

Another dispute stems from a provision in the Senate version that would allow states to permit welfare recipients to enroll in vocational or post-secondary education for two years without losing monthly benefits.

Current law, which requires states to have half of their welfare recipients working by fiscal 2002, allows only one year of vocational training.

The House version does not contain a similar provision and conservative Republicans do not want to appear to be relaxing any rules related to the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program created two years ago.

The underlying 1965 law authorizes federal student aid through Pell grants, student loans, work-study programs and institutional grants. The measure would alter the oversight of student aid programs by creating a performance-based organization within the Education Department.

[ThisWeek]

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 19

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: GREAT LAKES MANAGEMENT

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

The House this week will consider a bill that would authorize \$23 million over four years for Great Lakes management, environmental conservation and continued wildlife restoration.

The bill (HR1481) would provide \$9 million from fiscal 1999 through fiscal 2002 for Great Lakes resource management offices in Michigan, Wisconsin and New York, and \$3.5 million annually in the same period for fish and wildlife restoration projects.

The bill would reauthorize a 1990 law (PL 101-596) that sought to revitalize the five lakes and more than 10,000 miles of shoreline that constitute the largest system of surface freshwater on earth. It would implement the recommendations of a 1995 Great Lakes fishery resources study authorized by the 1990 law and create a committee to review restoration proposals.

To satisfy a requirement in the 1990 law that managers find outside

sources to fund at least 25 percent of resources projects, the legislation would allow cash or in-kind contributions, such as personal property donations or volunteering.

The 1995 study found that the problems facing the Great Lakes region include chemical contamination, over-exploitation of fish and wildlife resources and the introduction of non-indigenous species.

[ThisWeek]

7 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 15

DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

By Bob Gravely, CQ Staff Writer

House leaders hope to bring the conference report on the fiscal 1999 defense authorization bill to the floor later this week.

Last week, House and Senate conferees announced they had agreed on key compromises in the \$270.5 billion measure (HR3616) concerning harsher satellite export controls for China and gender-integrated training in the armed forces.

Reacting to recent reports that U.S. satellite exports to China have helped Beijing develop its ballistic missile capability, conferees agreed to several changes in U.S. policy.

The conference report would strengthen technology transfer controls by forcing the president to get congressional approval before granting satellite export waivers to American companies; banning exports of missile equipment or technology to China unless the president pledges that they will not undermine the U.S. space launch industry or bolster China's weapons capabilities; and transferring jurisdiction for licensing U.S. satellites from the Commerce Department to the State Department, where it had been until President Clinton changed the policy in 1996.

Negotiators compromised on gender separation during basic training, agreeing to house male and female recruits separately but effectively leaving to the service chiefs the question of whether to train them separately. Conferees also agreed on non-binding sense of Congress language that the sexes should be separated during training.

That statement mirrors the December recommendations of a blue-ribbon

panel chaired by former Republican Sen. Nancy Kassebaum-Baker, Kan. (1978-97), in response to mounting allegations of sexual misconduct within the ranks.

On another issue that divided the chambers, Senate conferees capitulated to House members' decision to prevent the administration from using a commercial nuclear reactor to produce tritium, a substance that amplifies the explosive strength of nuclear weapons.

[ThisWeek]

8 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 18

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Under suspension of the rules, the House this week will consider a

bill (HR4017) that would reauthorize energy conservation and export programs through 2003.

The legislation would extend programs authorized in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (PL 94-163), including domestic energy conservation programs in states, localities, schools and hospitals, and export-promotion programs for renewable-energy and energy-efficient products.

The bill would reauthorize a program under the Energy Conservation and Production Act of 1976 (PL 94-385) that offers federal grants to state and local agencies to reduce the home energy costs of low-income families.

The measure also addresses "a failure" of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (PL 102-486), according to John Shimkus, R-Ill. The 1992 law aims to displace up to 30 percent of the imported petroleum used in the transportation sector with domestically produced alternative fuels by 2010. The legislation would grant fleet managers incentives to use a type of biodiesel fuel -- a biodegradable substance made from non-petroleum renewable feedstocks such as soybean oil -- mixed with conventional diesel fuel.

The 1992 law, created to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil, requires large motor vehicle fleets to include an increasing percentage of "alternative fuel vehicles" as part of their new vehicle purchases. The bill would allow such fleets to receive credit for burning a type of

biodiesel, rather than awarding credit based solely on the purchase of natural gas vehicles.

[ThisWeek]

9 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY: KOSOVO WAR ABUSES

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 16

DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY: KOSOVO WAR ABUSES

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

As the crisis grows in Kosovo, the House will vote sometime this week on a concurrent resolution against alleged atrocities and war crimes in the former Yugoslavia.

The measure (HCONRES315) would condemn the Serbian police for alleged atrocities, including summary executions, against the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. U.S. officials say the war could lead thousands to

die this winter. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is considering air strikes against the Serbs.

Returning from a "human rights and fact-finding mission" to the region, former Sen. Bob Dole, R-Ks., (House 1961-69; Senate 1969-96) who visited the region this month, described a "human catastrophe in the making."

"The war in Kosovo has many of the worst characteristics of the war in Bosnia," Dole warned in an editorial in the Washington Post. The "conflict could easily spread to neighboring countries."

Sponsor Tom Lantos, D-Calif., said the measure would urge that ethnic Albanians from Kosovo be considered for compensation from the assets of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that have been blocked by the U.S. The Kosovans would join U.S. nationals making claims during the settlement negotiations or when the U.S. takes control of the assets.

The concurrent resolution comes a week after the House passed another one (HCONRES304) that calls for Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to be declared a war criminal. It urges the United States to turn over information and evidence to indict him at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, which has jurisdiction over war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

[ThisWeek]

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: BANKRUPTCY OVERHAUL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 8

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: BANKRUPTCY OVERHAUL

By Richard Sammon, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate is expected to resume work this afternoon on a bankruptcy overhaul bill that aims to discourage debt-ridden Americans from filing for bankruptcy.

Supporters say the bill (S1301) is needed to address a rate of consumer bankruptcy filings that has increased sharply because it has become too easy to walk away from debts. The measure would require judges to consider a person's ability to repay at least some secured debts before erasing liabilities.

The Senate worked on the bill sporadically last week, adopting a number of amendments, including one that would exempt Individual

Retirement Accounts from bankruptcy proceedings.

Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., may offer an amendment that would require credit card companies to review debt obligations of applicants before approving credit lines.

Tomorrow, members will debate and vote on a Democratic-backed minimum wage amendment. Offered by Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., it would raise the minimum wage by \$1 over two years, to \$6.15. Republicans argue that such an increase would hamper small businesses and lead to layoffs; Kennedy says businesses can absorb a higher minimum pay rate without cutting jobs.

Republicans are expected to prevail in tabling, or killing, the amendment. The vote is scheduled after tomorrow's party lunches.

The minimum wage amendment is one of a handful of Democratic priorities for the remainder of the session.

[ThisWeek]

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 7

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SPENDING

By Rebecca Adams, CQ Staff Writer

The House is expected to vote Thursday on the conference report to the legislative branch appropriations bill (HR4112), which would provide roughly \$2.3 billion for fiscal 1999.

The bill provides \$76.8 million for the salaries for the Capitol Police, including additional pay for officers who work Sundays, holidays and at night. Lawmakers agreed to those differentials, long sought by the police, in the wake of the July 24 Capitol shooting deaths of two officers. Overall, the bill would provide \$83 million for the police, who had sought \$84.5 million.

The bill does not include funding for additional security improvements, including the construction of a visitors' center, that have been requested by the police and the Architect of the Capitol. That funding likely will be considered in a supplemental "emergency" funding bill that could move before the end of the 105th Congress.

Funding to fix the Year 2000 problem in General Accounting Office

computers was held to sums for no more than 50 new employees. Lawmakers said they expect a supplemental request next year for more funding.

The Senate agreed to a \$1 million House request for the congressional cemetery near the Anacostia River, where 92 members of Congress are buried. Matching private funds would be added for the cemetery, which has fallen into disrepair in recent years.

Conferees dropped \$2 million for a one-year commission to study and report on the trade deficit. House Ways and Means Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas, had questioned the need for such a panel.

[ThisWeek]

12 of 72 items CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: ENERGY-WATER SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 6

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

House and Senate conferees likely will meet this week on the energy and water spending bill (HR4060), which contains some difficult issues to be resolved, including funding for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

The House version eliminates TVA funding while the Senate bill calls for \$70 million for the agency. Other funding disputes involve dams, levees and other water projects.

Another sticking point is funding for the Department of Energy stockpile stewardship program, which is responsible for maintaining and refurbishing the nation's nuclear arsenal. The Senate bill included \$4.4 billion, compared with the House's \$4.1 billion.

The White House is unlikely to veto the bill but has expressed concern about funding levels, particularly increases for the Army Corps of Engineers at the expense of other programs. The House bill included \$1.46 billion for the Corps construction account, while the Senate version included \$1.25 billion. Both levels are well above the \$784 million requested by President Clinton.

The House passed its \$21.1 billion version 405-4 on June 22; the Senate passed its \$21.4 billion version on June 18.

[ThisWeek]

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: DEFENSE SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 4

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: DEFENSE SPENDING

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Conferees are expected to meet and complete work Wednesday on the fiscal 1999 defense appropriations bill (HR4103). The House may take up the measure by the end of the week, possibly on Saturday.

Combined with the military construction spending bill and defense-related appropriations in other bills, the measure would bring defense-related funding for fiscal 1999 to roughly \$271 billion, the ceiling set by last year's balanced-budget law (PL 105-33).

The Senate version, passed on July 30, closely tracks President Clinton's budget request, although there is one minor difference: the

Senate bill provides a 3.6 percent military pay raise, instead of the 3.1 percent that Clinton requested and the House included in its version that passed June 24. The Senate adopted the higher figure by voice vote.

One contentious issue that must be resolved is Clinton's request for \$1.9 billion for the U.S. deployment in Bosnia. The president asked that the money be designated as emergency funding, exempt from the limits on defense spending set by the budget law, and the Senate went along. The House, however, included no Bosnia funding in its bill.

The administration has threatened a presidential veto of the bill if it contains a House provision, sponsored by David E. Skaggs, D-Colo., that would bar the use of funds for U.S. forces to conduct offensive military operations unless authorized by Congress pursuant to its constitutional authority to declare war.

"This provision would send the wrong signal to the world, including U.S. resolve" in military actions in Iraq and Bosnia, including Kosovo, according to an administration policy statement. The provision "could be interpreted to restrict the president's exercise of constitutional authority."

If history is a teacher, the Skaggs language may not survive the conference process. Skaggs added a similar provision last spring to the House version of the supplemental appropriations bill (PL 105-174), but it was dropped in conference with the Senate.

[ThisWeek]

14 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: AGRICULTURE SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 3

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: AGRICULTURE SPENDING

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

With the Midwestern farm crisis worsening, House and Senate conferees this week may try to hash out their differences over the fiscal 1999 agriculture appropriations bill (HR4101).

Last week, House Republicans unveiled a \$4 billion farm relief package that they plan to attach to the bill. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, said he could live with the package, but that some details will have to be ironed out.

The Senate version contains a \$500 million disaster indemnification package, which is now considered inadequate.

The House has approved a non-binding instruction to appropriators to provide disaster relief to farmers struck by drought, disease and low prices on an "emergency" off-budget basis, using the House bill as a vehicle. But appropriators may not be able to expedite a \$4 billion package without making offsetting cuts, as budget hawks have opposed such action.

The proposed relief package includes a \$1.65 billion increase in crop support payments; \$1.5 billion to assist farmers and ranchers suffering heavy losses in 1998; \$675 million in assistance to producers suffering multi-year losses due to disease and flooding in the upper Midwest; and \$75 million for livestock feed assistance.

Besides farm assistance, the committee will have other differences to work out. The Senate bill provides about \$1 billion more in new budget authority for higher research spending. Moreover, the House version bars the Food and Drug Administration from approving any drugs that chemically induce abortion, while the Senate bill contains controversial meat labeling provisions.

[ThisWeek]

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TREASURY-POSTAL SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 5

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TREASURY-POSTAL SPENDING

By Bob Gravely, CQ Staff Writer

House and Senate appropriators may begin conference negotiations this week on the fiscal 1999 Treasury-Postal appropriations bill (HR4104).

Two key issues conferees will have to resolve are whether to impose term limits on top staff members at the Federal Election Commission (FEC) and how to pay for federal agencies' efforts to fix their year 2000 computer problems.

Republicans had tried in both chambers to add language to impose a four-year term limit on the FEC's general counsel and staff director. To be reappointed, both officials need the votes of four members of the six-member commission, which is evenly split between Democrats and Republicans.

The language was stripped from the House bill on a procedural move and was watered down in the Senate bill after Democrats threatened to stall the bill indefinitely over the issue.

But the language has support from House Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert L. Livingston, R-La., and other key Republicans and could re-emerge during the conference.

Republicans say the provision was intended to ensure that the FEC operates in a bipartisan manner by requiring its top officials to gain the support of both Democrats and Republicans.

But Democrats complain that the move was aimed at the FEC's current general counsel, Lawrence Noble, and the FEC's efforts to crack down on "soft money" donations to political parties. Democrats also contend that the restrictions would make FEC officials fearful of losing their jobs if they angered either party.

Another issue will be \$3.25 billion in emergency funding included in the Senate bill to help the federal government fix the Year 2000 computer glitch. GOP budget hawks in the House opposed including \$2.25 billion in Year 2000 funding in the House bill because emergency funding measures do not have to be offset with other cuts. They succeeded in stripping the money from the bill on the House floor.

Overall, the Senate measure would provide \$29.9 billion for the

Treasury Department, the executive office of the president, the Postal Service and several independent agencies, including the FEC. The House version would provide \$26.6 billion.

[ThisWeek]

16 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT: POSTAL SERVICE REVIEW

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 14

CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT: POSTAL SERVICE REVIEW

By Rebecca Adams, CQ Staff Writer

A bill aimed at revamping the U.S. Postal Service will be marked up Thursday by the House Government Reform and Oversight Subcommittee on Postal Service.

The legislation would make significant changes to the nation's mail system, which was established in its current form 25 years ago.

The bill (HR22) would give the Postal Service more authority to set stamp prices and permit it to make a profit for services in which it has direct competition.

While loosening other financial restrictions on the Postal Service, the bill also would strip some of its perks in controlling the market in basic mail delivery and subject the agency to tighter oversight in some areas.

The bill would create two categories for postal rates. A non-competitive group would include regular letters, postcards, magazines and other basic mail for which no real delivery alternative exists. A competitive category would include priority mail, international mail, parcel post and other special mail services also done by a number of private competitors.

For basic mail and non-competitive services, the bill would set a five-year price cap on stamp prices and allow the Postal Service to adjust them each year within the cap.

Currently, stamp prices can be changed only to reflect higher prices in the cost of delivering mail. Under the bill, the Postal Rate Commission could set the five-year price caps according to projections of the Gross Domestic Product and other national economic figures.

