

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2005

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Ten "One Minutes" Per Side	11:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

H.Res. 315 – Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2863 - Department of Defense Appropriations Act for FY06 (*Rep. Cole - Rules Committee*). The Rules Committee has recommended an open rule that provides one hour of general debate. Amendments that do not require waivers of points of order will be considered under the five-minute rule. Unfortunately, the Rule does not make in order the Pelosi amendment, which calls for a report from the President to Congress containing a "strategy for success" in Iraq and identifying the criteria to be used to determine when it is appropriate to bring U.S. forces home from Iraq. Therefore, **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on the Previous Question on the Rule in order to allow consideration of this important amendment.**

H.R. 2862 – Science and Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY06 (*Rep. Wolf – Appropriations*) (*Complete Consideration*). This bill provides \$57.45 billion including: \$21.67 billion for the Justice Department; \$5.82 billion for the Commerce Department; \$9.66 billion for the State Department; \$16.47 billion for NASA; \$5.64 billion for the National Science Foundation; \$863 million for the Securities and Exchange Commission; \$289 million for the FCC; \$589 million for the SBA; \$331 million for the EEOC; and \$330 million for the Legal Services Corporation. Yesterday, the House continued its consideration of amendments under the unanimous consent agreement reached earlier this week. Under that agreement, the following amendments remain --- all but 3 of these are debatable for 10 minutes:

- **Hefley Amendment.** To cut 1% of total discretionary funds provided in this bill.
- **Tancredo Amendment.** To prohibit the use of State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) funds in the bill by any state or local government entity that restricts its officials from transmitting information regarding an individual's citizenship or immigration status to the Department of Homeland Security. **VOTE NO**
- **Tancredo Amendment.** Regarding provisions to increase the number of immigrants in any trade agreement.
- **Cleaver Amendment (15 minutes).** To prohibit funds in this bill to be used to process a competition under OMB Circular A-76 (outsourcing) for services provided by NOAA's National Logistics Support.
- **Maloney Amendment (20 minutes).** To prohibit funds in this bill be used to enforce any provision of law that restricts or prohibits funding for the United Nations Population Fund.
- **Markey Amendment (15 minutes).** Regarding U.S. commitment to the UN Convention Against Torture.
- **Jackson-Lee Amendment.** To prohibit funds in this bill to be used to fund state or local anti-drug task forces that do not collect and make available data on the racial distribution of convictions made as result of those operations.
- **Moran (VA) Amendment.** Regarding licenses to export firearms.
- **Musgrave Amendment.** Regarding FBI funds.
- **Paul Amendment.** Regarding U.S. contributions to the UN or any UN affiliated agency.

H.R. 2745 - United Nations Reform Act of 2005 (*Rep. Hyde - International Relations Committee*) (*Subject to a Rule*). This bill requires the Secretary of State to press for numerous reforms at the United Nations (UN) including budgeting, oversight and accountability, peacekeeping, and human rights. HR 2745 requires the Secretary of State to withhold 50% of the U.S. assessed contributions to the regular budget of the UN, if the Secretary is unable to certify that the reforms called for by this bill have been met. This Republican proposal was reported out of the International Relations Committee on June 10th on a 25-22 vote (with 20 Democrats and 2 Republicans voting no). The most problematic components of this Republican proposal include:

- **Unrealistic Requirement for Assessed vs. Voluntary Programs.** The Republican proposal would withhold up to \$100 million per year beginning in 2008 in U.S. contributions until 18 UN programs are shifted from the "assessed" to the "voluntary" budget. This requirement is unlikely to be achieved, as any proposal to shift UN programs must be approved by 191 countries, including Syria, Iran and North Korea.
- **Blocking New Peacekeeping Missions,** including involvement in a crisis like the one taking place in Darfur, until the peacekeeping reforms called for by the bill have been completed.
- **Inadequate Flexibility for the Secretary of State.** While the proposal allows the Secretary of State to certify that 32 of 39 required reforms have been met --- and still allow U.S. funds to be provided --- it does not allow waivers for the reforms that are most difficult to achieve by making 14 of the 39 reforms mandatory.



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Democrats will offer a balanced alternative similar to the proposal considered in the Committee.

