about the life and leadership of Sir Winston Churchill during those conflicts.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The Winston Churchill Memorial and Library in Fulton, Missouri, was built in 1964 and opened to the public in 1969 to honor Sir Winston Churchill and to commemorate his famous speech, the ‘Sinews of Peace’;
- “It was during the delivery of the ‘Sinews of Peace’ speech on the campus of Westminster College, in Fulton, in 1946, that Sir Winston Churchill uttered the famous phrase, ‘an iron curtain has descended’, capturing the essence of the emerging Cold War;
- Westminster College built the original Winston Churchill Memorial, and is responsible for the finances, operations, and collections management of the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library...”

Committee Action: H.Res. 390 was introduced on April 30, 2009 and referred to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.Con.Res. 135 - Directing the Architect of the Capitol to place a marker in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center which acknowledges the role that slave labor played in the construction of the United States Capitol (*Lewis, D-GA*)

Order of Business: H.Con.Res. 135 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 135 resolves that the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring):

- “Shall design, procure, and place in a prominent location in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center a marker which acknowledges the role that slave labor played in the construction of the United States Capitol.”

In developing the design for the marker required under subsection (a), the Architect of the Capitol:

- “Shall take into consideration the recommendations developed by the Slave Labor Task Force Working Group;
- “Shall, to the greatest extent practicable, ensure that the marker includes stone which was quarried by slaves in the construction of the Capitol; and
- “Shall ensure that the marker includes a plaque or inscription which describes the purpose of the marker.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Enslaved African-Americans provided labor essential to the construction of the United States Capitol;
- “The report of the Architect of the Capitol entitled ‘History of Slave Laborers in the Construction of the United States Capitol’ documents the role of slave labor in the construction of the Capitol;
- “Enslaved African-Americans performed the backbreaking work of quarrying the stone which comprised many of the floors, walls, and columns of the Capitol;
- “Enslaved African-Americans also participated in other facets of construction of the Capitol, including carpentry, masonry, carting, rafting, roofing, plastering, glazing, painting, and sawing;
- “The marble columns in the Old Senate Chamber and the sandstone walls of the East Front corridor remain as the lasting legacies of the enslaved African-Americans who worked the quarries;
- “Slave-quarried stones from the remnants of the original Capitol walls can be found in Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia;
- “The Statue of Freedom now atop the Capitol dome could not have been cast without the pivotal intervention of Philip Reid, an enslaved African-American foundry worker who deciphered the puzzle of how to separate the 5-piece plaster model for casting when all others failed...”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 135 was introduced on May 21, 2009 and referred to the House Administration Committee, which reported the bill out of Committee on June 12, 2009 by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, the resolution would cost approximately \$300,000.

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?: The committee report does not cite compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits (though no such citation is required for concurrent resolutions). However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: The committee report does not cite a constitutional authority provision.

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H.Con.Res. 131 – Directing the Architect of the Capitol to engrave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the National Motto of “In God We Trust” in the Capitol Visitor Center (Lungren, R-CA)

Order of Business: H.Con.Res. 131 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Con.Res. 131 resolves that the Architect of the Capitol shall engrave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the National Motto of ‘In God we trust’ in the Capitol Visitor Center, in accordance with a plan submitted to and approved by House Administration and Senate Rule and Administration Committees.

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 131 was introduced on May 20, 2009 and referred to the House Administration Committee, which reported the bill out of Committee on June 12, 2009. See the committee report [here](#).

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, the resolution would cost approximately \$100,000.

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?: The committee report does not cite compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available (thought no such compliance is required for concurrent resolutions). However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: The committee report does not cite constitutional authority.

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H.Res. 540 – Expressing condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the catastrophic explosion at the ConAgra Foods plant in Garner, North Carolina (Etheridge, D-NC)

Order of Business: H.Res. 540 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 540 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Expresses condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the explosion at the ConAgra Foods plant in Garner, North Carolina;
- “Honors Barbara McLean Spears of Dunn, North Carolina, Louis Junior Watson of Clayton, North Carolina, and Rachel Mae Poston Pulley of Clayton, North Carolina, who lost their lives in the explosion, and the 40 others who were injured;
- “Expresses sympathies to the people of Garner, the entire State of North Carolina, and the Nation who grieve for the victims; and
- “Commends the heroic actions of the Garner Police and Fire Departments, the quick response of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and all other first responders, emergency services personnel, and private citizens who responded to the crisis.”

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The people of North Carolina experienced a devastating tragedy when a massive explosion occurred at the ConAgra Foods plant in Garner, North Carolina, shortly before 11:30 a.m. on June 9, 2009;
- “The 500,000-square-foot plant, one of the largest owned by ConAgra Foods, employs 900 people, 300 of whom were on site when the blast occurred;
- “Three workers lost their lives when the explosion ripped through the plant;
- “Employee Louis Junior Watson re-entered the building to help a coworker escape and both employees died when the structure caved in;
- “At least 40 employees were injured, some suffering from exposure to toxic ammonia fumes and at least four with critical burns;
- “Three brave firefighters were treated for inhalation;
- “North Carolina's first responders, fire, police, and EMS, were quick to the scene and prevented any further loss of life or injury, and private citizens risked their well-being to come to the aid of their friends and neighbors...”