The bill would give the Postal Service more flexibility to borrow

money and make investments and other financial decisions, many of which currently are controlled by the Treasury Department.

It would establish a pilot project to allow private carriers to use U.S. mailboxes, something current law prohibits.

Federal assistance for Postal Service to the blind and disabled, and for voter registration, would end. The bill also would establish two inspector general offices to oversee internal operations.

[ThisWeek]

17 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CAPITOL HILL SHAPES UP FOR SOME SHOWDOWNS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 1

CAPITOL HILL SHAPES UP FOR SOME SHOWDOWNS

By CQ Staff

Congress will get a slow start this week, then probably work into the weekend in a bid to make some of the biggest decisions it will face this fall.

Climactic votes on domestic spending, the defense budget, tax cuts and trade are all expected in the next six days. But all the while, the vast majority of Americans outside the Beltway will be under the impression that there is only one thing Capitol Hill is focused on: the latest move in the congressional review of Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr's case against President Clinton.

By order of the House Judiciary Committee, the world may be viewing sometime today a four-hour videotape of Clinton being questioned by Starr's prosecutors about the details of his sexual encounters with Monica Lewinsky. After that, House Republicans will have to decide what to do next in the increasingly partisan inquiry.

Republicans are also setting up election-year legislative showdowns with the president. They plan a vote this week on several bills the president has vowed to veto, the House's \$80 billion five-year tax cut principal among them. Clinton has also promised to reject the high-technology worker immigration measure the House plans to take up, as well as legislation before the Senate that would criminalize the transport of a girl across state laws for an abortion in a bid to evade state parental notice or consent laws.

Congressional Democrats, meanwhile, have their own election-year

fight to pick -- and the Senate rules allow them to do so.

To keep his agenda moving, Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., has agreed to allow a vote tomorrow on raising the minimum wage as an amendment to the bill that would tighten the consumer bankruptcy law. But he has drawn the line at allowing the Democrats an opening to get a vote on their managed-care medical insurance regulation bill. Unless Lott and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., resolve their longstanding impasse on this issue, it could thwart efforts to pass the Interior appropriations bill or much else in coming days.

The Interior spending measure is one of many that may yet end up in a package designed to put all the difficult spending decisions into one bundle, ship it to Clinton and dare the president to use his veto by the adjournment date of the 105th Congress.

But a final decision on such a strategy is at least three weeks away, because Congress last week cleared a measure to keep federal spending on autopilot until Oct. 9, nine days into fiscal 1999, and also the target adjournment date.

SPENDING BILL PUSH

The GOP this week wants to push toward enactment five of the dozen remaining spending bills. Conferees will be pressed to cut deals on the measures for energy and water, agriculture and the Treasury and Postal Service. The legislative branch conference agreement of last week may be

pushed toward the White House. And by Saturday, the House may be ready to debate a defense appropriations conference report.

During the week, Congress will also work on several measures that Clinton would sign: the annual Pentagon authorization measure, a reauthorization of higher education programs and a revival of presidential authority to cut trade deals that Congress may then either approve or reject, but not amend.

But that fast-track measure still faces an uphill climb. And it was that very same legislation that collapsed in November, the last time there was a weekend session.

Then, both chambers were open all weekend in a bid to push themselves into adjournment. It did not work.

[ThisWeek]

18 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

COMMERCE AND LABOR: HIGH-TECH VISA PROGRAM

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 12

COMMERCE AND LABOR: HIGH-TECH VISA PROGRAM

By Bob Gravely, CQ Staff Writer

Despite uncertainty about its chances for passage, a bill that would increase the number of visas available for foreign workers with high-tech expertise is on the House floor agenda later this week.

Lined up against the bill (HR3736) are the Clinton administration, Democrats worried about displacing American workers, and some anti-immigration and labor-friendly Republicans. But proponents say that computer and other high-tech companies are suffering because of a shortage of skilled workers. The measure was bumped from last week's floor schedule.

This year's allotment of 65,000 visas, known as "H1-B" visas, expired in May. The bill would grant an additional 20,000 visas for the rest of the year; increase the number of six-year H1-B visas to 95,000 in fiscal 1999; and bring the number up to 115,000 during fiscal 2001 and fiscal 2002.

The bill slated for the floor is a different version than a compromise fashioned by the Judiciary Committee. That measure contained requirements that U.S. companies seeking to hire H-1B workers promise that no American worker would be laid off to accommodate a foreign

employee and that the companies had made good-faith efforts to recruit domestic employees before looking abroad.

The new version, which represents a compromise with the Senate, narrows those requirements to apply only to companies that employ large numbers of H-1B workers, and would place the burden on workers to file complaints about alleged violations.

Melvin Watt, N.C., ranking Democrat on the Immigration and Claims Subcommittee, intends to offer the committee-passed proposal as a substitute amendment. Watt has added one provision to the substitute -- a requirement that applicants for the visas pay an additional \$500 to contribute to training programs for American workers.

[ThisWeek]

19 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SOCIAL POLICY: PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 27

SOCIAL POLICY: PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE

By Bob Gravely, CQ Staff Writer

A bill that seeks to prevent physicians from prescribing drugs for the purpose of assisted suicide is back on this week's House floor agenda.

The measure (HR4006), originally set for action last week, requires the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to revoke the prescription-writing license of any doctor who "has intentionally dispensed or distributed a controlled substance with the purpose of causing or assisting in causing the suicide or euthanasia of any individual."

It would exempt doctors whose patients die accidentally from drugs prescribed to relieve pain.

Last year, the DEA concluded that dispensing drugs used in an assisted suicide had no "legitimate medical purpose" and prohibited doctors from doing so. But Attorney General Janet Reno overturned that ruling in June, saying it did not fall under the DEA administrator's jurisdiction.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill., the bill's sponsor, said it seeks to "address the culture of death that seems to have taken over this country at both ends of life." The bill would

indirectly overturn an Oregon law -- which voters approved twice -- that allows physician-assisted suicide in some circumstances.

Opponents argue that the legislation would interfere with a doctor's ability to prescribe pain-relief drugs for dying patients and could expose physicians to undue civil and criminal liability.

Democrats are expected to offer an amendment to clarify that doctors could not face criminal charges for distributing drugs covered by the bill.

[ThisWeek]

20 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SOCIAL POLICY: AID TO IMMIGRANTS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 28

SOCIAL POLICY: AID TO IMMIGRANTS

By Emily Church, CQ Staff Writer

The House is slated to consider a measure Wednesday that would enable about 12,000 mostly poor, elderly immigrants to retain Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid benefits that were scheduled to be terminated Oct. 1.

The bill (HR4558), approved last week by a Ways and Means subcommittee, is set for action under the expedited suspension of the rules procedure, which allows no amendments and requires a two-thirds vote for passage.

The 1996 welfare overhaul (PL 104-193) and the 1997 budget-balancing legislation (PL 105-33) mandated terminating benefits for immigrants who could not prove they were in the United States lawfully prior to a specific date.

The bill covers those who have lived here for many years but have lost documents needed to prove it.

"We are ensuring that every elderly or disabled non-citizen already dependent on benefits will remain eligible," said Human Resources Chairman E. Clay Shaw Jr., R-Fla. The extension would cost the government about \$80 million.

The bill would make other, minor changes to federal statutes, including a permanent extension of a state unemployment insurance program created under the North American Free Trade Agreement (PL

103-182).

[ThisWeek]

21 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: PROJECTED BUDGET SURPLUS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 10

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: PROJECTED BUDGET SURPLUS

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

Hoping to blunt criticism of their tax bill, House Republican leaders this week will bring up for a vote legislation (HR4578) that would place 90 percent of the projected budget surplus into a reserve account until Congress adopts plans to shore up the Social Security trust fund.

The trust fund is projected to go bankrupt in 2032 as the last of the Baby Boomers are entering retirement. President Clinton has urged

Congress to steer clear this year of spending the surplus, which is expected to hit \$1.6 trillion over the next decade, and use all of it to fix Social Security. He has pledged to veto a Republican tax plan that would take \$80 billion from that surplus.

House Republicans, however, say their plan seeks to protect Social Security while making sure taxpayers receive some benefit from the surplus. They have suggested the money will be frittered away on government programs if it is not returned to taxpayers. The remaining surplus, they say, could be used to create Individual Retirement Accounts.

Last week, Democrats in the Ways and Means Committee unsuccessfully offered an amendment to the bill that would have walled off 100 percent of the surplus for the trust fund.

[ThisWeek]

22 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TAX CUT BILL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 9

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TAX CUT BILL

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

Despite a veto threat from President Clinton, House Republican leaders say they will move forward this week with a floor vote on a bill that seeks to cut taxes by about \$80 billion over the next five years.

The bill (HR4579) has drawn sharp criticism from Clinton and other Democrats because it would be funded in large part by a projected budget surplus. Critics say the entire surplus should be used to secure the solvency of the Social Security trust fund, which is projected to go bankrupt in 2032.

Supporters of the plan say it would tap only 10 percent of the surplus -- which is expected to hit \$1.6 trillion over 10 years -- and leave the remainder in a reserve account until a plan is devised to shore up Social Security.

The showdown between Clinton and the GOP has been expected all year, as Republicans worked to develop the largest tax plan they could pass before members head home for the November elections. Earlier plans ranging from cuts of \$101 billion over five years to \$700 billion over 10 years were scaled back in order to win the support of Senate Republicans.

The House bill, which was approved largely down party lines by the Ways and Means Committee last week, seeks to grant tax relief to farmers, married couples, small businesses, people with savings accounts and students saving for private colleges. It primarily would benefit households earning between \$40,000 and \$100,000 a year.

The bill would reduce the so-called marriage penalty by increasing the standard deduction married couples can claim on their federal income tax forms. It would expedite the phase-in of increased exemptions of the estate tax and would exempt from taxes the first \$400 married couples earn in interest, and the first \$200 in interest individuals earn. It also would allow self-employed individuals to deduct all of the cost of their insurance plans.

Two parts of the bill are paid for without using the surplus: the extension of some tax breaks for big businesses and a section accelerating planned increases on how much working Social Security recipients can earn before their benefits are cut. Together, the two measures cost about \$6.7 billion over five years

[ThisWeek]

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: INTERIOR SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 2

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: INTERIOR SPENDING

By Richard Sammon, CQ Staff Writer

If unrelated disputes ranging from farm relief, managed care and campaign finance are avoided, the Senate later this week may return to consideration of the \$13.4 billion Interior spending bill (S2237).

GOP leaders gave a heavy effort to pass the bill last week, but they suspended work when Democrats insisted on debating managed care legislation (S1890), which they wanted to offer as an amendment. Minority Leader Tom Daschle, S.D., and other Midwestern Democrats also planned on forcing more debate and votes on a proposed agricultural relief amendment for farmers. Daschle also has not ruled out offering another campaign finance related amendment to any appropriations bill or other legislation that is on the floor.

Most of the major amendments related to the Interior bill have already been considered. Among the amendments that remain is one by Robert G. Torricelli, D-N.J., that would boost funding for restoration

of urban parks.

Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., may decide to forgo debate on the Interior bill if appropriators take more steps this week to begin crafting an omnibus appropriations bill that might include Interior funding.

Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, last week said he expects a catchall appropriations measure to be crafted this week or next week and said it may include Interior funds.

[ThisWeek]

24 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT: FAA REAUTHORIZATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 13

CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT: FAA REAUTHORIZATION

By Richard Sammon, CQ Staff Writer

Pending agreement among a handful of members, the Senate later this week may take up a \$10.1 billion reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Democrats objected on two occasions last week to attempts by Majority Leader Trent Lott, Miss., to call up the legislation (S2279). Lott considers it a "must-pass" bill that would fund airport construction projects in every state.

Objections relate to authorization levels for airport improvement projects in Illinois and Virginia, according to aides on the Commerce Committee. Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., a key figure in the bill's chances for consideration, said nearly \$2 billion of renovation projects could be delayed if Congress does not clear the measure before adjourning.

Minority Leader Tom Daschle, S.D., said he expected an agreement would be reached to allow consideration this week.

The House passed a version (HR4057) to reauthorize FAA programs at \$10.1 billion in fiscal 1999.

Both bills also would increase funding for airport safety and security measures. The measures would authorize \$5.6 billion for FAA operations, \$2.1 billion for the Facilities and Equipment program and roughly \$2.3 billion for the Airport Improvement Program.

[ThisWeek]

25 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: MINING LAW OVERHAUL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 17

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: MINING LAW OVERHAUL

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Several bills aimed at overhauling mining and royalty laws will be marked up in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday.

Lawmakers will consider a measure (S1102), the 1872 General Mining Law, to ensure fair economic returns from mining on federal lands, continued mineral production in the United States and compliance with environmental laws.

Under the bill, a uniform royalty system would be established in which miners would pay market value for land mined and give a percentage of their profits as royalties. This system would replace the current royalty rate that is determined by the mineral's value before production costs are considered.

The measure would exempt small miners from paying fees for the first 25 claims and provide royalty relief for yearly profits of less than \$50,000.

The bill would require lands to be returned to the public sector if they are not developed for mineral production, and prevent mining interests from using patented land for purposes other than mining. The measure would impose a \$25 filing fee for mining claims and a \$100 annual claim maintenance fee.

The measure would require miners to comply with all federal, state and local environmental laws concerning land use and reclamation and calls for civil penalties against violators. Lands disturbed by mining would have to be refurbished to prevent environmental degradation. The measure also would create a program to address environmental problems associated with abandoned mines by directing fees and royalties to cleanup programs.

ROYALTY TAX. Another bill (S327) would charge hardrock mining companies that operate on federal land a 5 percent royalty on mineral deposits, to be used for cleanup efforts. The bill also would

permanently extend and increase the holding fee imposed on all miners except those holding 10 or fewer claims.

CLEANUP FUNDS. Also on the slate is a measure (S326) that would authorize the federal government to tax on mining companies operating on federal lands. The money would be used to pay for cleanup of abandoned, contaminated hardrock mines.

The measure would tax companies operating on land bought under the 1872 mining law.

The law, enacted to encourage the settlement of the West, did not charge royalties for the extraction of minerals from federal lands, and miners were able to buy or "patent" land for as little as \$2.50 per acre.

[ThisWeek]

26 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONCESSIONS CONTRACT DISPUTE

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 22

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONCESSIONS CONTRACT DISPUTE

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Legislation designed to increase competition for gift shop concession contracts in national parks tops a list of bills that the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has scheduled for markup on Wednesday.

The bill (S624) would end the preferences for gift shop operators at national parks who want to maintain their contracts. These businesses may now renew their contracts without a competitive bidding process. If a new business wants the concessions contract, the existing contractor only has to match the bid to keep the concession.

Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., has been trying for nearly 20 years to overhaul the process, and since he is retiring this fall this is his last chance. His bill would bar the Interior Department from granting preferential contracts to existing concessions operators by repealing the 1965 Concessions Policy Act and establishing a competitive process. However, small family operations that gross less than \$500,000 a year would be able to keep preferences to renew contracts.

