

THE DAILY WHIP

Thursday, May 22, 2003 | Floor News from Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer

HOUSE MEETS AT...	LAST VOTE PREDICTED...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business	Very Late ???
Number of "One-Minutes" Today: 10 per side	

***** THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE HOUSE WILL BE IN SESSION ON FRIDAY AND THAT MEMBERS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO STAY LATE INTO THE EVENING, IF NECESSARY, IN ORDER TO COMPLETE ACTION ON A VARIETY OF PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.**

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE

The House will convene at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business.

Motion to go to Conference on H.R. 2 – Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003

2nd Rule for Consideration of H.R. 1588 - National Defense Authorization for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Hunter - Armed Services*)

H.R. 1588 - National Defense Authorization for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Hunter - Armed Services*) (Subject to a Rule).

H.R. 2185 – Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 2003 (Dunn) (Subject to a Rule)

Martial Law Rule for same-day consideration of H.R. 2 - Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003

Regular Rule for consideration of H.R. 2 - Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003

H.R. 2 – Tax Reconciliation Conference Report (*Thomas – Ways and Means*)

Rolled Suspension Votes from Tuesday (2 bills)

- 1) H.R. 1683** - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2003 (*C. Smith - Veterans Affairs*).
- 2) H.R. 1257** - Selected Reserve Home Loan Equity Act (*Evans - Veterans Affairs*)

BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

Motion to go to Conference on H.R. 2 – Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003.

The House will consider a motion to go to conference on H.R. 2. Mr. Rangel, Ranking Member of the Ways and Means Committee, will offer a Motion to Instruct Conferees to include the provisions on State Aid as provided for by the Senate and, within the scope of conference, to not increase the deficit or include language raising the debt limit.

Democrats are strongly urged to VOTE YES on the Rangel Motion to Instruct.

Steny Hoyer

Office of the Democratic Whip

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2nd Rule for Consideration of H.R 1588 - National Defense Authorization for Fiscal Year 2004 (Hunter - Armed Services). The second rule reported by the Rules Committee for the consideration of this bill is a structured rule that makes in order thirty amendments debatable for ten minutes each (unless otherwise specified); authorizes the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee to offer amendments en block consisting of amendments printed in the report; and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. **The Rule did not make in order critical Democratic amendments including the Spratt amendment regarding Cooperative Threat Reduction, the Cooper/Davis/Van Hollen amendment regarding rights of civilian employees of the Defense Department, and the Rahall/Dingell amendment regarding environmental protections.**

Therefore, Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on the Previous Question and VOTE NO on the unfair Republican Rule.

The thirty amendments made in order by the rule are: Kline Amendment; Brown (SC) Amendment; Ackerman Amendment; Davis, Tom Amendment; Hefley/Gallegly Amendment; Dreier/Lofgren Amendment (20 Minutes); Lantos Amendment; Jackson-Lee Amendment; Hastings (FL) Amendment; Woolsey/Leach/Platts Amendment; Weldon (PA) Amendment; Rogers, Mike (MI) Amendment; Upton Amendment; Vitter Amendment; Hunter Amendment; Simmons Amendment; Tierney Amendment; Nadler Amendment; Porter Amendment; LoBiondo Amendment; Kaptur Amendment; Kaptur Amendment; Turner (OH)/Ryan (OH) Amendment; Kingston Amendment; Hobson Amendment; Hoeffel Amendment; Hostettler Amendment; Farr Amendment; Dicks Amendment; Crenshaw Amendment.

H.R. 2185 – Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 2003 (Dunn) (Subject to a Rule). This bill will extend Federal unemployment benefits for an additional 13 weeks, plus another 13 weeks in certain high unemployment states. Currently only 6 states are eligible for the additional weeks (AK, CT, MA, OR, PA, and WA). Unfortunately, this bill does nothing for those whose benefits have been exhausted. **The Rules Committee reported a closed rule for the consideration of this bill denying Democrats the opportunity to offer critical amendments including the Rangel/Cardin Democratic substitute. This substitute, identical to the text of H.R. 1652, would extend Federal unemployment benefits by 26 weeks and would also give an additional 13 weeks to those unemployed workers who benefits have been exhausted.**

DAILY QUOTE...

"[The GOP tax] plan is stacked to ensure that the wealthy get as much as possible - even more, proportionately, than under Bush's original demand for \$726 billion in tax cuts. So the question remains: Why do the prosperous get to bask, while the middle-income and poor families are frozen out by sunsets?"

- *The Los Angeles Times* today

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