

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
9:00 a.m. For Morning Hour 10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business	Last Vote: ??
Unlimited "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. 877-Rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 6 - to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, to increase the production of clean renewable fuels, to protect consumers, to increase the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles, to promote research on and deploy greenhouse gas capture and storage options, and to improve the energy performance of the Federal Government, and for other purposes. (Rep. Welch-Rules):** The rule provides for the consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 6. The rule makes in order a motion by the Majority Leader that the House concur in the Senate amendment. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate in the House on the motion equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader. The rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the motion to a time designated by the Speaker. The rule provides that the House shall not conduct organizational or legislative business on the first legislative day of the second session of the 110th Congress. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Welch, and consideration will proceed as follows:

 - o One hour of debate on the rule.
 - o Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the previous question.**
 - o Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**

- **Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 6 - to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, to increase the production of clean renewable fuels, to protect consumers, to increase the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles, to promote research on and deploy greenhouse gas capture and storage options, and to improve the energy performance of the Federal Government, and for other purposes:** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the measure will be managed by the Majority Leader, and will proceed as follows:
 - One hour of debate.
 - Vote on adoption of the amendment. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the amendment.**

- **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) **S. 2271** – The Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007 (*Sen. Dodd – Financial Services*)
 - 2) **H.R. 2761** – The Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 (*Rep. Capuano – Financial Services*)
 - 3) **H.R. 3648** – The Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 (*Rep. Rangel – Ways and Means*)
 - 4) **H.R. 3997** - The Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2007 (HEART) – (*Rep. Rangel – Ways and Means*)
 - 5) **S. 2488** – The Openness Promotes Effectiveness in our National Government Act of 2007 (OPEN ACT) – (*Sen. Leahy - Oversight and Government Reform*)
 - 6) **H.R. 660** – The Court Security Improvement Act of 2007 (*Rep. Conyers – Judiciary*)
 - 7) **S. 863** - Emergency and Disaster Assistance Fraud Penalty Enhancement Act of 2007 (*Sen. Sessions – Judiciary*)
 - 8) **H.R.3690** - U.S. Capitol Police and Library of Congress Police Merger Implementation Act of 2007 (*Rep. Brady – House Administration*)

- **Postponed Suspension Votes (2):** At some point today, the House will vote on the following bills, which were debated on Monday:
 - 1) **H.Res. 542** - Expressing the unconditional support of the House of Representatives for the members of the National Guard (*Rep. Brown-Waite – Armed Services*)
 - 2) **H.R. 3793** - Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act of 2007 (*Rep. Altmire – Armed Services*)

Bill Summary and Key Issues

Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 6 - to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, to increase the production of clean renewable fuels, to protect consumers, to increase the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles, to promote research on and deploy greenhouse gas capture and storage options, and to improve the energy performance of the Federal Government, and for other purposes

The New Direction Congress has finalized the **Energy Independence and Security Act**, an historic bill to make America more energy independent, respond to the global warming crisis, and grow our economy. Record high prices for oil—with prices at the pump more than double the price in 2001, and heating oil costs triple that of 2001—add urgency. The legislation:

- **Strengthens national security, by lessening our dependence on foreign oil**
- **Reduces global warming**
- **Lowers energy costs for consumers**
- **Creates hundreds of thousands of new jobs and strengthens our economy**

Strengthens National Security

- Increases vehicle fuel efficiency to 35 miles per gallon in 2020—the first congressional increase in 32 years.
- Slashes U.S. oil consumption by more than 4 million barrels per day by 2030—more than twice our daily imports from the Persian Gulf.
- Expands American-grown biofuels to 36 billion gallons in 2022.

Reduces Global Warming

- Cuts greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 by 24 percent of what is needed to save the planet.
- Increased vehicle fuel efficiency has the equivalent effect of taking 28 million vehicles off the road.
- Increases the efficiency of buildings, homes, appliances, and lighting, reducing emissions 75 percent as much as increasing vehicle efficiency.
- Makes an historic commitment to American homegrown renewable energy that reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Lowers Energy Costs

- Increased vehicle fuel efficiency will save American families \$700 to \$1,000 a year at the pump.
- New fuel efficiency standards will produce \$22 billion in net annual savings for consumers in 2020.
- Building, appliance, and lighting efficiency will save consumers \$400 billion through 2030.

Creates Jobs

- Massive development of biofuels and cutting-edge energy research will create hundreds of thousands of new jobs.

- Job training will prepare workers for 3 million new 'green' jobs over 10 years
- Small businesses will be renewable energy leaders.

The Energy Independence and Security Act has won expansive bipartisan support from a broad coalition of state and local elected officials, environmental, labor, faith and business communities.

"...a historic opportunity to ease America's dependence on foreign oil," says the New York Times; "...groundbreaking deal," says the AP; "...history-making energy bill," says the L.A. Times.

Quote of the Day

"Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose" -Lyndon B. Johnson

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