On June 11, the Senate passed legislation (S1693) to establish a National Park Service board to oversee concession contracts -- including

reviewing selection of concessionaires -- and mediate disputes between them and national park officials. That bill would authorize a park manager to suspend or terminate concession contracts in certain circumstances.

[ThisWeek]

27 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 23

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will mark up a bill (S2257) Wednesday that would reauthorize through fiscal 2004 the 32-year-old National Historic Preservation Fund.

The fund provides about one-half of the money for the nation's

historic preservation programs and state governments contribute the other half.

The fund is financed by revenue from royalties paid to the federal government for Outer Continental Shelf oil drilling leases.

Authorization for the deposits of the revenue expired Sept. 30, 1997.

The measure would reauthorize the fund for \$150 million each year through fiscal 2004.

Bill sponsor Mary L. Landrieu, D-La., said the fund underwrites programs such as identifying historic places, working with property owners, providing information and education services to the public, and consulting with federal agencies.

A related bill (HR1522) was introduced in the House but there has been no action.

[ThisWeek]

28 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: WATER RIGHTS LEGISLATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 20

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: WATER RIGHTS LEGISLATION

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will mark up controversial legislation (S725) Wednesday that would transfer water rights from the Interior Department's Collbran Reclamation Project to the state of Colorado.

The bill would allow an operating license to be issued to local authorities for the project but exempts the license holder for 40 years from numerous environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act, the Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Water Act.

The reclamation project is the main water supplier for more than 55,000 people in western Colorado and provides electric power to several western states.

Under the bill, areas served by the irrigation project would have to pay the outstanding \$12 million debt on it and submit operational plans to the Interior Department. The districts could not change the operations of the electric power component of the project, and would have to contribute \$600,000 for an endangered fish recovery program.

Because the state has the option to move water after the transfer,
the town of Collbran and its surrounding communities oppose the bill.

The House Resources Committee last week postponed consideration of
its version (HR2506).

[ThisWeek]

29 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: STORAGE TANK CLEANUP

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 24

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: STORAGE TANK CLEANUP

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on Wednesday will
mark up a bill designed to speed the cleanup of leaking underground
storage tanks. The measure would require the Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA) to transfer 85 percent of federal funds that normally go to

the Leaking Underground Storage Tank trust fund directly to the states.

The House passed its version (HR688) in April 1997.

The trust fund was created in 1986 to assist states in cleaning up petroleum storage tanks, which can leak into groundwater and soil and pose a public health risk. The fund was financed by a one-tenth of a cent gas tax that expired Dec. 1, 1995, and has a balance of \$1 billion.

The bill would require states to enter into cooperative agreements with the EPA to schedule direct allocations from the trust fund for storage-tank cleanup. It also would require the EPA to allocate money based upon the amount of leaking tanks and state contributions to the fund, and by consulting with state agencies and tank owners.

[ThisWeek]

30 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: REGULATING VEHICLE EMISSIONS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 21

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: REGULATING VEHICLE EMISSIONS

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Legislation that would tighten vehicle emissions standards along the U.S.-Mexico border will be marked up Wednesday by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

The House-passed measure (HR8) would require U.S. customs officials to deny entry to non-commercial vehicles from Mexico that do not meet state or local emissions standards. It calls for fines and penalties when repeated entry attempts are made.

The bill's backers argue that some U.S. citizens and legal migrant workers have registered their cars in Mexico to avoid stricter U.S. emissions standards. As a result, daily commuter traffic from Mexico is blamed for increased vehicle air pollution in Southern California.

Under the bill, vehicles could enter freely if the owner or operator obtained certification from the border state verifying that the vehicle meets state regulations. One entry would be granted to obtain such documentation.

States along the Canadian border would not be required to check for emissions compliance, but they could opt into the program.

[ThisWeek]

31 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

COMMERCE AND LABOR: FAST-TRACK AUTHORITY

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 11

COMMERCE AND LABOR: FAST-TRACK AUTHORITY

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

The House is scheduled to consider fast-track trade legislation on Friday, but a vote on the measure could be delayed until next week because supporters of the legislation indicated they are from six to eight votes short of the number needed for passage.

The bill (HR2621) would allow the president to negotiate trade agreements with other countries, then present his deal to Congress for a straight up-or-down vote with no amendments. While a scheduled vote this week has been on the agenda for some time, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Ga., said next week also is an option.

On Friday, House Majority Leader Dick Armey, Texas, left open the possibility that the bill could be considered on Saturday if a weekend session is scheduled.

Labor unions have opposed the bill and predict they will be able to block the legislation for a second consecutive year. Democratic leaders agree the bill will be defeated.

Backers, including farming and business groups, are urging their rank and file to lobby members of Congress. Republican leaders say agriculture groups will bolster their efforts for passage given current farm prices and will argue that more markets are needed to sell their crops.

But the bill is receiving no lobbying support from the White House, which sought the legislation last year but now fears it will divide Democrats and anger constituents less than two months before the midterm elections. White House officials have accused Republicans of political gamesmanship for pursuing the legislation.

The Senate Finance Committee has approved an omnibus trade bill that includes the fast-track language, but a vote on that measure is not expected before next week.

[ThisWeek]

SOCIAL POLICY: HIV COMPENSATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 29

SOCIAL POLICY: HIV COMPENSATION

By Rebecca Adams, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee on Wednesday plans to mark up legislation to compensate HIV victims who were infected with tainted blood infusions before the federal government required testing of blood products.

Chairman James M. Jeffords, R-Vt., will likely introduce a substitute to the bill (S358) sponsored by Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, to expand the class of people eligible for compensation.

DeWine's bill, like a measure (HR1023) passed by the House on May 19, would authorize \$750 million to compensate hemophiliacs who were infected between July 1, 1982, and Dec. 31, 1987. In that time, nearly

half of the nation's 16,000 hemophiliacs contracted HIV from blood products.

Jeffords' legislation would authorize \$1.8 billion and expand coverage to include nearly 10,000 more individuals who were infected with the virus that causes AIDS by blood transfusions during emergency care or surgeries.

Regulations put in place a decade ago mandate that the blood supply be tested thoroughly.

Opponents, while praising the intent of Jeffords' amendment, warn that any increase in scope or spending authorization could harm chances for passage this year.

John W. Warner, R-Va., may seek to reduce the authorization level in Jeffords' proposal while retaining the broader eligibility for compensation. This would decrease the amount of money that each individual would receive. The original bill would allow payments of \$100,000.

DeWine is likely to push for a vote on his original version.

The committee is expected to vote on both versions. If both are approved, Senate leaders would determine how to bring the legislation to the floor.

[ThisWeek]

33 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HOUSE FLOOR Sept. 23

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; House Floor)

Item Key: 168

HOUSE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 23

CONVENES AT 12:30 FOR MORNING HOUR AND AT 2PM FOR
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

Under suspension of the rules:

HR2000 A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to
make certain clarifications to the land bank protection
provisions, and for other purposes. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR4068 A bill to make certain technical corrections in laws

relating to Native Americans, and for other purpose. --

BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR2314 A bill to restore federal Indian services to members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Maverick County, Texas, to clarify U.S. citizenship status of such members, to provide trust land for the benefit of the tribe, and for other purposes. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR1659 A bill to provide for the expeditious completion of the acquisition of private mineral interests within the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument mandated by the 1982 act that established the monument, and for other purposes. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3381 A bill to direct the secretary of Agriculture and the secretary of the Interior to exchange land and other assets with Big Sky Lumber Co. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR1481 A bill to amend the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to provide for implementation of recommendations of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contained in the Great Lakes Fishery Restoration Study Report. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HRES144 Resolution to express support for the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HRES505 A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the importance of diplomatic relations with the Pacific Island nations. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HCONRES315 A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress condemning the atrocities by Serbian police and military forces against Albanians in Kosova and urging that blocked assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) under control of the United States and other governments be used to compensate the Albanians in Kosova for losses suffered through Serbian police and military action. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR4558 A bill to make technical amendments to clarify the provision of benefits for noncitizens, and to improve the provision of unemployment insurance, child support and supplemental security income benefits. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR81 A bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located at 401 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Ind., as the "Robert K. Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse." -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

S1355 A bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located in New Haven, Conn., as the "Richard C. Lee U.S. Courthouse." --

BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR4006 A bill to clarify federal law to prohibit the dispensing or distribution of a controlled substance for the purpose of causing, or assisting in causing, the suicide or euthanasia, of any individual. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3736 A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes relating to H-1B nonimmigrants. -- MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

NOTE: No votes expected before 5pm.

34 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HOUSE FLOOR Sept. 22

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/22/98; House Floor)

Item Key: 167

HOUSE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 22

PRO FORMA SESSION.

35 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HOUSE FLOOR Sept. 25

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; House Floor)

Item Key: 170

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HOUSE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 25

CONVENES AT 9AM.

HR4579 A bill to provide tax relief for individuals, families and
farming and other small businesses, to provide tax
incentives for education, to extend certain expiring
provisions, and for other purposes. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR2621 A bill to extend trade authorities procedures with respect to reciprocal trade agreements, and for other purposes. -- MAY CONTINUE CONSIDERATION.

Conference report on:

HR6 A bill to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes. -- MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3616 A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the armed forces, and for other purposes. -- MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

NOTE: The House may consider two yet unnumbered resolutions regarding the release of Starr materials and the impeachment of Starr.

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; House Floor)

Item Key: 169

HOUSE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 24

CONVENES AT 10AM.

HR4578 A bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish the Protect Social Security Account into which the secretary of the Treasury shall deposit budget surpluses until a reform measure is enacted to ensure the long-term solvency of the OASDI trust funds. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3736 A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes relating to H-1B nonimmigrants. -- MAY CONTINUE CONSIDERATION.

HR2621 A bill to extend trade authorities procedures with respect to reciprocal trade agreements, and for other purposes. -- MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

SENATE FLOOR Sept. 22

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/22/98; Senate Floor)

Item Key: 172

SENATE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 22

CONVENES AT 9:30AM.

S1645 A bill to amend title 18, U.S. Code, to prohibit taking
minors across state lines to avoid laws requiring the
involvement of parents in abortion decisions. -- CONTINUE
CONSIDERATION (CLOTURE VOTE AT 4:30PM).

S1301 A bill to amend title 11, U.S. Code, to provide for consumer
bankruptcy protection, and for other purposes. -- CONTINUE
CONSIDERATION.

SENATE FLOOR Sept. 24

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Senate Floor)

Item Key: 174

SENATE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 24

S2279 A bill to amend title 49, U.S. Code, to authorize the
programs of the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal
years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes. --
MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

SENATE FLOOR Sept. 23

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Senate Floor)

Item Key: 173

SENATE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 23

S1645 A bill to amend title 18, U.S. Code, to prohibit taking minors across state lines to avoid laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions. -- MAY CONTINUE CONSIDERATION.

S1301 A bill to amend title 11, U.S. Code, to provide for consumer bankruptcy protection, and for other purposes. -- MAY CONTINUE CONSIDERATION.

S2237 An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior related agencies for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1999, and for other purposes. -- MAY CONTINUE CONSIDERATION.

40 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SENATE FLOOR Sept. 25

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; Senate Floor)

Item Key: 175

SENATE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 25

S2333 An original bill making appropriations for the government of
the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in
whole or in part against the revenues of said district for
the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1999, and for other
purposes. -- MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

41 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

MEDICAL APPLICATIONS OF MIND/BODY MEDICAL INTERACTIONS

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/22/98; Appropriations -- Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services and Education)

Item Key: 35

MEDICAL APPLICATIONS OF MIND/BODY MEDICAL INTERACTIONS * New *

Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Subcommittee (Chairman Specter, R-Pa.) of Senate Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing on mind-body medical interactions and their potential clinical applications.

Sept. 22 11:00 am SD-138 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

Norman Anderson - director, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health; Herbert Benson Mind/Body Medical Institute, Harvard Medical School; Harold Koenig - Duke University Medical Center

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

42 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

READINESS CHALLENGES TO ARMY AND MARINE CORPS

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Armed Services -- Subcommittee on Readiness)

Item Key: 37

READINESS CHALLENGES TO ARMY AND MARINE CORPS * New *

Readiness Subcommittee (Chairman Inhofe, R-Okla.) of Senate Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing on military readiness issues and challenges facing Army and Marine Corps forces.

Sept. 24 10:00 am SR-216 Russell Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

Gen. David Bramlett - former commanding general of U.S.

Army FORSCOM; Gen. Thomas Schwartz - commanding general of U.S. Army FORSCOM

PANEL:

Maj. Gen. Wayne Rollings - commanding general, II Marine Expeditionary Force; Gen. Ray Smith - commanding general, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune; Maj. Gen. Emil Beddard - commanding general, 2nd Marine Division; Maj. Gen. William Nyland - commanding general, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing; Brig. Gen. Paul Lee - commanding general, 2nd Force Service Support Group

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

43 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Armed Services)

Item Key: 38

BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT * New *

Senate Armed Services Committee (Chairman Thurmond, R-S.C.) will hold a hearing on the report from the Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the United States.

Sept. 24 2:00 pm SR-216 Russell Bldg. OPEN/Will CLOSE

Witnesses scheduled:

Donald H. Rumsfield - chairman, Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the United States; other Commission members will accompany Mr. Rumsfield

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

44 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT NOMINATIONS

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs)

Item Key: 41

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT NOMINATIONS * New *

Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee (Chairman D'Amato, R-N.Y.) will hold a confirmation hearing on pending nominations.

Sept. 23 11:00 am SD-538 Dirksen Bldg.

Nominations:

John D. Hawke, Jr to be comptroller, Office of the
Comptroller of the Currency Department of the Treasury
Saul N. Ramirez to be deputy secretary of Housing and Urban
Development

William C. Apgar to be assistant secretary of Housing and
Urban Development

Cardell Cooper to be assistant secretary of Housing and
Urban Development

Harold Lucas to be assistant secretary of Housing and Urban
Development

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

45 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

COMMERCE COMMITTEE BILLS

Full Committee Markup

Future Senate committees

* Postponed *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Commerce, Science & Transportation)

Item Key: 46

COMMERCE COMMITTEE BILLS * Postponed *

Full Committee Markup

Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee (Chairman McCain,
R-Ariz.) will mark up pending legislation.

Sept. 23 9:30 am SR-253 Russell Bldg.

Note: This markup has not been rescheduled.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

46 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

INTERNET PRIVACY

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE date TBA; Commerce, Science & Transportation -- Subcommittee
on Communications)

Item Key: 44

INTERNET PRIVACY * New *

Communications Subcommittee (Chairman Burns, R-Mont.) of Senate
Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing on
Internet privacy issues.

Date TBA Time TBA SR-253 Russell Bldg.

Note: This hearing was originally scheduled for Sept. 22. It
may be rescheduled for later in the week.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

47 of 72 items CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

DIRECT BROADCAST/CABLE TV LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

Future Senate committees * New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Commerce, Science & Transportation)

Item Key: 43

DIRECT BROADCAST/CABLE TV LEVEL PLAYING FIELD * New *

Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee (Chairman McCain,
R-Ariz.) will hold a hearing on pending legislation.