- **Democrats give flexibility to the Secretary of State.** The Democratic substitute maintains the link between achieving UN reform benchmarks and withholding 50% of the U.S. assessed dues, however, the substitute would give the Secretary of State the authority to withhold up to 50% of our UN dues, rather than mandating such a cut.
- **Democrats allow for Continuation of Peacekeeping Missions** by providing the Secretary with a waiver to the requirement to veto all new missions or expansion of existing missions.
- **Democrats Call for Timely Payment of UN Dues.** The substitute encourages the U.S. to pay UN dues on time (they are now paid in the last quarter of the calendar year), supports an increased budget for the new offices that will be needed to implement the reforms, supports a well structured buyout of unneeded UN personnel and supports a contribution to the UN Democracy Fund.

The Rules Committee has recommended a restrictive rule that provides 20 minutes of general debate, and 80 additional minutes of general debate in the course of considering the 28 amendment made in order under the rule. In addition, the rule allows 30 minutes of debate on the Lantos Substitute amendment. The amendments made in order are: **King (NY)** - regarding immunity of UN officials; **Garrett #27** - regarding a report in the construction cost of WMO and WIPO buildings; **Cannon** - regarding contracting with parties on the US Government Excluded Parties List; **McCotter** - regarding the hiring of an employee who has been convicted of a crime; **Poe** - regarding an OMB report on U.S. contributions to the UN; **Stearns #7** - regarding subpoena power for the Independent Oversight Board; **Boozman** - regarding lifting restrictions on the secondment of military personnel; **Kline** - regarding the superseding of the Uniform Code of Military Justice; **Cantor/Berkley** - regarding an IAEA resolution on Iran; **Kirk/Andrews** - regarding calls for the IAEA to rescind the Small Quantities Protocol; **Markey** - regarding IAEA penalties to State Members that violate the Nonproliferation Treaty; **Royce** - regarding country specific resolutions; **Fortenberry** - regarding the implementation of mechanisms to suspend a Member State that is engaged in the act of genocide; **Flake** - regarding the Oil-for-Food Program; **Barton** - regarding a review of the Final Report of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the UN Oil for Food Program; **Chabot /Lantos** - regarding opposition to anti-Semitic statements in the UN; **Wilson (SC)** - regarding the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories; **King (IA)** - regarding contributions to UNRWA; **McCotter/Engel** - regarding UNSCR 1559 relating to the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon; **Pence** - regarding a difference in the levels of assessment among permanent members of the UN Security Council; **Ros-Lehtinen** - regarding a democracy fund for emerging democracies; **Garrett #25** - regarding the size of the UN Security Council; **Garrett #26** - regarding the growth of all assessed dues; **Gohmert** - regarding assistance to a country that opposes the U.S. position in the UN; **Kucinich** - regarding the "strengthening of international labor rights;" **Pearce** - regarding unauthorized contact with a UN Member State that is subject to UN sanctions; **Stearns** - regarding the increase of U.S. dues withheld to 75%; and **Lantos Substitute**.

Democrats are urged to VOTE YES on the Lantos Substitute, and to VOTE NO on Final Passage of H.R. 2745 - United Nations Reform Act of 2005.

H.R. 2863 - Department of Defense Appropriations Act for FY06 (Rep. Young (FL) - Appropriations Committee) (Subject to a Rule). This bill provides \$408.9 billion, including \$45.3 billion in emergency spending for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Funding in this bill includes: \$84.13 billion for military personnel; \$116.09 billion for operation and maintenance programs; \$76.8 billion for procurement; and \$71.65 billion for research and development programs. The \$45.3 billion Iraq-Afghanistan funds include: \$2.85 billion for procurement; \$8.01 billion for military personnel; \$3.5 billion for the Iraqi Freedom Fund; and \$2.05 billion for Defense Working Capital Funds. Specific funding highlights in this bill include: \$7.6 billion for ballistic-missile defense programs; \$3 billion for the Future Combat System; and \$936 million for new presidential helicopters. This bill also provides 3.1% pay increase for military personnel in FY06.

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Friday, the House will meet at 9:00 a.m. for legislative business and is expected to complete consideration of **H.R. 2745 - United Nations Reform Act of 2005 (Rep. Hyde - International Relations Committee).**

Daily Quote...

"Rank-and-file House Republicans, citing nervousness among colleagues and lack of intensity on the issue, say their leaders probably won't force a vote on Social Security this year... 'I wouldn't bet my farm on it,' Rep. Ralph Regula, Ohio Republican, said of a House vote this year. 'People are a little nervous.'"

- A news story in *The Washington Times* today