



The Daily Whip

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2005

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Unlimited "One Minutes"	9:00 – 10:00 p.m.

***** DEMOCRATS ARE URGED TO SIGN THE HOOLEY DISCHARGE PETITION (AVAILABLE TODAY) TO GIVE THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH THE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES FOR MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.**

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

H.R. 1817 – Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Rep. Cox – Homeland Security) (Subject to a Rule). This is the first authorization bill for the Homeland Security Department and authorizes \$34.2 billion in FY06. This measure authorizes: \$6.9 billion for Customs and Border Protection including \$1.8 billion for border security and control at points of entry (which would cover the costs of hiring an additional 2000 border patrol agents when the funds provided by the supplemental appropriations passed last week are taken into account) and \$159.5 million for the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Legal Program; \$827 million for an "Office of Screening Coordination and Operations;" \$100 million for technology to help detect weapons of mass destruction; \$197 million for a new Domestic Nuclear Detection Office; and \$134 million for a Container Security Initiative. This bill also sets requirements for the collection and dissemination of information; directs DHS to develop a single background check process for credential programs; and requires the Department to re-open Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport to general aviation within 60 days of enactment. This bill was reported out of the Homeland Security Committee on a voice vote on May 3rd; the Energy and Commerce Committee reported an amended version by voice vote on May 3rd; and the Judiciary Committee reported an amended version by voice vote on May 13th.

The Rules Committee has recommended a restrictive rule that provides one hour of general debate, waives all points of order against the bill and the amendments made in order, and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The Rule makes in order twenty four amendments with all but three debatable for 10 minutes:

- **Meek Amendment.** To increase funding for DHS's Office of Inspector General to \$200 million.
- **Cox/Sensenbrenner Amendment (20 minutes).** To authorize \$40,000,000 for FY06 to reimburse States and localities for the costs of training State and local law enforcement by DHS's Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enforce Federal immigration laws.
- **Kennedy (RI) Amendment.** To ensure that in replacing the color-coded terror alert system as required by the bill, that DHS draws on expertise in how to best communicate risk to the public, including expertise from a relevant Center for Excellence funded by the Department.
- **Barton/Dingell Amendment.** To require DHS to coordinate its activities regarding protection of critical infrastructure with "other relevant Federal agencies".
- **Johnson, Eddie Bernice Amendment.** To authorize not more than \$5 million in grants for the National Medical Preparedness Consortium to standardize training, national health care policies, and standards of care for emergency medical professionals to prepare for mass casualties resulting from a terrorist event involving WMD.
- **Ehlers Amendment.** To change the "30 minute rule" that requires passengers on commercial flights into and out of Washington Reagan National Airport (DCA) to remain seated for 30 minutes by reducing that time to 15 minutes.
- **DeFazio/Mica Amendment.** To make improvements to the Federal Flight Deck Officers (FFDO) Program including increasing access to initial and recurrent training for FFDO's by establishing qualification standards and exploring the possibility of alternate sites for training.
- **Cardin Amendment #41.** To add the Information Assurance Directorate of the National Security Agency to the list of Federal agencies that the DHS Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall coordinate with on cybersecurity research and development activities.
- **Slaughter Amendment #54.** To improve pre-clearance border crossing programs, including NEXUS, FAST, and SENTRI.
- **Souder Amendment #3.** To make the Customs and Border Protection's Office of Air and Marine Operations the lead DHS agency to conduct airspace security around the Nation's Capitol and for special events of national significance.
- **Wamp Amendment.** To permit Department of Energy laboratories to team up with a university or consortium of universities when competing for DHS's Centers for Excellence.
- **Menendez Amendment.** To require the Secretary of DHS to report to Congress on how to coordinate and protect the various infrastructure in the area between Port Elizabeth and Newark International Airport, New Jersey.
- **Hooley Amendment.** To prohibit any of the money in the DHS authorization bill to come from an increase in airline ticket taxes.