Sept. 24 9:30 am SR-253 Russell Bldg.

Agenda:

S2494 - A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.

151 et seq.) to enhance the ability of direct broadcast satellite and other multichannel video providers to compete effectively with cable television systems, and for other purposes.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

48 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENERGY COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Full Committee Markup & Vote

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Energy & Natural Resources)

Item Key: 51

ENERGY COMMITTEE BUSINESS * Revised *

Full Committee Markup & Vote

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will mark up pending legislation.

Sept. 23 9:30 am SD-366 Dirksen Bldg.

Agenda:

S2041 - A bill 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 the Willow Lake Natural Treatment System Project for the reclamation and reuse of water, and for other purposes.

S2140 - A bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and

Adjustment Act of 1992 to authorize the secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project.

HR2402 - A bill to make technical and clarifying amendments to

improve management of water-related facilities in the Western United States.

S1175 - A bill to reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National

Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission for 10 additional years.

S1641 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to study

alternatives for establishing a national historic trail to commemorate and interpret the history of women's rights in the United States.

S1960 - A bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain

land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation.

S2133 - A bill to designate former U.S. Route 66 as "America's Main

Street" and authorize the secretary of the Interior to provide assistance.

S2239 - A bill to revise the boundary of Fort Matanzas Monument and for other purposes.

S2240 - A bill to establish the Adams National Historical Park in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes.

S2241 - A bill to provide for the acquisition of lands formerly occupied by the Franklin D. Roosevelt family at Hyde Park, N.Y., and for other purposes.

S2246 - A bill to amend the Act which established the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes.

S2247 - A bill to permit the payment of medical expenses incurred by the U.S. Park Police in the performance of duty to be made directly by the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S2248 - A bill to allow for waiver and indemnification in mutual law enforcement agreements between the National Park Service and a state or political subdivision, when required by state law, and for other purposes.

S2285 - A bill to establish a commission, in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention, to further protect sites of importance in the historic efforts to secure equal rights for women.

S2297 - A bill to provide for the distribution of certain publications in units of the National Park System under a

sales agreement between the secretary of the Interior and a private contractor.

S2309 - A bill to authorize the secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement for the construction and operation of the Gateway Visitor Center at Independence National Historical Park.

S2401 - A bill to authorize the addition of the Paoli Battlefield site in Malvern, Pa., to Valley Forge National Historical Park.

HR2411 - A bill to provide for a land exchange involving the Cape Cod National Seashore and to extend the authority for the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.

HR4079 - A bill to authorize the construction of temperature control devices at Folsom Dam in California.

S2136 - A bill to provide for the exchange of certain land in the state of Washington.

S991 - A bill to make technical corrections to the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

S2468 - A bill to designate the Biscayne National Park visitor center as the Dante Fascell Visitor Center at Biscayne National Park.

S2257 - A bill to reauthorize the National Historic Preservation Act.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S2284 - A bill to establish the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the state of South Dakota, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S2142 - A bill to authorize the secretary of the Interior to convey the facilities of the Pine River Project, to allow jurisdictional transfer of lands between the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S777 - A bill to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a non-profit corporation, for planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S2117 - A bill to authorize the construction of the Perkins County Rural Water System and authorize financial assistance to the Perkins County Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S744 - A bill to authorize the construction of the Fall River Water Users District Rural Water System and authorize financial assistance to the Fall River Water Users District, a non-profit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S725 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to convey the

Collbran Reclamation Project to the Ute Water Conservancy District and the Collbran Conservancy District.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S624 - A bill to establish a competitive process for the awarding of concession contracts in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S1102 - A bill to amend the general mining laws to provide a reasonable royalty from mineral activities on federal lands, to specify reclamation requirements for mineral activities on federal lands, to create a state program for the reclamation of abandoned hard rock mining sites on federal lands, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S326 - A bill to provide for the reclamation of abandoned and hardrock mines, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S327 - A bill to ensure that federal taxpayers receive a fair return for the extraction of locatable minerals on public domain lands, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

Nominations: Charles G. Groat to be Director of Interior,
United States Geological Survey
Gregory H. Friedman to be Inspector General of Energy
Theodore J. Glauthier to be deputy secretary of Energy

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

49 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

MIDWEST ELECTRICITY PRICES

Oversight Hearing

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Energy & Natural Resources)

Item Key: 50

MIDWEST ELECTRICITY PRICES * Revised *

Oversight Hearing

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will hold an oversight hearing on the recent Midwest electricity price spikes.

Sept. 24 10:00 am SD-366 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill.

PANEL:

Elizabeth Moler - deputy secretary of Energy; James Hoecker
- chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Jolynn
Barry Butler - commissioner, Public Utility Commission of
Ohio and president, National Association of Regulatory
Utility Commissioners

PANEL:

Susan Tomaski - senior vice president and general counsel,
American Electric Power Co.; James Turner - vice president,
Cinergy Services, Cinergy Corp.; Steven Kean - senior vice
president, Government Affairs, Enron Corp.; Mark Millet -
vice president, Steel Dynamics Inc.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

50 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

IMPELEMENTATION OF TREATY OF GUADALUPE-HIDALGO

Field Hearing

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/26/98; Energy & Natural Resources)

Item Key: 48

IMPELEMENTATION OF TREATY OF GUADALUPE-HIDALGO * New *

Field Hearing

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will hold a hearing on legislation concerning the validity of certain land claims arising out of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo of 1948 and rectifying inadequate remedies under the treaty.

Sept. 26 9:00 am Espanola, N.M.

Agenda:

S2155 - A bill to provide restitution of the economic potential lost to communities dependent on Spanish and Mexican land grants in New Mexico due to inadequate implementation of the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

HR2538 - A bill to establish a presidential commission to determine the validity of certain land claims arising out of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo of 1848 involving the descendants of persons who were Mexican citizens at the time of the treaty.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Environment & Public Works -- Subcommittee on
Transportation and Infrastructure)

Item Key: 53

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE * Revised *

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee (Chairman Warner, R-Va.)
of Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will hold a hearing on
the proposed consolidation of the Patent and Trademark Office.

Sept. 23 4:00 pm SD-406 Dirksen Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

52 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT BILLS

Full Committee Markup

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Environment & Public Works)

Item Key: 54

ENVIRONMENT BILLS * Revised *

Full Committee Markup

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (Chairman Chafee, R-R.I.)

will mark up pending legislation.

Sept. 23 9:30 am SD-406 Dirksen Bldg.

Agenda:

HR8 - A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to deny entry into the United States of certain foreign motor vehicles that do not comply with state laws governing motor vehicle emissions, and for other purposes.

S555 - A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to require that at least 85 percent of funds appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund be distributed to states to carry out cooperative agreements for undertaking corrective action and for enforcement of subtitle I of that act.

S2351 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to make corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

S2469 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to make technical corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

S2474 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to make corrections to certain maps relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

S -- - Idaho Fish Hatchery conveyance

Pending General Services Administration and Courthouse prospectus

Nominations: J. Charles Fox to be assistant administrator for water, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Romulo Diaz to be assistant administrator for administration and resources, EPA

Terrence Bracy to be a member of the board of trustees.

Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

53 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SAFETY OF FOOD IMPORTS

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98-09/25/98; Governmental Affairs -- Subcommittee on

International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services)

Item Key: 60

SAFETY OF FOOD IMPORTS * Revised *

Permanent Investigations Subcommittee (Chairman Collins, R-Maine) of
Senate Governmental Affairs Committee will continue its series of
hearings on the safety of food imports.

Sept. 24, 25 9:30 am SD-342 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

Sept. 24

PANEL:

Sen. Paul Coverdell, R-Ga.; Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md.

PANEL:

Raymond W. Kelly - deputy commissioner for policy, Food and
Drug Administration; Thomas J. Billy - administrator, Food
Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture;
Sanford A. Miller - Committee to Ensure Safe Food from
Production to Consumption, National Academy of Sciences

Sept. 25

PANEL:

Timothy M. Hammonds - president and CEO, Food Marketing
Institute; Stacey Zawel - director of scientific affairs,
Grocery Manufacturers of America; Dane T. Bernard - vice
president, Food Safety Programs, National Food Processors
Association; Nancy Nagle - senior advisor for food safety,
United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association

PANEL:

Mohammad K. Akhter - executive director, American Public
Health Association; Carol Tucker Foreman, Safe Food
Coalition; Ruth Kava - director of nutrition, American
Council on Science and Health; Robert Hahn - director, Legal
Affairs and Research, Public Voice for Food and Health
Policy

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

54 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

INFORMATION SECURITY

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Governmental Affairs)

Item Key: 61

INFORMATION SECURITY * Revised *

Senate Governmental Affairs Committee (Chairman Thompson, R-Tenn.) will hold the third in a series of hearings on information security.

Sept. 23 10:00 am SD-342 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

James Huse - acting inspector general, Social Security Administration; Ed Ryan - special agent in charge, New York Field Office, Office of the Inspector General, Social Security Administration

PANEL:

Gene L. Dodaro - assistant comptroller general, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office; Robert F. Dacey - director, Consolidated Audits and Computer Security Issues, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office; Keith Rhodes - technical director for computers and telecommunications, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office

PANEL:

Harold Gracey - acting assistant secretary Veterans Affairs for information and technology; John Dyer - principal deputy

commissioner, Social Security Administration

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

55 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/29/98; Judiciary)

Item Key: 67

RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION * New *

Senate Judiciary Committee (Chairman Hatch, R-Utah) will hold a hearing to review the effectiveness of the radiation exposure compensation act which reimburses some individuals who contract certain diseases due to their exposure to radioactive material.

Sept. 29 2:00 pm SD-226 Dirksen Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

BP/AMOCO OIL COMPANY MERGER

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/22/98; Judiciary -- Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business
Rights and Competition)

Item Key: 68

BP/AMOCO OIL COMPANY MERGER * Revised *

Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition Subcommittee (Chairman
DeWine, R-Ohio) of Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the
merger between BP and Amoco.

Sept. 22 2:00 pm SD-226 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

David Frietag - president, Ohio Petroleum Retailers and
Repair Associates; Steven Percy - CEO, BP America Inc.;
George Spindler - Amoco Corp.; Philip Verleger - Brattle
Group

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

57 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CAPITOL SECURITY ISSUES

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Rules & Administration)

Item Key: 71

CAPITOL SECURITY ISSUES * New *

Senate Rules and Administration Committee (Chairman Warner, R-Va.) will hold a hearing on security issues at the Capitol. This hearing addresses these issues following the deaths of two capitol police officers July 24 when an armed intruder opened fire in the Capitol.

Sept. 24 9:30 am SR-301 Russell Bldg. CLOSED\will OPEN

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

Oversight Hearing

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Banking & Financial Services -- Subcommittee on
Capital Markets, Securities and Government-Sponsored Enterprises)

Item Key: 79

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD * Revised *

Oversight Hearing

Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises

Subcommittee (Chairman Baker, R-La.) of House Banking and Financial

Services Committee will hold an oversight hearing on a General

Accounting Office study of the Federal Housing Finance Board. The board

supervises the regional Federal Home Loan Banks, whose members are local

savings associations and other institutions that make long-term

home-mortgage loans. The GAO study reviews the board's role as a

regulator of the safety and soundness of member institutions.

Sept. 24 11:00 am 2128 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

59 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

LOAN PROGRAMS FOR DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Banking & Financial Services)

Item Key: 80

LOAN PROGRAMS FOR DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES * New *

House Banking and Financial Services Committee (Chairman Leach, R-Iowa)

will hold a hearing on the role of the microenterprise industry in the

U.S. economy and the impact that pending legislation would have on the
industry.

Sept. 23 Noon 2128 Rayburn Bldg.

Agenda:

HR4179 - A bill to authorize qualified organizations to provide
technical assistance and capacity building services to
microenterprise development organizations and programs and

to disadvantaged entrepreneurs using funds from the
Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and for
other purposes.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.; Rep. Bobby L. Rush,
D-Ill.; Diana DeGette, D-Colo.

PANEL:

Michael Barr - deputy assistant secretary of the Treasury
for community development policy; Ellen Lazar - director,
Community Development Financial Institutions Fund; John Gray
- associate deputy administrator, Capital Access, Small
Business Administration

PANEL:

Jason Friedman - vice president, Institute for Social and
Economic Development; Gene Severens - executive director,
Nebraska Microenterprise Partnership Fund; Peggy Clark -
executive director, Economic Opportunities Program, The
Aspen Institute; Michael Maroney - chairman, Association for
Enterprise Opportunity

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

ABSTINENCE EDUCATION IN WELFARE REVISION

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; Commerce -- Subcommittee on Oversight and
Investigations)

Item Key: 82

ABSTINENCE EDUCATION IN WELFARE REVISION * New *

Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee (Chairman Barton, R-Texas) of
House Commerce Committee will hold a hearing on the implementation of
the abstinence education provisions of the revised welfare law.

Sept. 25 10:00 am 2123 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

HYDROELECTRIC RELICENSING PROCESS

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; Commerce -- Subcommittee on Energy and Power)

Item Key: 83

HYDROELECTRIC RELICENSING PROCESS * New *

Energy and Power Subcommittee (Chairman Schaefer, R-Colo.) of House
Commerce Committee will hold a hearing on the Federal hydroelectric
relicensing process.

Sept. 25 9:30 am 2322 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

62 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

IMPEDIMENTS TO UNION DEMOCRACY

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Education & Workforce -- Subcommittee on
Employer-Employee Relations)

Item Key: 86

IMPEDIMENTS TO UNION DEMOCRACY * Revised *

Employer-Employee Relations Subcommittee (Chairman Fawell, R-Ill.) of House Education and the Workforce Committee will hold a hearing on union democracy at the American Radio Association.

Sept. 24 2:30 pm 2261 Rayburn Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

William Schuman - president, American Radio Association;

William Steinberg - president emeritus, American Radio

Association; Edwin Steinberg - counsel, American Radio

Association; John Schalestock - member, American Radio

Association; Norris Sapp - member, American Radio

Association; Phillip Clegg - secretary/treasurer, American
Radio Association

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

63 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

VETERANS HEALTH CARE OVERSIGHT

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; Government Reform & Oversight -- Subcommittee on
Human Resources)

Item Key: 95

VETERANS HEALTH CARE OVERSIGHT * Revised *

Human Resources Subcommittee (Chairman Shays, R-Conn.) of House
Government Reform and Oversight Committee will hold an oversight
hearing on the health care programs of the Department of Veterans
Affairs.

Sept. 25 10:30 am 2203 Rayburn Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

Thomas Garthwaite - deputy under secretary of Veterans
Affairs for health; Denis Fitzgerald - network director,
Veterans Integrated Service Network, Boston, Mass.; Nancy
Wilson - former director, Office of Performance Management,
Department of Veterans Affairs

PANEL:

Bruce Woolette - Department of Dentistry, Veterans Health
Administration Medical Center (VAMC) Togus, Maine; Jack

Bachman - Department of Dentistry, VAMC, Togus, Maine; Neal

Williams - disabled Vietnam veteran and member, Military

Order of the Purple Heart; Robert Hite - national field

representative, American Legion; Linda Schwartz - president,

Project Partnership

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

64 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

U.S. POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; International Relations)

Item Key: 105

U.S. POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA * New *

House International Relations Committee (Chairman Gilman, R-N.Y.) will
hold a hearing on the U.S. policy toward North Korea.

