

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

| House Meets At... | Votes Predicted At... |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business | Last Vote: 10:00-11:00 p.m. |
| Ten "One-minutes" Per Side | |

Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.

Floor Schedule and Procedure

- **H. Res. 350—Rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 1867 - National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007 (Rep. Matsui—Rules):**
The open rule (with a preprinting requirement) provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Science and Technology. The rule makes in order only those amendments to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute that are pre-printed in the *Congressional Record* or are pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Matsui, and consideration will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
- **H. Res. 349—Rule to provide for H.R. 1868 – Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act of 2007 (Rep. Sutton—Rules):** The structured rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Science and Technology. No amendments shall be in order except those [amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution](#). The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Sutton and consideration will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**

- **H.Res. 348–Rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 1429 – Improving Head Start Act of 2007 (Castor-Rules)**: The structured rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Castor, and consideration will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**

- **Veto Override Vote:** Members are advised that today, the House will vote on a Veto Override on the Conference Report on **H.R. 1591 - U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Health and Iraq Accountability Act.**

- **Postponed Suspension Vote:** At some point today the House will take a recorded vote on the following bill, which was debated on Tuesday:
 1. **H.Res.243** - Calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Father Nguyen Van Ly, Nguyen Van Dai, Le Thi Cong Nhan, and other political prisoners and prisoners of conscience, and for other purposes (Rep. Smith (NJ) – Foreign Affairs)

- **H.R. 1429 – Improving Head Start Act of 2007 (Rep. Kildee – Education and Labor)**: Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed Education and Labor Committee Chair Rep. George Miller, or his designee, and debate will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Debate and vote(s) on amendments to the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

- **H.R. 1867 - National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007(Rep. Baird – Science and Technology)**: Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Science and Technology Committee Chair Rep. Bart Gordon, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Debate and vote(s) on amendments to the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

Bill Summary and Key Issues

Summary of H.R. 1429, Improving Head Start Act of 2007

- Bipartisan legislation that authorizes an additional \$450 million dollars for 2008 to a maximum of \$7.3 billion, which would allow as many as 10,000 more children to receive Head Start;
- Improves Head Start's workforce quality by increasing funding for teacher and staff salaries and professional development, strengthening the training and technical assistance, and hiring additional qualified staff;
- Strengthens school readiness by re-evaluating and updating current standards and assessments based on the best science, suspending and terminating the badly flawed National Reporting System, and improving professional development related to supporting children's cognitive, social and emotional development;
- Boosts coordination by improving cooperation between Head Start and state and local child care programs to increase full-day and full-year services; improving linkages with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, state health, mental health, and family services; and assisting programs in aligning Head Start and state early learning standards;
- Allows programs to convert portions of their grant for use for Early Head Start, which serves children under three years old; and
- Increases accountability by devising a new system of application review that assesses program quality and leads to re-competition of low-quality centers; allowing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to more quickly strip bad programs of funding; and improving the triennial review process.

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 1429- Improving Head Start Act of 2007

Johnson, Eddie Bernice (TX): The amendment would instruct the Secretary of HHS to create partnerships between Head Start and the HBCUs. These partnerships would increase the number of associate, baccalaureate, and advanced degrees in early childhood education that are earned by Head Start staff and parents of Head Start students. (10 minutes)

Price, Tom (GA): The amendment allows eight states to coordinate Head Start with state-run early childhood development programs through a demonstration program. (10 minutes)

Sestak (PA): The amendment authorizes the Education Secretary to carry out a program to forgive student loans for Head Start and Early Head Start teachers who have earned a bachelor's degree in a field related to early childhood education and who commit to teach in the program for a minimum of 3 years. (10 minutes)

Hirono (HI): The amendment revises the training and technical assistance program for Early Head Start by ensuring that training and technical assistance are provided by entities with specific expertise in infant and toddler development. The amendment also directs 50 percent of training and technical assistance funds directly to the grantees for the purposes of program improvement. (10 minutes)