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- **Cardin Amendment #39.** To require DHS to conduct a study of the feasibility and desirability of expanding the "National Capitol Region" area beyond its existing boundaries, which were set in 1952.
- **Slaughter Amendment #55.** To require the Secretary of DHS to report to Congress on several of its efforts to (1) reduce the imitation of badges, identification, uniforms, or other insignia used by any officer of DHS; (2) improve the design of the various forms of DHS identification to prevent illegal replication; and (3) increase public awareness of imitation forms of Homeland Security identification.
- **Kennedy (MN) Amendment.** To require the Secretary to carry out an Advanced Technology Northern Border Security Pilot Program authorized in the National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004. And to require the Secretary to carry out a study on border surveillance of the northern border of the United States by remotely piloted vehicles.
- **Jackson-Lee/Conyers Amendment.** To instruct the GAO to conduct a study examining the impact of an increase in Temporary Protected Status (TPS) application fees on the nationals of countries for which TPS is available and the differential in cost between the current statutory fee and the cost-based fee proposed by Customs and Immigration Services.
- **Norwood Amendment (20 minutes).** To clarify the existing authority of State and local enforcement personnel to apprehend, detain, remove, and transport illegal aliens in the routine course of duty. And to require DHS to establish a training manual on this matter and set forth simple guidelines for making that training available.
- **Baca Amendment.** To require the Secretary of DHS to fulfill the agency's reporting obligations under Section 461 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, which requires the agency to report to Congress in 1 year, in consultation with a Technology Advisory Committee, on the feasibility of establishing an on-line filing and processing system for immigration applications.
- **Jackson-Lee Amendment.** To call for the DHS Secretary to submit a report to Congress on: the number and types of border violence activities that have occurred; the types of activities involved; a description of the categories of victims that exists; and a description of the steps that DHS is taking and any plan that the Department had formulated to prevent these activities.
- **Manzullo Amendment.** To strengthen the "Buy American Act" and restore the original intent that more than 50% of the components in end products purchased by DHS shall be mined, produced, or manufactured inside the United States.
- **Putnam Amendment.** To allow FEMA reimbursements for funeral expenses only if the death was determined by a medical examiner to be caused by a natural disaster.
- **Souder Amendment #16.** To extend the current authorization of appropriations for the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement at DHS to fiscal year 2006.
- **Thompson (MS) Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (40 minutes).** This substitute seeks to fill many of the security gaps unaddressed in H.R. 1817. It provides for \$6.9 billion more in funding than the base bill (or the President's budget), including the funding needed to fulfill the homeland security commitments in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 and to meet other priorities. Highlights include: \$380 million to hire 2,000 new border agents; \$500 million to ensure all first responders can communicate; \$1 billion to provide grants for port, rail, transit and bus security; \$100 million to hire over 1,000 new fire fighters nationwide; \$150 million to restore funding for FIRE Act grants; and \$418 million for aviation security research. The policy provisions require a comprehensive border strategy and technology that monitors the entire border 24/7; new authority to ensure chemical plants are secured; a three-year plan to ensure all air cargo on passenger planes is screened; maritime cargo container security standards; new security measures for rail and public transit; deadlines for establishing security plans for all critical infrastructure; improvements in biometrics and other screening technology; a new DHS council to monitor domestic terrorism; creation of an Assistant Secretary of Cybersecurity; and changes to DHS to ensure its operations are diverse and manageable.

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Thursday, the House will meet at 9:00 a.m. and recess immediately -- for Former Members Day -- and will reconvene for legislative business after the meeting is concluded at approximately 10:30 a.m. The House is expected to consider: **H.R. 2361 – Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY06** (*Rep. Taylor {NC} – Appropriations*) (*Subject to a Rule*).

Daily Quote...

"The only thing the United States is able to do a little after 2040 is pay interest on massive and growing federal debt. . . . The model blows up in the mid-2040s. What does that mean? Argentina."

- U.S. Comptroller General David Walker, concerning the consequences of the nation's record budget deficits and debt, in *The Washington Post* this morning.