Sept. 24 2:00 pm 2172 Rayburn Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

Ambassador Charles Kartman - special envoy, Korean Peace

Talks, State Department PANEL:

Ambassador James Lilley - resident fellow, American

Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research; Fred Ikle -

distinguished scholar, Center for Strategic and

International Studies

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

65 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

WESTERN SAHARA

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; International Relations -- Subcommittee on Africa)

Item Key: 107

WESTERN SAHARA * Revised *

Africa Subcommittee (Chairman Royce, R-Calif.) of House International

Relations Committee will hold a hearing on the current situation in the

Western Saharan nations.

Sept. 24 10:00 am 2255 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

66 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

RELEASE OF EVIDENCE IN CLINTON CASE

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE date TBA; Judiciary)

Item Key: 111

RELEASE OF EVIDENCE IN CLINTON CASE * New *

House Judiciary Committee (Chairman Hyde, R-Ill.) will meet to consider and vote on the release to the public of evidence turned over to Congress by Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr that was collected during his investigation of possible wrongdoing by President Clinton.

Time TBA 2141 Rayburn Bldg. CLOSED WEEK OF SEPT. 21

Note: The committee met on Sept. 17 & 18 and voted to
release selected portions of the evidence submitted to them.
Members will continue meeting this week to decide what
further evidence should be released.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

67 of 72 items CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

FOREIGN STUDENT EXCHANGES NORTHERN IRELAND PROGRAMS

Future House committees * New *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; Judiciary -- Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims)

Item Key: 110

FOREIGN STUDENT EXCHANGES NORTHERN IRELAND PROGRAMS * New *

Immigration and Claims Subcommittee (Chairman Smith, R-Texas) of House
Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on pending legislation.

Sept. 25 9:30 am 2226 Rayburn Bldg.

Agenda:

HR4416 - A bill to provide a limited waiver for certain foreign students of the requirement to reimburse local educational agencies for the costs of the students' education.

HR4293 - A bill to establish a cultural and training program for disadvantaged individuals from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

68 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Resources -- Subcommittee on Water and Power)

Item Key: 118

CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE * Revised *

Water and Power Resources Subcommittee (Chairman Doolittle, R-Calif.) of House Resources Committee hold a hearing on pending legislation.

Sept. 23 2:00 pm 1334 Longworth Bldg.

Agenda:

HR3658 - A bill to provide for the settlement of the water rights
claims of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's
Reservation, and for other purposes.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

69 of 72 items CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

DOE LABORATORY MANAGEMENT CHANGES

Future House committees * New *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Science -- Subcommittee on Basic Research; Science
-- Subcommittee on Energy and Environment)

Item Key: 130

DOE LABORATORY MANAGEMENT CHANGES * New *

Basic Research Subcommittee (Chairman Pickering, R-Miss.) and Energy and
Environment Subcommittee (Chairman Calvert, R-Calif.) of House Science
Committee will hold a joint hearing on a General Accounting Office
report on plans by the Department of Energy to restructure the
management of ational energy research laboratories.

Sept. 23 10:00 am 2318 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

70 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

FY99 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Future conference committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98)

Item Key: 142

FY99 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS * Revised *

Conferees will meet on legislation making FY99 appropriations for programs of the Defense Department.

Sept. 23 10:00 am room TBA

Agenda:

HR4103 - An original bill making appropriations for the Department of

Defense for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

Senate Conferees:

STEVENS, R-Alaska; COCHRAN, R-Miss.; SPECTER, R-Pa.; DOMENICI, R-N.M.; BOND, R-Mo.; McCONNELL, R-Ky.; SHELBY, R-Ala.; GREGG, R-N.H.; HUTCHINSON, R-Texas; INOUE, D-Hawaii; HOLLINGS, D-S.C.; BYRD, D-W.Va.; LEAHY, D-Vt.; BUMPERS, D-Ark.; LAUTENBERG, D-N.J.; HARKIN, D-Iowa; DORGAN, D-N.D.

House Conferees:

YOUNG, R-Fla.; MCDADE, R-Pa.; LEWIS, R-Calif.; SKEEN, R-N.M.; HOBSON, R-Ohio; BONILLA, R-Texas; NETHERCUTT, R-Wash.; ISTOOK, R-Okla.; CUNNINGHAM, R-Calif.; LIVINGSTON, R-La.; MURTHA, D-Pa.; DICKS, D-Wash.; HEFNER, D-N.C.; SABO, D-Minn.; DIXON, D-Calif.; VISCLOSKEY, D-Ind.; and OBEY, D-Wis.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

71 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SCHOOL CHOICE

Future other news events

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98)

Item Key: 150

SCHOOL CHOICE * New *

National Center for Policy Analysis and the Children's Educational
Opportunity Foundation of America will sponsor a national conference on
school choice. Speakers include Rep. Frank Riggs, R-Calif., Rep. J.C.
Watts, R-Okla., Rep. John R. Kasich, R-Ohio, and Rep. Bob Schaffer,
R-Colo.

Sept. 24 8:00 am Willard Inter-Continental Hotel

Contact: For information: Matt Moore at 202-628-6671; For
media inquiries: Joan Kirby at 202-628-6671

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

72 of 72 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

DIABETES BRIEFING

Future other news events

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/22/98)

Item Key: 151

DIABETES BRIEFING * New *

Congressional Black Caucus in collaboration with the American Diabetes Association and others will sponsor a Capitol Hill briefing on "Treatment Advances in Diabetes and Its Complications, with a focus on issues such as increased diabetes complications for minorities, national education and outreach and breakthrough research and technologies.

Sept. 22 Noon B-340 Rayburn Bldg.

Contact: Martha Naismith at 202-408-9482

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

There are no more items to read.

You are in SCHEDULE

Enter number(s), a command, or MENU

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Approximate Connect Time: 0 Hour(s) 3 Minute(s)

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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Received: from Storm.EOP.GOV by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J220T840V4008G22@PMDF.EOP.GOV>; Mon,
21 Sep 1998 04:46:50 -0400 (EDT)

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by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-12 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J220SRPDGW0026ON@STORM.EOP.GOV>; Mon,
21 Sep 1998 04:46:25 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by ns1.cq.com; id EAA06759; Mon, 21 Sep 1998 04:25:14 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from hub.cq.com(198.67.5.98) by ns1.cq.com via smap (3.2)
id xma006757; Mon, 21 Sep 1998 04:25:00 -0400

Received: from veeger.CQ.COM (veeger.cq.com [198.67.5.2])
by hub.cq.com (8.8.2/8.6.12) with SMTP id EAA25169; Mon,
21 Sep 1998 04:53:58 -0400 (EDT)

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wins%"duykers_n@al.eop.gov"

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ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

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CREATION DATE/TIME:21-SEP-1998 04:25:00.00

SUBJECT: Nitealert Report - ingrid

TO: Ingrid M. Schroeder (Ingrid M. Schroeder@cop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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! Nite-Alert Created for INGRID SCHROEDER - OMB

! 21-SEP-1998 03:21:42

!

! This is a DAILY nitealert

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! ----- Searching the BILLTRACK database -----

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! --- For Legislative Action on Bills You Are Tracking ---

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! Using the Bill List INGRID

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!----- COMMITTEE and FLOOR SCHEDULE on Bills You Are Tracking -----

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! Using the Bill List INGRID

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! --- COMMITTEE and FLOOR SCHEDULE Searching with your key words ---

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! Using the Word List INGRID

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1 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HOUSE FLOOR Sept. 23

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; House Floor)

Item Key: 168

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HOUSE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 23

CONVENES AT 12:30 FOR MORNING HOUR AND AT 2PM FOR
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

Under suspension of the rules:

HR2000 A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to
make certain clarifications to the land bank protection
provisions, and for other purposes. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR4068 A bill to make certain technical corrections in laws
relating to Native Americans, and for other purpose. --
BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR2314 A bill to restore federal Indian services to members of the
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Maverick County,
Texas, to clarify U.S. citizenship status of such members,
to provide trust land for the benefit of the tribe, and for
other purposes. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR1659 A bill to provide for the expeditious completion of the
acquisition of private mineral interests within the Mount

- St. Helens National Volcanic Monument mandated by the 1982 act that established the monument, and for other purposes.
- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3381 A bill to direct the secretary of Agriculture and the secretary of the Interior to exchange land and other assets with Big Sky Lumber Co. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR1481 A bill to amend the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to provide for implementation of recommendations of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contained in the Great Lakes Fishery Restoration Study Report. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HRES144 Resolution to express support for the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HRES505 A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the importance of diplomatic relations with the Pacific Island nations. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HCONRES315 A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress condemning the atrocities by Serbian police and military forces against Albanians in Kosova and urging that blocked assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) under control of the United States and other

governments be used to compensate the Albanians in Kosova
for losses suffered through Serbian police and military
action. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR4558 A bill to make technical amendments to clarify the provision
of benefits for noncitizens, and to improve the provision of
unemployment insurance, child support and supplemental
security income benefits. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR81 A bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located at 401 South
Michigan Street in South Bend, Ind., as the "Robert K.
Rodibaugh United States Bankruptcy Courthouse." -- BEGIN
CONSIDERATION.

S1355 A bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located in New
Haven, Conn., as the "Richard C. Lee U.S. Courthouse." --
BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR4006 A bill to clarify federal law to prohibit the dispensing or
distribution of a controlled substance for the purpose of
causing, or assisting in causing, the suicide or euthanasia,
of any individual. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3736 A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make
changes relating to H-1B nonimmigrants. -- MAY BEGIN
CONSIDERATION.

NOTE: No votes expected before 5pm.

2 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

COMMERCE AND LABOR: HIGH-TECH VISA PROGRAM

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 12

COMMERCE AND LABOR: HIGH-TECH VISA PROGRAM

By Bob Gravely, CQ Staff Writer

Despite uncertainty about its chances for passage, a bill that would increase the number of visas available for foreign workers with high-tech expertise is on the House floor agenda later this week.

Lined up against the bill (HR3736) are the Clinton administration, Democrats worried about displacing American workers, and some anti-immigration and labor-friendly Republicans. But proponents say that computer and other high-tech companies are suffering because of a

shortage of skilled workers. The measure was bumped from last week's floor schedule.

This year's allotment of 65,000 visas, known as "H1-B" visas, expired in May. The bill would grant an additional 20,000 visas for the rest of the year; increase the number of six-year H1-B visas to 95,000 in fiscal 1999; and bring the number up to 115,000 during fiscal 2001 and fiscal 2002.

The bill slated for the floor is a different version than a compromise fashioned by the Judiciary Committee. That measure contained requirements that U.S. companies seeking to hire H-1B workers promise that no American worker would be laid off to accommodate a foreign employee and that the companies had made good-faith efforts to recruit domestic employees before looking abroad.

The new version, which represents a compromise with the Senate, narrows those requirements to apply only to companies that employ large numbers of H-1B workers, and would place the burden on workers to file complaints about alleged violations.

Melvin Watt, N.C., ranking Democrat on the Immigration and Claims Subcommittee, intends to offer the committee-passed proposal as a substitute amendment. Watt has added one provision to the substitute -- a requirement that applicants for the visas pay an additional \$500 to contribute to training programs for American workers.

[ThisWeek]

3 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SOCIAL POLICY: AID TO IMMIGRANTS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 28

SOCIAL POLICY: AID TO IMMIGRANTS

By Emily Church, CQ Staff Writer

The House is slated to consider a measure Wednesday that would enable about 12,000 mostly poor, elderly immigrants to retain Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid benefits that were scheduled to be terminated Oct. 1.

The bill (HR4558), approved last week by a Ways and Means subcommittee, is set for action under the expedited suspension of the rules procedure, which allows no amendments and requires a two-thirds vote for passage.

The 1996 welfare overhaul (PL 104-193) and the 1997 budget-balancing legislation (PL 105-33) mandated terminating benefits for immigrants who could not prove they were in the United States lawfully prior to a specific date.

The bill covers those who have lived here for many years but have lost documents needed to prove it.

"We are ensuring that every elderly or disabled non-citizen already dependent on benefits will remain eligible," said Human Resources Chairman E. Clay Shaw Jr., R-Fla. The extension would cost the government about \$80 million.

The bill would make other, minor changes to federal statutes, including a permanent extension of a state unemployment insurance program created under the North American Free Trade Agreement (PL 103-182).

[ThisWeek]

4 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TAX CUT BILL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 9

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TAX CUT BILL

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

Despite a veto threat from President Clinton, House Republican leaders say they will move forward this week with a floor vote on a bill that seeks to cut taxes by about \$80 billion over the next five years.

The bill (HR4579) has drawn sharp criticism from Clinton and other Democrats because it would be funded in large part by a projected budget surplus. Critics say the entire surplus should be used to secure the solvency of the Social Security trust fund, which is projected to go bankrupt in 2032.

Supporters of the plan say it would tap only 10 percent of the surplus -- which is expected to hit \$1.6 trillion over 10 years -- and leave the remainder in a reserve account until a plan is devised to shore up Social Security.

The showdown between Clinton and the GOP has been expected all year, as Republicans worked to develop the largest tax plan they could pass before members head home for the November elections. Earlier plans ranging from cuts of \$101 billion over five years to \$700 billion over

10 years were scaled back in order to win the support of Senate Republicans.

The House bill, which was approved largely down party lines by the Ways and Means Committee last week, seeks to grant tax relief to farmers, married couples, small businesses, people with savings accounts and students saving for private colleges. It primarily would benefit households earning between \$40,000 and \$100,000 a year.

The bill would reduce the so-called marriage penalty by increasing the standard deduction married couples can claim on their federal income tax forms. It would expedite the phase-in of increased exemptions of the estate tax and would exempt from taxes the first \$400 married couples earn in interest, and the first \$200 in interest individuals earn. It also would allow self-employed individuals to deduct all of the cost of their insurance plans.

Two parts of the bill are paid for without using the surplus: the extension of some tax breaks for big businesses and a section accelerating planned increases on how much working Social Security recipients can earn before their benefits are cut. Together, the two measures cost about \$6.7 billion over five years

[ThisWeek]

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: BANKRUPTCY OVERHAUL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 8

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: BANKRUPTCY OVERHAUL

By Richard Sammon, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate is expected to resume work this afternoon on a bankruptcy overhaul bill that aims to discourage debt-ridden Americans from filing for bankruptcy.

Supporters say the bill (S1301) is needed to address a rate of consumer bankruptcy filings that has increased sharply because it has become too easy to walk away from debts. The measure would require judges to consider a person's ability to repay at least some secured debts before erasing liabilities.

The Senate worked on the bill sporadically last week, adopting a number of amendments, including one that would exempt Individual Retirement Accounts from bankruptcy proceedings.

Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., may offer an amendment that would require credit card companies to review debt obligations of applicants before approving credit lines.

