

“fishing expedition” lawsuits that require the claimant to specify in his initial complaint each statement or omission alleged to be misleading and establish a summary procedure for dismissing flawed pleadings and granting stays of discovery in the interim (rejected by a recorded vote of 168 ayes to 255 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 213); and

Pages H2848–52

The Manton amendment that sought to replace the “loser pays” requirements with provisions that would require the attorney for the losing party to pay the legal costs and other expenses of the prevailing party if the court determines that the losing party’s case was brought for an improper purpose, is unwarranted, or lacks evidentiary support, unless the court determines the losing party was principally responsible (rejected by a recorded vote of 167 ayes to 254 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 214).

Pages H2852–58

The Clerk was authorized to make technical corrections and conforming changes in the engrossment of the bill.

Page H2864

Committees To Sit: The following committees and their subcommittees received permission to sit during proceedings of the House under the 5-minute rule on Thursday, March 9: Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Commerce, Economic and Educational Opportunities, Government Reform and Oversight, International Relations, National Security, Resources, Science, Small Business, Transportation and Infrastructure, Veterans’ Affairs, and Select Intelligence.

Pages H2872–73

Product Liability Litigation Reform: House completed all general debate on H.R. 956, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation; but came to no resolution thereon. Consideration of amendments will begin on Thursday, March 9.

Pages H2873–88

H. Res. 108, the rule which provided for general debate on the bill, was agreed to earlier by a voice vote.

Pages H2864–72

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H2813.

Amendments Ordered Printed: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appears on pages H2893–95.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H2826, H2830–31, H2839–40, H2851–52, H2858, H2863, and H2863–64. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS AND FOOD STAMP PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

Committee on Agriculture: Ordered reported amended H.R. 1135, to improve the Commodity Distribution Programs of the Department of Agriculture, to reform and simplify the Food Stamp Program.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: James Lyons, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment; and Paul W., Johnson, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Subcommittee also continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State and the Judiciary, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Supreme Court and on the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Testimony was heard from the following Associate Justices of the Supreme Court: Anthony M. Kennedy; and David H. Souter; John D. Holum, Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; William A. Reinsch, Under Secretary, Export Administration, Department of Commerce; and Thomas E. McNamara, Assistant Secretary, Political/Military Affairs, Department of State.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on DOE: Environment, Safety and Health; and Environmental Restoration and Waste Management. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Tara J. O’Toole, Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health; and Thomas P. Grumbly, Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies held a hearing on Bureau of Indian Affairs. Testimony was heard from Ada E. Deer, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department

of the Interior; and Lisa G. Jacobson, Director, Civil Audit, Accounting and Information Management Division, GAO.

LABOR—HHS—EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and on Assistant Secretary for Health, and Health Care Policy and Research. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Donna E. Shalala, Secretary; Philip R. Lee, M.D., Assistant Secretary, Health; and Clifton R. Gans, Administrator, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security met in executive session to hold a hearing on National Foreign Intelligence Program. Testimony was heard from Adm. William D. Studeman, USN, Acting Director, CIA.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on Special Access Programs. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Federal Transit Administration. Testimony was heard from Gordon J. Linton, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from Hershel Gobar, Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing on the Community Reinvestment Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Kennedy of Massachusetts; Ricki Tigert Helfer, Chairman, FDIC; the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Eugene A. Ludwig, Comptroller of the Currency; and Jonathan L. Fiechter, Acting Director, OTS; Lawrence B. Lindsey, member, Board of Directors, Federal Reserve System; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

ECONOMIC FORECASTS—ROLES OF DEFICIT REDUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY

Committee on the Budget: Concluded hearings on Economic Forecasts and the Roles of Deficit Reduction and Productivity. Testimony was heard from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT

Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities: Subcommittee on Workforce Protection held a hearing on the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Testimony was heard from Joe Dear, Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor; and Dorothy Strunk, former Acting Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor.

