

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
10:30 a.m. For Morning Hour 12:00 p.m. For Legislative Business Unlimited "One-Minutes"	Last Vote: 7:00 p.m.

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

- **Suspension Bills:** Today, the House will consider several bills on the Suspension calendar. Bills considered on the Suspension calendar are debatable for 40 minutes; may not be amended; and require a two-thirds vote for passage. If a recorded vote is requested, it will be postponed.
 1. H.R. 1675 - Preservation Approval Process Improvement Act of 2007 (Rep. Bean – Financial Services)
 2. H.R. 1676 - Native American Home Ownership Opportunity Act of 2007 (Rep. Boren – Financial Services)
 3. H.Res. 299 – Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should increase public awareness of child abuse and neglect and should continue to work with the States to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect through such programs as the Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs (Rep. McDermott – Ways and Means)
 4. H.R. 518 - International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2007 (Rep. Dingell – Energy and Commerce)
- **H. Res. 327-Rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 362 – 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act (Welch-Rules):** The structured rule provides for one hour of general debate, with one hour 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 [printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution](#). Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will

be managed by Rep. Welch 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.R. 362 - 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act (Rep. Gordon – Science and Technology):** Pursuant to the rule, debate 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.**
- **H. Res. 318- Rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 363 – Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act (Cardoza-Rules):** The structured rule provides for one hour of general debate, with one hour 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 printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution](#). Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Cardoza 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.R. 363 - Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act (Rep. Gordon – Science and Technology):** Pursuant to the rule, debate 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.**

- **Postponed Suspension Votes:** At some point today, the House will take recorded votes on the following suspension bills, which were debated on Monday:
 1. H.Res. 289 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to raising awareness and encouraging prevention of sexual assault in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (Rep. Moran (VA) – Judiciary)
 2. H.Res. 119 - Supporting the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week in order to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States during such week and throughout the year (Rep. Costa – Judiciary)

Bill Summary and Key Issues

10,000 Teachers –Science and Math Scholarship Act (H.R. 362)

The measure takes critical steps to place highly qualified teachers in math, science, and technology K-12 classrooms, based on the recommendations of the National Academies.

- It will invest in 10,000 new science and math teachers, totaling some 25,000 over five years, by increasing the number of scholarships for students majoring in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields and who are committed to pursuing teaching.
- It will also strengthen the skills of math, science and technology of up to 250,000 teachers by improving education and training opportunities for math and science teachers and expanding professional development, summer training institutes, and graduate education assistance.
- According to the National Academies, the #1 thing we can do for our future economic health is invest in our science and math teachers. A number of highly publicized studies have shown that the mathematics and science achievement of American students is poor by international standards. In 2005, 39 percent of 12th graders lacked even basic high school math skills. [National Assessment of Educational Progress]
- This measure has been endorsed by a broad range of businesses and universities as well as industry and education groups, including the Business Roundtable, Association of American Universities, Council on Competitiveness, the College Board, Semiconductor Industry Association and the Business Software Alliance.

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 362

Gordon (TN): Manager's Amendment. The amendment establishes an additional type of award under NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship program to recruit and train science, math and engineering professionals who are interested in becoming science or math teachers. The awards are for institutions of higher education that enter into partnerships with private sector entities and state or local government educational organizations.

The awards support the development of specialized pedagogy courses for training students to teach science or math and provide for stipends of up to \$10,000 per year for participants in the program. In exchange for the stipend, the participants are obligated to teach in a secondary school for four years. As a condition for receiving the NSF grant, the partnership must provide salary supplements, from non-Federal sources, to the graduates of the program during the period of their teaching commitment. (10 minutes)

Gordon (TN): The amendment requires NSF, in making awards under the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship program, to ensure that the recipients are from a variety of types of academic institutions, including Minority Serving Institutions, and requires NSF to establish and maintain a clearinghouse of information on teaching opportunities in high-need school systems for use by individuals who participate in the Noyce program and consequently have an obligation to teach for a prescribed period of time. (10 minutes)

Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act (H.R. 363)

This measure would increase support for long-term scientific research and encourage young scientists and researchers to pursue high-risk/high-reward research.

- It provides grants for outstanding researchers in the early stages of their careers from the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy.
- It also establishes a Presidential Innovation Award to stimulate scientific and engineering advances, and a national coordination office to identify and prioritize research infrastructure needs at universities and national laboratories.
- Researchers at early stages in their careers are more likely to shift paradigms, break with tradition, or bring new ideas in high-risk/high-reward research that is likely to be transformative or highly innovative.

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 363

Hall (TX): This amendment requires the Director of the National Science Foundation to allocate at least 3.5% of funds appropriated to the National Science Foundation for Research and Related Activities to the early career awards for science and engineering researchers. (20 minutes)

Tauscher (CA): Under the NSF awards guidelines, the amendment recommends that the Director “shall give special consideration to eligible early-career researchers who have followed alternative career paths such as working part-time or in non-academic settings, or who have taken a significant career break or other leave of absence.” The amendment would also add to the Presidential Award section that an additional purpose of the award is that it helps foster innovation that enhances American competitiveness. (10 minutes)

Gillibrand (NY): The National Science Foundation shall institute a program to award scholarships in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics to undergraduate scholars. Scholarships awarded shall provide for a student’s full tuition during their last two years at an undergraduate institution. (10 minutes)

Quote of the Day

“Science is the tool of the mind and with it more doors can be opened than with bare hands.” -Carl Jung

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