Tomorrow, members will debate and vote on a Democratic-backed minimum wage amendment. Offered by Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., it would raise the minimum wage by \$1 over two years, to \$6.15. Republicans argue that such an increase would hamper small businesses and lead to layoffs; Kennedy says businesses can absorb a higher minimum pay rate without cutting jobs.

Republicans are expected to prevail in tabling, or killing, the amendment. The vote is scheduled after tomorrow's party lunches.

The minimum wage amendment is one of a handful of Democratic priorities for the remainder of the session.

[ThisWeek]

6 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CAPITOL HILL SHAPES UP FOR SOME SHOWDOWNS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 1

CAPITOL HILL SHAPES UP FOR SOME SHOWDOWNS

By CQ Staff

Congress will get a slow start this week, then probably work into the weekend in a bid to make some of the biggest decisions it will face this fall.

Climactic votes on domestic spending, the defense budget, tax cuts and trade are all expected in the next six days. But all the while, the vast majority of Americans outside the Beltway will be under the impression that there is only one thing Capitol Hill is focused on: the latest move in the congressional review of Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr's case against President Clinton.

By order of the House Judiciary Committee, the world may be viewing sometime today a four-hour videotape of Clinton being questioned by Starr's prosecutors about the details of his sexual encounters with Monica Lewinsky. After that, House Republicans will have to decide what to do next in the increasingly partisan inquiry.

Republicans are also setting up election-year legislative showdowns with the president. They plan a vote this week on several bills the president has vowed to veto, the House's \$80 billion five-year tax cut

principal among them. Clinton has also promised to reject the high-technology worker immigration measure the House plans to take up, as well as legislation before the Senate that would criminalize the transport of a girl across state laws for an abortion in a bid to evade state parental notice or consent laws.

Congressional Democrats, meanwhile, have their own election-year fights to pick -- and the Senate rules allow them to do so.

To keep his agenda moving, Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., has agreed to allow a vote tomorrow on raising the minimum wage as an amendment to the bill that would tighten the consumer bankruptcy law. But he has drawn the line at allowing the Democrats an opening to get a vote on their managed-care medical insurance regulation bill. Unless Lott and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., resolve their longstanding impasse on this issue, it could thwart efforts to pass the Interior appropriations bill or much else in coming days.

The Interior spending measure is one of many that may yet end up in a package designed to put all the difficult spending decisions into one bundle, ship it to Clinton and dare the president to use his veto by the adjournment date of the 105th Congress.

But a final decision on such a strategy is at least three weeks away, because Congress last week cleared a measure to keep federal spending on autopilot until Oct. 9, nine days into fiscal 1999, and also the target adjournment date.

SPENDING BILL PUSH

The GOP this week wants to push toward enactment five of the dozen remaining spending bills. Conferees will be pressed to cut deals on the measures for energy and water, agriculture and the Treasury and Postal Service. The legislative branch conference agreement of last week may be pushed toward the White House. And by Saturday, the House may be ready to debate a defense appropriations conference report.

During the week, Congress will also work on several measures that Clinton would sign: the annual Pentagon authorization measure, a reauthorization of higher education programs and a revival of presidential authority to cut trade deals that Congress may then either approve or reject, but not amend.

But that fast-track measure still faces an uphill climb. And it was that very same legislation that collapsed in November, the last time there was a weekend session.

Then, both chambers were open all weekend in a bid to push themselves into adjournment. It did not work.

[ThisWeek]

HOUSE FLOOR Sept. 24

Future Senate/House floor

* Tentative *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; House Floor)

Item Key: 169

HOUSE FLOOR * Tentative *

Sept. 24

CONVENES AT 10AM.

HR4578 A bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish the Protect Social Security Account into which the secretary of the Treasury shall deposit budget surpluses until a reform measure is enacted to ensure the long-term solvency of the OASDI trust funds. -- BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

HR3736 A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes relating to H-1B nonimmigrants. -- MAY CONTINUE CONSIDERATION.

HR2621 A bill to extend trade authorities procedures with respect to reciprocal trade agreements, and for other purposes. --

MAY BEGIN CONSIDERATION.

8 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

INFORMATION SECURITY

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Governmental Affairs)

Item Key: 61

INFORMATION SECURITY * Revised *

Senate Governmental Affairs Committee (Chairman Thompson, R-Tenn.) will
hold the third in a series of hearings on information security.

Sept. 23 10:00 am SD-342 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

James Huse - acting inspector general, Social Security

Administration; Ed Ryan - special agent in charge, New York

Field Office, Office of the Inspector General, Social

Security Administration

PANEL:

Gene L. Dodaro - assistant comptroller general, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office; Robert F. Dacey - director, Consolidated Audits and Computer Security Issues, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office; Keith Rhodes - technical director for computers and telecommunications, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office

PANEL:

Harold Gracey - acting assistant secretary Veterans Affairs for information and technology; John Dyer - principal deputy commissioner, Social Security Administration

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

9 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: PROJECTED BUDGET SURPLUS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 10

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: PROJECTED BUDGET SURPLUS

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

Hoping to blunt criticism of their tax bill, House Republican leaders this week will bring up for a vote legislation (HR4578) that would place 90 percent of the projected budget surplus into a reserve account until Congress adopts plans to shore up the Social Security trust fund.

The trust fund is projected to go bankrupt in 2032 as the last of the Baby Boomers are entering retirement. President Clinton has urged Congress to steer clear this year of spending the surplus, which is expected to hit \$1.6 trillion over the next decade, and use all of it to fix Social Security. He has pledged to veto a Republican tax plan that would take \$80 billion from that surplus.

House Republicans, however, say their plan seeks to protect Social Security while making sure taxpayers receive some benefit from the surplus. They have suggested the money will be frittered away on government programs if it is not returned to taxpayers. The remaining surplus, they say, could be used to create Individual Retirement Accounts.

Last week, Democrats in the Ways and Means Committee unsuccessfully offered an amendment to the bill that would have walled off 100 percent

of the surplus for the trust fund.

[ThisWeek]

10 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

COMMERCE AND LABOR: FAST-TRACK AUTHORITY

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 11

COMMERCE AND LABOR: FAST-TRACK AUTHORITY

By Matthew Tully, CQ Staff Writer

The House is scheduled to consider fast-track trade legislation on Friday, but a vote on the measure could be delayed until next week because supporters of the legislation indicated they are from six to eight votes short of the number needed for passage.

The bill (HR2621) would allow the president to negotiate trade agreements with other countries, then present his deal to Congress for a straight up-or-down vote with no amendments. While a scheduled vote this

week has been on the agenda for some time, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Ga., said next week also is an option.

On Friday, House Majority Leader Dick Armey, Texas, left open the possibility that the bill could be considered on Saturday if a weekend session is scheduled.

Labor unions have opposed the bill and predict they will be able to block the legislation for a second consecutive year. Democratic leaders agree the bill will be defeated.

Backers, including farming and business groups, are urging their rank and file to lobby members of Congress. Republican leaders say agriculture groups will bolster their efforts for passage given current farm prices and will argue that more markets are needed to sell their crops.

But the bill is receiving no lobbying support from the White House, which sought the legislation last year but now fears it will divide Democrats and anger constituents less than two months before the midterm elections. White House officials have accused Republicans of political gamesmanship for pursuing the legislation.

The Senate Finance Committee has approved an omnibus trade bill that includes the fast-track language, but a vote on that measure is not expected before next week.

[ThisWeek]

11 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

FOREIGN STUDENT EXCHANGES NORTHERN IRELAND PROGRAMS

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/25/98; Judiciary -- Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims)

Item Key: 110

FOREIGN STUDENT EXCHANGES NORTHERN IRELAND PROGRAMS * New *

Immigration and Claims Subcommittee (Chairman Smith, R-Texas) of House

Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on pending legislation.

Sept. 25 9:30 am 2226 Rayburn Bldg.

Agenda:

HR4416 - A bill to provide a limited waiver for certain foreign students of the requirement to reimburse local educational agencies for the costs of the students' education.

HR4293 - A bill to establish a cultural and training program for disadvantaged individuals from Northern Ireland and the

Republic of Ireland.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

12 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CAPITOL SECURITY ISSUES

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Rules & Administration)

Item Key: 71

CAPITOL SECURITY ISSUES * New *

Senate Rules and Administration Committee (Chairman Warner, R-Va.) will hold a hearing on security issues at the Capitol. This hearing addresses these issues following the deaths of two capitol police officers July 24 when an armed intruder opened fire in the Capitol.

Sept. 24 9:30 am SR-301 Russell Bldg. CLOSED\will OPEN

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: REGULATING VEHICLE EMISSIONS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 21

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: REGULATING VEHICLE EMISSIONS

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Legislation that would tighten vehicle emissions standards along the U.S.-Mexico border will be marked up Wednesday by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

The House-passed measure (HR8) would require U.S. customs officials to deny entry to non-commercial vehicles from Mexico that do not meet state or local emissions standards. It calls for fines and penalties when repeated entry attempts are made.

The bill's backers argue that some U.S. citizens and legal migrant workers have registered their cars in Mexico to avoid stricter U.S. emissions standards. As a result, daily commuter traffic from Mexico is

blamed for increased vehicle air pollution in Southern California.

Under the bill, vehicles could enter freely if the owner or operator obtained certification from the border state verifying that the vehicle meets state regulations. One entry would be granted to obtain such documentation.

States along the Canadian border would not be required to check for emissions compliance, but they could opt into the program.

[ThisWeek]

14 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

BP/AMOCO OIL COMPANY MERGER

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/22/98; Judiciary -- Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition)

Item Key: 68

BP/AMOCO OIL COMPANY MERGER * Revised *

Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition Subcommittee (Chairman

DeWine, R-Ohio) of Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the merger between BP and Amoco.

Sept. 22 2:00 pm SD-226 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

David Frietag - president, Ohio Petroleum Retailers and
Repair Associates; Steven Percy - CEO, BP America Inc.;
George Spindler - Amoco Corp.; Philip Verleger - Brattle
Group

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

15 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENERGY COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Full Committee Markup & Vote

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Energy & Natural Resources)

Item Key: 51

ENERGY COMMITTEE BUSINESS * Revised *

Full Committee Markup & Vote

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will mark up pending legislation.

Sept. 23 9:30 am SD-366 Dirksen Bldg.

Agenda:

S2041 - A bill 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 the Willow Lake Natural Treatment System Project for the reclamation and reuse of water, and for other purposes.

S2140 - A bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and

Adjustment Act of 1992 to authorize the secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project.

HR2402 - A bill to make technical and clarifying amendments to

improve management of water-related facilities in the Western United States.

S1175 - A bill to reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National

Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission for 10 additional years.

S1641 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to study

alternatives for establishing a national historic trail to commemorate and interpret the history of women's rights in the United States.

S1960 - A bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation.

S2133 - A bill to designate former U.S. Route 66 as "America's Main Street" and authorize the secretary of the Interior to provide assistance.

S2239 - A bill to revise the boundary of Fort Matanzas Monument and for other purposes.

S2240 - A bill to establish the Adams National Historical Park in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes.

S2241 - A bill to provide for the acquisition of lands formerly occupied by the Franklin D. Roosevelt family at Hyde Park, N.Y., and for other purposes.

S2246 - A bill to amend the Act which established the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes.

S2247 - A bill to permit the payment of medical expenses incurred by the U.S. Park Police in the performance of duty to be made directly by the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S2248 - A bill to allow for waiver and indemnification in mutual law enforcement agreements between the National Park Service and

a state or political subdivision, when required by state law, and for other purposes.

S2285 - A bill to establish a commission, in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention, to further protect sites of importance in the historic efforts to secure equal rights for women.

S2297 - A bill to provide for the distribution of certain publications in units of the National Park System under a sales agreement between the secretary of the Interior and a private contractor.

S2309 - A bill to authorize the secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement for the construction and operation of the Gateway Visitor Center at Independence National Historical Park.

S2401 - A bill to authorize the addition of the Paoli Battlefield site in Malvern, Pa., to Valley Forge National Historical Park.

HR2411 - A bill to provide for a land exchange involving the Cape Cod National Seashore and to extend the authority for the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.

HR4079 - A bill to authorize the construction of temperature control devices at Folsom Dam in California.

S2136 - A bill to provide for the exchange of certain land in the state of Washington.

S991 - A bill to make technical corrections to the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

S2468 - A bill to designate the Biscayne National Park visitor center as the Dante Fascell Visitor Center at Biscayne National Park.

S2257 - A bill to reauthorize the National Historic Preservation Act.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S2284 - A bill to establish the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the state of South Dakota, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S2142 - A bill to authorize the secretary of the Interior to convey the facilities of the Pine River Project, to allow jurisdictional transfer of lands between the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S777 - A bill to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a non-profit corporation, for planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S2117 - A bill to authorize the construction of the Perkins County Rural Water System and authorize financial assistance to the Perkins County Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S744 - A bill to authorize the construction of the Fall River Water Users District Rural Water System and authorize financial assistance to the Fall River Water Users District, a non-profit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S725 - A bill to direct the secretary of the Interior to convey the Collbran Reclamation Project to the Ute Water Conservancy District and the Collbran Conservancy District.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S624 - A bill to establish a competitive process for the awarding of concession contracts in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S1102 - A bill to amend the general mining laws to provide a reasonable royalty from mineral activities on federal lands, to specify reclamation requirements for mineral activities on federal lands, to create a state program for the reclamation of abandoned hard rock mining sites on federal lands, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S326 - A bill to provide for the reclamation of abandoned and hardrock mines, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

S327 - A bill to ensure that federal taxpayers receive a fair return for the extraction of locatable minerals on public

domain lands, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This bill was on the agenda for July 29.

Nominations: Charles G. Groat to be Director of Interior,

United States Geological Survey

Gregory H. Friedman to be Inspector General of Energy

Theodore J. Glauthier to be deputy secretary of Energy

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

16 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HISPANIC CAUCUS MEETING

Other news events

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 33

HISPANIC CAUCUS MEETING * New *

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute will hold its 1998 issues conference, "Distinct Paths, Converging Voice." First of two days.

Sept. 21 8:45 am Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave. NW,

International Ballroom

Contact: Erika de la Hoz at 202-543-1771

Highlights:

8:45am: Roberto Suro of The Washington Post and CNNs Maria Hinojosa participate in a panel discussion on Latinos in the 21st century. Cannon building, caucus room.

10am:

Rep. Esteban Torres, D-Calif.. and Linda Chavez-Thompson, executive vice president of the AFL-CIO, participate in a panel discussion on labor unions. Longworth Building, Room 1300

10am:

John Taylor, CEO and president of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, participates in a panel discussion on financial services in the Latino community. Longworth Building, Room 1539

1:45pm:

Patricia Harrison, co-chair of the Republican National Committee, and Roy Romer, general chairman of the Democratic National Committee, participate in a panel discussion on "Wooing the Latino Vote." Cannon Building, Caucus Room

3:45pm:

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, D-Calif., James Holmes, acting director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, and Arturo

Vargas, executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, participate in a panel discussion on the Year 2000 Census.