FINANCIAL CONTROL BOARDS

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia held a hearing on Financial Control Boards. Testimony was heard from Bernard E. Anderson, Assistant Secretary, Employment Standards, Department of Labor; George V. Voinovich, Governor, State of Ohio; Rudolph Giuliani, Mayor, City of New York; the following former officials of the State of New York: Hugh L. Carey, Governor; and Edward V. Regan, Comptroller; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Postal Service continued hearings on general oversight of the U.S. Postal Service. Testimony was heard from the following Governors, U.S. Postal Service: Sam Winters, Chairman; Einar V. Dyhrkopp; Susan E. Alvarado; and Bert H. Mackie.

COMMITTEE FUNDING; NAMING CERTAIN ROOMS IN THE CAPITOL AFTER FORMER REPRESENTATIVE MICHEL; COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Committee on House Oversight: Ordered reported the following resolutions: H. Res. 107, amended, providing amounts for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the 104th Congress; and H. Res. 65, naming certain rooms in the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol in honor of former Representative Robert H. Michel.

The Committee also considered other pending Committee business.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Africa and the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade held a joint hearing on Trade and Investment Opportunities in Africa. Testimony was heard from George E. Moose, Assistant Secretary, African Affairs, Department of State; John Hicks, Assistant Administrator, Africa, AID, U.S. International Cooperation Development Agency; and public witnesses.

ASIA-U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on U.S. Assistance Programs in Asia. Testimony was heard from Margaret Carpenter, Assistant Administrator, Asia and the Near East, AID, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency; Tim Carney, Deputy Assistant Secretary, South Asian Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on National Security: Continued hearings on the fiscal year 1996 national defense authorization request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, USA, Commander in Chief, U.S. Southern Command; and Gen. John J. Sheehan, USMC, Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command.

Committee recessed subject to call.

COMMON SENSE LEGAL STANDARDS REFORM ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a recorded vote of 8 to 4, a modified closed rule on H.R. 956, Common Sense Legal Standards Reform Act of 1995. The rule makes in order the text of H.R. 1075 as an original bill for the purpose of amendment which shall be considered as read. Only the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules are in order. The amendments are considered as read. The amendments may only be offered in the order specified in the report and only by the Member designated in the report. The amendments are not subject to amendment or to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The amendments are debatable for the time specified in the report, to be equally divided between the proponent and an opponent. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

The amendments are: 1. Geren (TX) #25; 2. Schroeder (CO) #54; 3. Hyde (IL) #37; 4. Schumer (NY) #35; 5. Conyers (MI) #60; 6. Watt (NC) #17; 7. Furse (OR) #12; 8. Hyde (IL) #36; 9. Oxley, Burr, Tauzin, Brewster, Coburn, Stenholm #13; 10.

Hoke (OH) #29; 11. Cox (CA) #52; 12. Cox (CA) #51; 13. Dingell (MI) #32; 14. Gekas (PA) #45; and 15. Schumer (NY) #33.

IMPROVE THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM AND ANCILLARY ISSUES RELATING TO HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation continued hearings on legislation to Improve the National Highway System and Ancillary Issues Relating to Highway and Transit Programs. Testimony was heard from Representatives Shaw, Weldon of Florida, Dornan, Filner, Hamilton, Farr, Horn, Gordon, Goodlatte, Payne of Virginia, Sisisky, Blute, Bereuter, Johnson of South Dakota, Buyer, Mica, McIntosh, Roemer, Lazio, Roukema, Reed, Schaefer, Coleman and Ortiz.

Hearings continue March 10.

MEDICARE LEGISLATION; WELFARE TRANSFORMATION ACT

Committee on Ways and Means: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 1134, Medicare Presidential Budget Savings Extension Act; H.R. 483, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit Medicare select policies to be offered in all States; H.R. 1157, Welfare Transformation Act of 1995.

NEW PUBLIC LAW

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D184)

S. 257, to amend the charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to make eligible for membership those veterans that have served within the territorial limits of South Korea. Signed March 7, 1995. (P.L. 104-3)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1995

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to hold hearings on proposed legislation to strengthen and improve United States agricultural programs, focusing on cost issues of certain farm programs, 9:30 a.m., SR-332.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Transportation Safety Board, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 2 p.m., SD-138.