

HONORING BRAIN AWARENESS
WEEK

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Brain Awareness Week supported by the Society for Neuroscience and nearly 2,400 other organizations, by highlighting a serious brain condition that affects a large number of our men and women in uniform: Traumatic Brain Injury, TBI.

Each year, up to 30,000 of our combat soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan and an estimated 1.5 million Americans sustain a traumatic brain injury. Some patients are fortunate and heal with few long-term symptoms. Other patients suffer significant disabilities for the rest of their lives, while others pass away as a result of their brain injury. In New Jersey, there are approximately 9,000 traumatic brain injuries a year, ten percent of which prove fatal.

Research is needed to understand why some patients recover while others face long-term health issues from brain trauma. One of the key reasons for this is from secondary conditions that occur after the initial injury, such as insufficient blood flow to the brain, insufficient blood oxygen, or brain swelling. We must invest in more research to learn how to halt or prevent these secondary conditions to help more patients recover.

There is no standard treatment for traumatic brain injury. Neuroscience research has contributed significantly in discovering new medical treatments for TBI patients. For instance, this month the Pentagon announced a new military policy where soldiers who have experienced a vehicle or roadside blast would be pulled from the war zone, evaluated for 24 hours, and checked for mild traumatic brain injury. This policy change was the result of research that showed that immediately examining and treating our troops reduces the chances of negative effects of serious head injuries.

As a member of the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force, I believe we must continue to invest in innovative research to understand and treat brain injury in order to ensure a better quality of life for our soldiers and citizens struggling with this condition. For this reason, along with many others, I ask my colleagues to support a strong research investment in this year's budget, which will improve treatments for brain injury and other health conditions while laying the groundwork for our future economic growth.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 22

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To receive a briefing on minorities and members of immigrant communities, focusing on reported instances of racial and ethnic profiling by police throughout the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OCSE) region.
CVC

4 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Restoring American Financial Stability Act of 2010".

SD-538

MARCH 23

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Elizabeth A. McGrath, of Virginia, to be Deputy Chief Management Officer, Michael J. McCord, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Comptroller, Sharon E. Burke, of Maryland, to be Director of Operational Energy Plans and Programs, Solomon B. Watson IV, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, and Katherine Hammack, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army, all of the Department of Defense.

SH-216

Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice.

SD-226

11 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Major General Robert A. Harding, United States Army (Retired), of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration and to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SR-253

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 1382, to improve and expand the Peace Corps for the 21st century, S. 2839, to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for treatment of victims of torture, S. 624, to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005, S. Res. 409, calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill", Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Malta

for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on August 8, 2008, at Valletta (Treaty Doc. 111-01), Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and New Zealand for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion With Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on December 1, 2008, at Washington (Treaty Doc. 111-03), and the nominations of Elizabeth L. Littlefield, of the District of Columbia, to be President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, Carolyn Hessler Radelet, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, Raul Yzaguirre, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Theodore Sedgwick, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, and Bisa Williams, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, all of the Department of State, Lana Pollack, of Michigan, to be Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada, and Walter Isaacson, of Louisiana, to be Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and Dennis Mulhaupt, of California, Victor H. Ashe, of Tennessee, Michael Lynton, of California, S. Enders Wimbush, of Virginia, and Susan McCue, of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and a routine list in the Foreign Service.

S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine reviewing the national broadband plan.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine making the government more transparent and accountable.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1546, to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Mantua, Utah, S. 2798, to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire through the facilitation of insect and disease infestation treatment of National Forest System and adjacent land, S. 2830, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to clarify that uncertified States and Indian tribes have the authority to use certain payments for certain noncoal reclamation projects, and S. 2963, to designate certain land in the State of Oregon as wilderness, to provide for the exchange of certain Federal land and non-Federal land.

SD-366

MARCH 24

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Veterans' Affairs plan for ending homelessness among veterans.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine opportunities to improve energy security and the

environment through transportation policy.	2:30 p.m.		MARCH 25
SD-406	Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	9:30 a.m.	
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	Contracting Oversight Subcommittee	Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Major General Robert A. Harding, United States Army (Retired), of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.	To hold hearings to examine contracts for Afghan National Police training.	Investigations Subcommittee	
SD-342	SD-342	To hold hearings to examine Wall Street and the financial crisis, focusing on high risk home loans.	SH-216
Armed Services	Armed Services	Appropriations	
Personnel Subcommittee	To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Strategic Command, and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.	Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee	
To hold hearings to examine Military Health System programs, policies, and initiatives in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program.	SH-216	To hold hearings to examine the review and oversight of the Federal Housing Administration and its role in the housing crisis.	SD-138
SR-232A	Appropriations		
1:30 p.m.	Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee	2:15 p.m.	
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Office of Personnel Management.	Indian Affairs	
To examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Small Business Administration.	SD-192	To hold an oversight hearing to examine youth suicides and the need for mental health care resources in Indian country.	SD-628
SR-485	Judiciary		
2 p.m.	To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Goodwin Liu, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.	APRIL 14	
Aging	SD-226	9:30 a.m.	
To hold hearings to examine medicine and prescription drugs, focusing on nursing home patients.		Armed Services	
SD-106		SeaPower Subcommittee	
		To hold hearings to examine Navy ship-building programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program.	SD-562