3:45pm:

Rep. Ruben Hinojosa, D-Texas, and Ron Unz, chairman of English for the Children, participate in a panel discussion on bilingual education. Longworth Building, Room 1539

Information verified as of 06:59pm 09/18/98

17 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 7

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SPENDING

By Rebecca Adams, CQ Staff Writer

The House is expected to vote Thursday on the conference report to the legislative branch appropriations bill (HR4112), which would provide

roughly \$2.3 billion for fiscal 1999.

The bill provides \$76.8 million for the salaries for the Capitol Police, including additional pay for officers who work Sundays, holidays and at night. Lawmakers agreed to those differentials, long sought by the police, in the wake of the July 24 Capitol shooting deaths of two officers. Overall, the bill would provide \$83 million for the police, who had sought \$84.5 million.

The bill does not include funding for additional security improvements, including the construction of a visitors' center, that have been requested by the police and the Architect of the Capitol. That funding likely will be considered in a supplemental "emergency" funding bill that could move before the end of the 105th Congress.

Funding to fix the Year 2000 problem in General Accounting Office computers was held to sums for no more than 50 new employees. Lawmakers said they expect a supplemental request next year for more funding.

The Senate agreed to a \$1 million House request for the congressional cemetery near the Anacostia River, where 92 members of Congress are buried. Matching private funds would be added for the cemetery, which has fallen into disrepair in recent years.

Conferees dropped \$2 million for a one-year commission to study and report on the trade deficit. House Ways and Means Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas, had questioned the need for such a panel.

[ThisWeek]

18 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

IMPELEMENTATION OF TREATY OF GUADALUPE-HIDALGO

Field Hearing

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/26/98; Energy & Natural Resources)

Item Key: 48

IMPELEMENTATION OF TREATY OF GUADALUPE-HIDALGO * New *

Field Hearing

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will hold a hearing on legislation concerning the validity of certain land claims arising out of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo of 1948 and rectifying inadequate remedies under the treaty.

Sept. 26 9:00 am Espanola, N.M.

Agenda:

S2155 - A bill to provide restitution of the economic potential lost to communities dependent on Spanish and Mexican land grants in New Mexico due to inadequate implementation of the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

HR2538 - A bill to establish a presidential commission to determine the validity of certain land claims arising out of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo of 1848 involving the descendants of persons who were Mexican citizens at the time of the treaty.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

19 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

MIDWEST ELECTRICITY PRICES

Oversight Hearing

Future Senate committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Energy & Natural Resources)

Item Key: 50

MIDWEST ELECTRICITY PRICES * Revised *

Oversight Hearing

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will hold an oversight hearing on the recent Midwest electricity price spikes.

Sept. 24 10:00 am SD-366 Dirksen Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill.

PANEL:

Elizabeth Moler - deputy secretary of Energy; James Hoecker

- chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Jolynn

Barry Butler - commissioner, Public Utility Commission of

Ohio and president, National Association of Regulatory

Utility Commissioners

PANEL:

Susan Tomaski - senior vice president and general counsel,

American Electric Power Co.; James Turner - vice president,

Cinergy Services, Cinergy Corp.; Steven Kean - senior vice

president, Government Affairs, Enron Corp.; Mark Millet -

vice president, Steel Dynamics Inc.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 23

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will mark up a bill (S2257) Wednesday that would reauthorize through fiscal 2004 the 32-year-old National Historic Preservation Fund.

The fund provides about one-half of the money for the nation's historic preservation programs and state governments contribute the other half.

The fund is financed by revenue from royalties paid to the federal government for Outer Continental Shelf oil drilling leases.

Authorization for the deposits of the revenue expired Sept. 30, 1997.

The measure would reauthorize the fund for \$150 million each year through fiscal 2004.

Bill sponsor Mary L. Landrieu, D-La., said the fund underwrites

programs such as identifying historic places, working with property owners, providing information and education services to the public, and consulting with federal agencies.

A related bill (HR1522) was introduced in the House but there has been no action.

[ThisWeek]

21 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: MINING LAW OVERHAUL

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 17

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: MINING LAW OVERHAUL

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Several bills aimed at overhauling mining and royalty laws will be marked up in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday.

Lawmakers will consider a measure (S1102), the 1872 General Mining Law, to ensure fair economic returns from mining on federal lands, continued mineral production in the United States and compliance with environmental laws.

Under the bill, a uniform royalty system would be established in which miners would pay market value for land mined and give a percentage of their profits as royalties. This system would replace the current royalty rate that is determined by the mineral's value before production costs are considered.

The measure would exempt small miners from paying fees for the first 25 claims and provide royalty relief for yearly profits of less than \$50,000.

The bill would require lands to be returned to the public sector if they are not developed for mineral production, and prevent mining interests from using patented land for purposes other than mining. The measure would impose a \$25 filing fee for mining claims and a \$100 annual claim maintenance fee.

The measure would require miners to comply with all federal, state and local environmental laws concerning land use and reclamation and calls for civil penalties against violators. Lands disturbed by mining would have to be refurbished to prevent environmental degradation. The measure also would create a program to address environmental problems

associated with abandoned mines by directing fees and royalties to cleanup programs.

ROYALTY TAX. Another bill (S327) would charge hardrock mining companies that operate on federal land a 5 percent royalty on mineral deposits, to be used for cleanup efforts. The bill also would permanently extend and increase the holding fee imposed on all miners except those holding 10 or fewer claims.

CLEANUP FUNDS. Also on the slate is a measure (S326) that would authorize the federal government to tax on mining companies operating on federal lands. The money would be used to pay for cleanup of abandoned, contaminated hardrock mines.

The measure would tax companies operating on land bought under the 1872 mining law.

The law, enacted to encourage the settlement of the West, did not charge royalties for the extraction of minerals from federal lands, and miners were able to buy or "patent" land for as little as \$2.50 per acre.

[ThisWeek]

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONCESSIONS CONTRACT DISPUTE

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 22

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONCESSIONS CONTRACT DISPUTE

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Legislation designed to increase competition for gift shop concession contracts in national parks tops a list of bills that the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has scheduled for markup on Wednesday.

The bill (S624) would end the preferences for gift shop operators at national parks who want to maintain their contracts. These businesses may now renew their contracts without a competitive bidding process. If a new business wants the concessions contract, the existing contractor only has to match the bid to keep the concession.

Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., has been trying for nearly 20 years to overhaul the process, and since he is retiring this fall this is his last chance. His bill would bar the Interior Department from granting preferential contracts to existing concessions operators by repealing

the 1965 Concessions Policy Act and establishing a competitive process. However, small family operations that gross less than \$500,000 a year would be able to keep preferences to renew contracts.

On June 11, the Senate passed legislation (S1693) to establish a National Park Service board to oversee concession contracts -- including reviewing selection of concessionaires -- and mediate disputes between them and national park officials. That bill would authorize a park manager to suspend or terminate concession contracts in certain circumstances.

[ThisWeek]

23 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: WATER RIGHTS LEGISLATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 20

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: WATER RIGHTS LEGISLATION

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will mark up controversial legislation (S725) Wednesday that would transfer water rights from the Interior Department's Collbran Reclamation Project to the state of Colorado.

The bill would allow an operating license to be issued to local authorities for the project but exempts the license holder for 40 years from numerous environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act, the Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Water Act.

The reclamation project is the main water supplier for more than 55,000 people in western Colorado and provides electric power to several western states.

Under the bill, areas served by the irrigation project would have to pay the outstanding \$12 million debt on it and submit operational plans to the Interior Department. The districts could not change the operations of the electric power component of the project, and would have to contribute \$600,000 for an endangered fish recovery program.

Because the state has the option to move water after the transfer, the town of Collbran and its surrounding communities oppose the bill.

The House Resources Committee last week postponed consideration of its version (HR2506).

[ThisWeek]

24 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

Oversight Hearing

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; Banking & Financial Services -- Subcommittee on
Capital Markets, Securities and Government-Sponsored Enterprises)

Item Key: 79

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD * Revised *

Oversight Hearing

Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises

Subcommittee (Chairman Baker, R-La.) of House Banking and Financial

Services Committee will hold an oversight hearing on a General

Accounting Office study of the Federal Housing Finance Board. The board

supervises the regional Federal Home Loan Banks, whose members are local

savings associations and other institutions that make long-term

home-mortgage loans. The GAO study reviews the board's role as a

regulator of the safety and soundness of member institutions.

Sept. 24 11:00 am 2128 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

25 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 18

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY: CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

By Sumana Chatterjee, CQ Staff Writer

Under suspension of the rules, the House this week will consider a bill (HR4017) that would reauthorize energy conservation and export programs through 2003.

The legislation would extend programs authorized in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (PL 94-163), including domestic energy conservation programs in states, localities, schools and

hospitals, and export-promotion programs for renewable-energy and energy-efficient products.

The bill would reauthorize a program under the Energy Conservation and Production Act of 1976 (PL 94-385) that offers federal grants to state and local agencies to reduce the home energy costs of low-income families.

The measure also addresses "a failure" of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (PL 102-486), according to John Shimkus, R-Ill. The 1992 law aims to displace up to 30 percent of the imported petroleum used in the transportation sector with domestically produced alternative fuels by 2010. The legislation would grant fleet managers incentives to use a type of biodiesel fuel -- a biodegradable substance made from non-petroleum renewable feedstocks such as soybean oil -- mixed with conventional diesel fuel.

The 1992 law, created to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil, requires large motor vehicle fleets to include an increasing percentage of "alternative fuel vehicles" as part of their new vehicle purchases. The bill would allow such fleets to receive credit for burning a type of biodiesel, rather than awarding credit based solely on the purchase of natural gas vehicles.

[ThisWeek]

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TREASURY-POSTAL SPENDING

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 5

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE: TREASURY-POSTAL SPENDING

By Bob Gravely, CQ Staff Writer

House and Senate appropriators may begin conference negotiations this week on the fiscal 1999 Treasury-Postal appropriations bill (HR4104).

Two key issues conferees will have to resolve are whether to impose term limits on top staff members at the Federal Election Commission (FEC) and how to pay for federal agencies' efforts to fix their year 2000 computer problems.

Republicans had tried in both chambers to add language to impose a four-year term limit on the FEC's general counsel and staff director. To be reappointed, both officials need the votes of four members of the six-member commission, which is evenly split between Democrats and

Republicans.

The language was stripped from the House bill on a procedural move and was watered down in the Senate bill after Democrats threatened to stall the bill indefinitely over the issue.

But the language has support from House Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert L. Livingston, R-La., and other key Republicans and could re-emerge during the conference.

Republicans say the provision was intended to ensure that the FEC operates in a bipartisan manner by requiring its top officials to gain the support of both Democrats and Republicans.

But Democrats complain that the move was aimed at the FEC's current general counsel, Lawrence Noble, and the FEC's efforts to crack down on "soft money" donations to political parties. Democrats also contend that the restrictions would make FEC officials fearful of losing their jobs if they angered either party.

Another issue will be \$3.25 billion in emergency funding included in the Senate bill to help the federal government fix the Year 2000 computer glitch. GOP budget hawks in the House opposed including \$2.25 billion in Year 2000 funding in the House bill because emergency funding measures do not have to be offset with other cuts. They succeeded in stripping the money from the bill on the House floor.

Overall, the Senate measure would provide \$29.9 billion for the Treasury Department, the executive office of the president, the Postal Service and several independent agencies, including the FEC. The House version would provide \$26.6 billion.

[ThisWeek]

27 of 27 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT: FAA REAUTHORIZATION

Schedule highlights

(SCHEDULE 09/21/98)

Item Key: 13

CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT: FAA REAUTHORIZATION

By Richard Sammon, CQ Staff Writer

Pending agreement among a handful of members, the Senate later this week may take up a \$10.1 billion reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Democrats objected on two occasions last week to attempts by

Majority Leader Trent Lott, Miss., to call up the legislation (S2279).

Lott considers it a "must-pass" bill that would fund airport construction projects in every state.

Objections relate to authorization levels for airport improvement projects in Illinois and Virginia, according to aides on the Commerce Committee. Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., a key figure in the bill's chances for consideration, said nearly \$2 billion of renovation projects could be delayed if Congress does not clear the measure before adjourning.

Minority Leader Tom Daschle, S.D., said he expected an agreement would be reached to allow consideration this week.

The House passed a version (HR4057) to reauthorize FAA programs at \$10.1 billion in fiscal 1999.

Both bills also would increase funding for airport safety and security measures. The measures would authorize \$5.6 billion for FAA operations, \$2.1 billion for the Facilities and Equipment program and roughly \$2.3 billion for the Airport Improvement Program.

[ThisWeek]

There are no more items to read.

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Approximate Connect Time: 0 Hour(s) 3 Minute(s)

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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21 Sep 1998 03:30:19 EDT

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Mon, 21 Sep 1998 03:30:15 -0400 (EDT)

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by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-12 #29131)
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id xma005120; Mon, 21 Sep 1998 03:08:31 -0400

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by hub.cq.com (8.8.2/8.6.12) with SMTP id DAA24298 for

<schroeder_i@al.eop.gov>; Mon, 21 Sep 1998 03:37:34 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from veeger.CQ.COM via Pony Express VMS Mail FPI (v9.5.0-moe002)

; Mon, 21 Sep 1998 03:25:08 -0500 (EST)

X-VMS-To: WINS%"schroeder_i@al.eop.gov"

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

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CREATION DATE/TIME:21-SEP-1998 04:26:00.00

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TO: Annette E. Rooney (Annette E. Rooney@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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! ----- Searching the BILLTRACK database -----

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1 HR3494 McCollum (R-FL) 03/18/98

Child Protection and Sexual Predator Punishment Act of 1998.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 06/12/98; CRS 07/14/98 -- digest 601 lines)

Item Key: 6388

2 S2037 Hatch (R-UT) 05/06/98

Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 05/15/98; CRS 06/25/98 -- digest 163 lines)

Item Key: 7025

3 HR2281 Coble (R-NC) 07/29/97

WIPO Copyright Treaties Implementation Act.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 04/06/98; CRS 07/28/98 -- digest 113 lines)

Item Key: 3975

4 HR4017 Schaefer (R-CO) 06/09/98

Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 08/10/98; CRS 06/19/98 -- index terms only)

Item Key: 7456

5 SConRes103 Moynihan (D-NY) 06/10/98

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress in support of the recommendations of the International Commission of Jurists on Tibet and on U.S. policy with regard to Tibet.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 08/11/98; CRS 06/12/98 -- index terms only)

Item Key: 7476

6 HR3303 Hyde (R-IL) 03/03/98

Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, Fiscal
Years 1999, 2000, and 2001.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 07/02/98; CRS 07/14/98 -- digest 112 lines)

Item Key: 6058

7 HR4579 Archer (R-TX) 09/16/98

A bill to provide tax relief for individuals, families and farming
and other small businesses, to provide tax incentives for
education, to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other
purposes.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 09/17/98; no CRS information available)

Item Key: 8534

8 HR4569 Callahan (R-AL) 09/15/98

An original bill making appropriations for foreign operations,
export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year
ending Sept. 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 09/18/98; no CRS information available)

Item Key: 8506

9 HConRes185 Lantos (D-CA) 11/07/97

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress on the
occasion of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal
Declaration of Human Rights and recommitting the United States

to the principles expressed in the Universal Declaration.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 08/07/98; CRS 12/23/97 -- digest 12 lines)

Item Key: 5342

10 HConRes295 Levin (D-MI) 06/24/98

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 should serve as a reminder of the brutality of the government of the former Soviet Union's repressive policies toward the Ukrainian people.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 09/03/98; CRS 07/28/98 -- digest 5 lines)

Item Key: 7693

11 S2193 Hatch (R-UT) 06/18/98

Trademark Law Treaty Implementation Act.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 08/06/98; CRS 06/25/98 -- index terms only)

Item Key: 7588

12 HConRes254 Franks (R-NJ) 03/30/98

A concurrent resolution calling on the government of Cuba to extradite to the United States convicted felon Joanne Chesimard and all other individuals who have fled the United States to avoid prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses and who are currently living freely in Cuba.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 09/15/98; CRS 06/11/98 -- digest 6 lines)

Item Key: 6608

13 HR3783 Oxley (R-OH) 04/30/98

Child Online Protection Act.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 09/18/98; CRS 07/09/98 -- digest 11 lines)

Item Key: 6986

14 HConRes304 Smith (R-NJ) 07/21/98

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress
regarding the culpability of Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes,
crimes against humanity and genocide in the former Yugoslavia, and
for other purposes.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 09/17/98; no CRS information available)

Item Key: 8011

15 S2297 Gorton (R-WA) 07/14/98

A bill to provide for the distribution of certain publications in
units of the National Park System under a sales agreement
between the secretary of the Interior and a private contractor.

