



The Daily Whip

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2003

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Ten "One Minutes" Per Side	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

FLOOR SCHEDULE**Suspensions (4 bills):**

- 1) **H.R. 659** - To amend section 242 of the National Housing Act regarding the requirements for mortgage insurance under such Act for hospitals (*Ney - Financial Services*)
- 2) **H.R. 292** - To amend title 4, United States Code, to add National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed (*Kelly - Judiciary*)
- 3) **H.R. 2152** - To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend for an additional 5 years the special immigrant religious worker program (*Frank - Judiciary*)
- 4) **H.R. 49** - To permanently extend the moratorium enacted by the Internet Tax Freedom Act (*Cox - Judiciary*)

H.R. 7 - Charitable Giving Act of 2003 (*Blunt - Education & the Workforce / Ways & Means*) (*Subject to a Rule*)

Ryan (OH) Motion to Instruct Conferees on the Child Tax Credit. The motion instructs conferees to insist on the Senate-passed Child Tax Credit measure and is identical to the one that passed in the House on June 12th, 205-201. It also instructs Conferees to report out a conference report no later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion.

Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.

Rodriguez Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1588 - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004. The motion instructs conferees to accept the Senate provisions to expedite the naturalization process for members serving in the U.S. military and the Selected Reserves; and protect spouses, children, and parents of soldiers killed in action by preserving their ability to file for permanent residence in the U.S. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

Stenholm Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1 - Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act of 2003. The motion instructs conferees to: 1) accept the Senate-passed provisions requiring a federal "fallback" prescription drug benefit; 2) agree to the best provisions (in the Senate or House bill) improving Medicare payments to health care providers in rural areas; and (3) reject the cut in payments to hospitals in the House bill which will adversely affect hospitals in rural areas. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

H.R. 7 - Charitable Giving Act of 2003 (*Blunt - Education & the Workforce / Ways & Means*) (*Subject to a Rule*). This bill adds or expands several incentives for individuals to make contributions to charity, totaling nearly \$13 billion over 10 years, including: deductions of charitable contributions through 2005 for taxpayers who do not itemize for a maximum of \$250 (\$500 joint) deduction on top of standard deduction for contributions made over the first \$250 (\$500); tax-free distributions from IRAs for qualified charitable purposes (persons over 70 and ½ years old); increase the cap on corporate charitable contributions from 10

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percent to 20 percent (stepped up over the course of 10 years); and expanded access to existing deductions for charitable contributions of food inventory, technical/scientific equipment, and land for conservation.

The Rules Committee has recommended a modified closed rule that provides one hour of general debate; waives all points of order against consideration of the bill; and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The Rule also makes in order one amendment in the nature of a substitute debatable for one hour to be offered by Mr. Cardin or his designee.

- The **Cardin Substitute** includes the provisions of the underlying bill, with two additions: 1) a provision to restore the Social Services Block Grant funding level to \$2.8 billion from \$1.7 billion (these funds support state, local government and community-based organization programs intended for the same populations as the foundations benefiting from the tax provisions operate); and 2) the entire cost is offset with a set of corporate loophole closures similar to those included in other House Democratic Substitutes (such as the stimulus package) and that have bipartisan support in the Senate. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

Daily Quote...

"After a dozen town meetings, a road trip by three Cabinet officers, months of study and countless meetings of assistant secretaries, the Bush administration has finally brought forth its program to rescue the American manufacturing sector. And it's a bad joke, a melange of tired ideas, empty promises and ideological slogans, and an embarrassment for the White House economic team."

- From "A Feeble Plan To Save U.S. Manufacturing" by Steven Pearlstein, today's *The Washington Post*