Mica (FL): The amendment amends Section 18 of the bill to require that the Secretary certify that at least 50 percent of all Head Start teachers nationwide meet certain degree requirements by September 30, 2011, two years earlier than required under the current legislation. (10 minutes)

Kennedy, Patrick (RI)/Hall, John (NY): The amendment would define “inclusive classrooms” as Head Start classrooms that include both children with disabilities and children without disabilities. It would make certain funds in the bill available to increase the understanding of the impact of Head Start services delivered in inclusive classrooms on both children with and without disabilities and to assist Head Start programs in improving the quality of inclusive classrooms. (10 minutes)

Putnam (FL): The amendment strikes the development and implementation of the application review system, including the expert panel provision. In addition, the amendment strikes designation when no entity has priority and instead designates competition – calling for the automatic recompetition for agency designation every five years, regardless of performance. (10 minutes)

Porter (NV): The amendment requires that Head Start grantees, before hiring individuals, obtain (1) a state, Federal, or tribal criminal record check in all jurisdictions where the grantee provides services, (2) a state, Federal, or tribal criminal record check as required by the jurisdictions where they provide services, or (3) a criminal record check as otherwise required by Federal law. (10 minutes)

Carnahan (MO): The amendment provides that, in the event that the amounts appropriated to carry out the program do not exceed the funds appropriated for the prior year, Head Start grantees may negotiate with the Secretary a reduced funded enrollment level if the grantee can demonstrate that such reduction is necessary to maintain the quality of services. (10 minutes)

Cuellar (TX): The amendment would require the states or agencies that administer the Head Start program to describe the type of assessment used to determine the rate of progress made by students with Limited English Proficiency. (10 minutes)

Shuler (NC)/Ellsworth (IN)/Loebsack (IA): The amendment outlines the history and importance of allowing faith-based and community-based organizations to participate in Head Start programs. It inserts language into the Head Start Reauthorization that explicitly states that faith-based and community-based organizations will continue to be eligible to participate in the Head Start program on the same basis as other organizations. (10 minutes)

Space (OH)/Hare (IL)/Welch (VT)/Altmire (PA): The amendment amends the criteria for the allocation of resources for technical assistance and training to include consideration of barriers in rural areas to professional development, parent involvement, home visits and health screening. The amendment also requires the Secretary to consider the needs of rural and urban areas when entering contracts with entities in each state for the purposes of technical and training assistance. (10 minutes)

H.R. 1867- the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007

- Reauthorizes the National Science Foundation (NSF) for three years and authorizes nearly \$21 billion for NSF for fiscal years 2008 – 2010 and keeps NSF on a 10-year doubling path;
- Authorizes appropriations for each of the major accounts: research and related activities, education and human resources, major research equipment and facilities construction, agency operations and award management, the National Science Board, and the Office of the Inspector General;
- Provides specific funding for critical science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education programs, including the Math and Science Partnerships program, the Noyce Scholarships program, and the STEM Talent Expansion program authorized under H.R. 362, as well as the Advanced Technological Education program, which supports STEM education and workforce training for 2-year college students;
- Provides specific funding for Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) and increases the cap for MRI awards to allow for support of a wider range of state-of-the-art research tools, while requiring cost-sharing by certain institutions;
- Requires an evaluation of NSF’s role in supporting interdisciplinary research;
- Establishes a pilot program of one-year seed grants for new investigators to help improve funding rates for young investigators and stimulate higher-risk research;
- Encourages university/industry partnerships and cost-sharing by industry;
- Requires NSF-funded institutions to train covered individuals in the ethical conduct of research;
- Encourages the Director to continue funding certain STEM education grants, related to broadening participation or teacher professional development, that can continue to demonstrate success beyond the original grant expiration date; and
- Requires a National Academy of Sciences report on barriers to and strategies for increasing the participation of underrepresented minorities in STEM fields.

[Link to Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 1867](#)

Quote of the Day

Then Governor Bush in referring to President Clinton’s handling of the conflict in Kosovo:

“I think it’s also important for the president to lay out a timetable as to how long they will be involved and when they will be withdrawn.” -George W. Bush, 1999