(BILLTRACK; no CRS information available)

Item Key: 7851

16 HR1122 Solomon (R-NY) 03/19/97

Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 1997.

(BILLTRACK; BillWatch 07/29/98; CRS 07/28/98 -- digest 24 lines)

Item Key: 1917

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! ----- Searching the SCHEDULE database -----

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!--- For Today's and Future Scheduled meetings of your Committees ---

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1 of 11 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT NOMINATIONS

Future Senate committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs)

Item Key: 41

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT NOMINATIONS * New *

Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee (Chairman D'Amato,

R-N.Y.) will hold a confirmation hearing on pending nominations.

Sept. 23 11:00 am SD-538 Dirksen Bldg.

Nominations:

John D. Hawke, Jr to be comptroller, Office of the

Comptroller of the Currency Department of the Treasury

Saul N. Ramirez to be deputy secretary of Housing and Urban

Development

William C. Apgar to be assistant secretary of Housing and

Urban Development

Cardell Cooper to be assistant secretary of Housing and

Urban Development

Harold Lucas to be assistant secretary of Housing and Urban

Development

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

2 of 11 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

AMBASSADORIAL NOMINATIONS TO TAJIKSTAN AND KAZAKHSTAN

Confirmation Hearing

Future Senate committees

(SCHEDULE 09/23/98; Foreign Relations)

Item Key: 58

AMBASSADORIAL NOMINATIONS TO TAJIKSTAN AND KAZAKHSTAN

Confirmation Hearing

Senate Foreign Relations Committee (Chairman Helms, R-N.C.) will hold a confirmation hearing on pending nominations.

Sept. 23 10:30 am SD-419 Dirksen Bldg.

Nominations: Richard Henry Jones to be ambassador to the
Republic of Kazakhstan

Robert Patrick John Finn to be ambassador to the Republic
of Tajikistan

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

3 of 11 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

FOREIGN RELATIONS LEGISLATION

Full Committee Markup

Future Senate committees

(SCHEDULE date TBA; Foreign Relations)

Item Key: 57

FOREIGN RELATIONS LEGISLATION

Full Committee Markup

Senate Foreign Relations Committee (Chairman Helms, R-N.C.) will mark up pending legislation and vote on pending nominations.

Date TBA Time TBA SD-419 Dirksen Bldg.

Agenda:

S1868 - A bill to express U.S. foreign policy with respect to, and to strengthen U.S. advocacy on behalf of, individuals persecuted for their faith worldwide; to authorize U.S. actions in response to religious persecution worldwide; to establish an ambassador at large on international religious freedom within the Department of State, a Commission on International Religious Persecution, and a special adviser on international religious freedom within the National Security Council; and for other purposes.

NOTE: This was originally on the agenda for July 23. It is uncertain whether the bill will be considered before Congress adjourns.

4 of 11 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

U.S.-SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS

Future House committees

(SCHEDULE date TBA; International Relations -- Subcommittee on Africa)

Item Key: 101

U.S.-SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS

Africa Subcommittee (Chairman Royce, R-Calif.) of House International Relations Committee will hold a hearing on relations between the United States and South Africa.

Time TBA 2172 Rayburn Bldg. TENTATIVE WEEK OF OCT. 5

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

5 of 11 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

SAFETY OF U.S. EMBASSIES

Future House committees

(SCHEDULE date TBA; International Relations)

Item Key: 102

SAFETY OF U.S. EMBASSIES

House International Relations Committee (Chairman Gilman, R-N.Y.) will
hold a hearing on security matters at U.S. embassies.

Date TBA Time TBA 2172 Rayburn Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

Invited to testify:

Madeleine Albright - secretary of State

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

Joint Hearing

Future House committees

(SCHEDULE 10/01/98; International Relations -- Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific)

Item Key: 103

FREE ASSOCIATION COMPACTS

Joint Hearing

Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee (Chairman Bereuter, R-Neb.) of House International Relations Committee and House Resources Committee (Chairman Young, R-Alaska) will hold a joint oversight hearing on compacts of free association with the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau.

Oct. 1 2:00 pm 1324 Longworth Bldg.

Note: This hearing was previously scheduled for Sept. 22.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE IN EUROPE

Future House committees

(SCHEDULE date TBA; International Relations)

Item Key: 104

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE IN EUROPE

House International Relations Committee (Chairman Gilman, R-N.Y.) will
hold a hearing on continuing religious intolerance in Europe.

Date TBA Time TBA 2172 Rayburn Bldg.

Note: This hearing was originally scheduled for July 30.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

8 of 11 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

U.S. POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA

Future House committees

* New *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; International Relations)

Item Key: 105

U.S. POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA * New *

House International Relations Committee (Chairman Gilman, R-N.Y.) will hold a hearing on the U.S. policy toward North Korea.

Sept. 24 2:00 pm 2172 Rayburn Bldg.

Witnesses scheduled:

PANEL:

Ambassador Charles Kartman - special envoy, Korean Peace Talks, State Department PANEL:

Ambassador James Lilley - resident fellow, AMERICAN Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research; Fred Ikle - distinguished scholar, Center for Strategic and International Studies

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

AFRICA RESOLUTIONS

Subcommittee Markup

Future House committees

(SCHEDULE date TBA; International Relations -- Subcommittee on Africa)

Item Key: 106

AFRICA RESOLUTIONS

Subcommittee Markup

Africa Subcommittee (Chairman Royce, R-Calif.) of House International Relations Committee will mark up legislation under its jurisdiction.

Date TBA Time TBA 2255 Rayburn Bldg.

Agenda:

HCONRes 309 - A concurrent resolution condemning the forced abduction
of

Ugandan children and their use as soldiers.

HRes 518 - A resolution calling for free and transparent elections in
Gabon.

Note: This markup was originally scheduled for Sept. 17.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

WESTERN SAHARA

Future House committees

* Revised *

(SCHEDULE 09/24/98; International Relations -- Subcommittee on Africa)

Item Key: 107

WESTERN SAHARA * Revised *

Africa Subcommittee (Chairman Royce, R-Calif.) of House International Relations Committee will hold a hearing on the current situation in the Western Saharan nations.

Sept. 24 10:00 am 2255 Rayburn Bldg.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

CUBA, CHINA AND U.N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Future House committees

(SCHEDULE date TBA; International Relations)

Item Key: 100

CUBA, CHINA AND U.N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House International Relations Committee (Chairman Gilman, R-N.Y.) will hold a hearing on the effects on Cuba and China of the recent meeting of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland.

Date TBA Time TBA 2172 Rayburn Bldg.

Note: This hearing was originally scheduled for May 5.

Information verified as of 07:08pm 09/18/98

There are no more items to read.

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1 of 2 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

LEGISLATIVE WEEK -- WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21

House Legislative Week

(FLOORWATCH 09/21/98; 1580 lines)

Item Key: 1222

administration strongly opposes the measure. See House Action Reports

Fact Sheet No. 105-50, Sept. 15.

* Fast Track -- HR2621, Reciprocal Trade Agreement Authorities (page 36). The measure provides for expedited congressional consideration of legislation to implement trade agreements entered into before Oct. 1, 2001. The bill was reported last November, but was pulled from the

In 1980, Congress enacted the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) to designate and conserve certain public lands in Alaska, including the designation of units of the National Park,

National Wildlife Refuge, National Forest, National Wild and Scenic River, and National Wilderness Preservation Systems.

abductions and summary executions of innocent ethnic Albanian civilians in reprisal killings. There have been several hundred confirmed deaths of ethnic Albanians, including women and children, while an estimated 200,000 ethnic Albanian refugees have been driven from their homes.

SUMMARY: This bill expresses the sense of Congress that it deeply deplores and strongly condemns the loss of life and the extensive

* * * * *

Reciprocal Trade Agreement Authorities Act (HR2621; H Rept 105-341, Pt. 1; see House Action Report Fact Sheet No. 105-15, Nov. 5, 1997)

FLOOR SITUATION: The Ways and Means Committee is expected to seek

Certain procedures commonly referred to as "fast track" were first authorized in the Trade Act of 1974, in order to implement trade agreements concluded between the executive branch and foreign countries. These special procedures require the president, before entering into any trade agreement, to consult with and provide Congress advance notice of his intent to enter into an agreement. After entering into the

These procedures were first used with respect to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Tokyo Round Agreements, which were approved and implemented in the Trade Agreements Act of 1979. The procedures have not been significantly altered since 1974, but were expanded in 1984 to apply to bilateral agreements. Fast track procedures were most recently used to implement the Uruguay Round

Agreements of GATT and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). However, that fast track negotiating authority, as extended in 1991 and 1993, applied only with respect to new agreements entered into before April 15, 1994, when fast track authority expired.

Reauthorization of fast track was originally attempted in November of last year. However, faced with the prospect of defeat -- largely

Republican leadership is attempting to widen rifts in the Democratic Party on the eve of the upcoming election. Supporters of scheduling a vote now claim that many exporters -- particularly hard-pressed farmers -- need new trade agreements to ensure that overseas markets are opened.

SUMMARY: The following is a brief summary of the bill as reported by the Ways and Means Committee. For a more detailed summary of the

Time Frame

The bill authorizes special fast track provisions for the consideration of legislation to implement trade agreements entered into before Oct. 1, 2001, with the opportunity for an extension to cover agreements entered into before Oct. 1, 2005 (unless Congress passes a resolution disapproving such an extension.)

These procedures are similar to the expired provisions previously used to implement such agreements as the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the Uruguay Round of the GATT (which established the World Trade Organization (WTO)), with modifications to clarify their application so that they apply only to provisions that are directly related to the trade negotiating objectives set forth in the bill, or

that define and clarify or are related to, the operation and effect of the trade agreement.

Under the bill's procedures, the president negotiates and then submits a trade agreement to Congress, which must accept or reject the pact without amendment within 90 legislative days of its submission.

labor and the environment, and other matters that are directly related to trade, the additional consultations would concern how the negotiation meets the objective of reducing or eliminating a tariff or non-tariff barrier, or foreign government policy or practice, directly related to trade.

The bill also directs U.S. negotiators to address those aspects of

foreign government policies and practices regarding labor, the environment and other matters that are directly related to trade to ensure that foreign labor, environmental, health or safety policies and practices do not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate or serve as disguised barriers to trade.

The committee, in its report, states that it intends this language

of practices and policies involving labor, the environment and other matters may decrease market opportunities for U.S. exports or otherwise distort U.S. trade. Those aspects of these policies and practices may accordingly be included in trade agreements whose implementation qualifies for fast track. In determining whether foreign government policies and practices are in fact directly related to trade, the committee intends that the United States Trade Representative (USTR)

Trade Adjustment Assistance

Finally, the bill reauthorizes Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for workers who lose their jobs as a result of trade agreements through FY 2000. The measure also directs the General Accounting Office to conduct a study of the TAA programs and report the results to Congress no later than Oct. 1, 1999.

2 of 2 items

CQ's WASHINGTON ALERT 09/21/98

FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS

House Floor Summary

(FLOORWATCH 09/18/98; 87 lines)

Item Key: 1220

Thursday by a vote of 255 to 161. The House agreed to four amendments.

As passed by the House, the bill appropriates a total of \$12.5 BILLION for foreign aid and export assistance, 8% less than requested and \$316 million less than the current level. In addition, the measure provides \$3.4 BILLION in credits for the International Monetary Fund (IMF), instead of the \$18 BILLION requested by the administration to

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1 Highlights of the House Tax Bill

Banking/Economics/Labor

Trade/Transportation/Commerce

(HR4579; WR 09/19/98 p. 2478; 109 lines)

Item Key: 3801

2 On-Line Smut Curb Criticized As Too Tough

Environment/Science

Trade/Transportation/Commerce

(HR3783; WR 09/19/98 p. 2499; 45 lines)

Item Key: 3786

3 House Panel Grills Albright Aide On Change in Policy Toward Iraq

Foreign Policy

(WR 09/19/98 p. 2509; 38 lines)

Item Key: 3804

4 Inaction on Chemical Arms Pact Could Spark Crisis, House Told

Foreign Policy

Defense

(S610, HR1590, HR2709; WR 09/19/98 p. 2509; 47 lines)

Item Key: 3802

5 Foreign Aid Bill Fails To Resolve Deep Divisions Over IMF Funding

Foreign Policy

Appropriations

(HR4569, S2334; WR 09/19/98 p. 2505; 226 lines)

Item Key: 3771

6 Trouble Grows For Holbrooke Nomination

Foreign Policy

(WR 09/19/98 p. 2507; 46 lines)

Item Key: 3775

7 Embassy Fund Request Taking Shape

Foreign Policy

(HR4569; WR 09/19/98 p. 2507; 88 lines)

Item Key: 3770

8 Members Call for Bolstering Satellite Export Restrictions With

Industry

Incentives

Foreign Policy

Trade/Transportation/Commerce

(HR3616, HR1702; WR 09/19/98 p. 2508; 127 lines)

Item Key: 3768

9 Democrats Block Cloture on 'Salting' Legislation

Trade/Transportation/Commerce

(S1981; WR 09/19/98 p. 2501; 23 lines)

Item Key: 3766

10 Rescuer of Embattled Economies Is Now Under Siege Too

Trade/Transportation/Commerce

Foreign Policy

(HR4569; WR 09/19/98 p. 2462; 180 lines)

Item Key: 3755

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