Committee Action: H.Res. 540 was introduced on June 12, 2009 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available (though such compliance is not required for simple resolutions). However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.R. 2765—To amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit recognition and enforcement of foreign defamation judgments and certain foreign judgments against the providers of interactive computer services (*Cohen, D-TN*)

Order of Business: H.R. 2765 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. The bill is similar to [H.R. 6146](#) which passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on September 27, 2008.

Summary: H.R. 2765 would prohibit federal or state domestic courts from recognizing or enforcing a foreign judgment regarding defamation, unless the domestic court determines that the foreign judgment is consistent with the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Additionally, a domestic court shall not recognize or enforce a foreign judgment for defamation against the provider of an interactive computer service unless the domestic court determines that the judgment is consistent with the Communications Act of 1934.

The bill also includes language that states “In any action brought in a domestic court to enforce a foreign judgment for defamation, the court may allow the party opposing recognition or enforcement of the judgment a reasonable attorney's fee if such party prevails in the action...”

Committee Action: H.R. 2765 was introduced on June 9, 2009, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, which reported the bill out of committee by voice vote on June 10, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 2765 is not currently 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? The bill’s prohibition on adherence to foreign judgments does extend to state courts.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee report citing compliance with Clause 9 of Rule XXI regarding earmarks was unavailable.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority was unavailable. 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.”

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H.Res. 530 –Commending the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game and recognizing the historical significance of the location of the game in Cincinnati, Ohio (*Driehaus, D-OH*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 530 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 530 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Commend the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game; and
- “Recognize the historical significance of the location of the Civil Rights Baseball Game in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The resolution lists a number of findings, including:

- “The third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game is being held in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the Great American Ballpark on June 20, 2009;
- “The Cincinnati Reds, the host of the Civil Rights Baseball Game, are recognized as being the first professional baseball team in the United States;
- “The Major League Baseball Civil Rights Game was created to honor those who fought both on and off the field for the equal treatment of all people;
- “Baseball was at the forefront of the civil rights movement and was integrated before either the Armed Forces or the public schools;
- “Cincinnati, Ohio, was home to the Negro League's Cincinnati Tigers from 1934 to 1937;
- “Cincinnati, Ohio, was an integral stop along the Underground Railroad as one of the first free `stations' slaves would encounter when escaping north; and
- “Cincinnati, Ohio, is home to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, which opened in 2004.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 530 was introduced on June 11, 2009 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no 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?: A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available (though no such citation is required for a simple resolution). However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

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

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H.R. 2661—Court Security Enhancement Act of 2009 (Gohmert, R-TX)

Order of Business: H.R. 2661 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2661 would increase the penalty from five to ten years for individuals who knowingly release restricted personal information about a covered person, or a member of the immediate family of that covered person.

Committee Action: H.R. 2661 was introduced on June 2, 2009, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, which took no official action.

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? A committee report 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 not available. 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.”

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H.R. 2247—Congressional Review Act Improvement Act (Cohen, D-TN)

Order of Business: H.R. 2247 is scheduled to be considered on Monday, June 15, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. The bill is identical to H.R. 5593, which passed the House of Representatives by voice vote in the 110th Congress.

Summary: H.R. 2247 would amend the Congressional Review Act to remove a requirement that all agencies submit all copies of all final rules and reports on final rules to both the House and the Senate. The bill would establish the Government Accountability Office (GAO) as the sole recipient of agency rules. The Comptroller General would be required to make a weekly list of all final agency rules published in the Federal Register.

The bill would still require agencies to submit rules and reports on rules to both the House and the Senate if the rules were not printed in the Federal Register. The bill would still allow the Congress to disapprove of an agency rule as established by the Congressional Review Act.

Additional Information: The Congressional Review Act, which was passed as a part of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (aka, the Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996), allows Congress to review every federal regulation and object to rules, regulations, and guidance from agencies. Congress is required to pass a joint resolution to overrule or veto an agency regulation. According to [committee report 111-150](#), agencies are required to send any new rules or regulations to both the House and the Senate for review. In an effort to make the process less burdensome and more efficient, H.R. 2247 would require rules be sent to one entity, the GAO, and that the GAO's head must distribute the information to Congress via the Federal Registry.

Committee Action: H.R. 2247 introduced on May 5, 2009, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The committee then held a mark-up and reported the bill by voice vote on June 12, 2009.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO, H.R. 2247 would have “no significant impact on the federal budget.”

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

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

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? According to the Committee on the Judiciary, in the [committee report 111-150](#), H.R. 2247 does not contain any congressional earmarks,

limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

Constitutional Authority: The [committee report](#) cites constitutional authority in Article 1, Section 8, but fails to cite a specific clause. 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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