



Legislative Bulletin.....June 12, 2006

Contents:

- H.R. 4013** — To amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to provide for conjunctive use of surface and groundwater in Juab County, Utah
- H.R. 4162** — Los Padres National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2005
- H.R. 3967** — Pactola Reservoir Reallocation Authorization Act of 2005
- H. Con. Res. 368** — Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to honoring the goals and ideals of Alex’s Lemonade Stand Days, June 9 through 11, 2006
- H. Con. Res. 338** — Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere
- H. Res. 794** — Recognizing the 17th anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes
- H. Res. 804** — Condemning the unauthorized, inappropriate, and coerced ordination of Catholic bishops by the People’s Republic of China
- H. Con. Res. 408** — Commending the Government of Canada for its renewed commitment to the Global War on Terror
- H.Res. 608** — Condemning the escalating levels of religious persecution in the People’s Republic of China
- H.Res. 792** — Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the independence of Guyana and extending best wishes to Guyana for peace and further progress, development, and prosperity
- H.R. 5169** — Wilfred Edward ‘Cousin Willie’ Sieg, Sr. Post Office Designation Act
- S. 1445** — William H. Emery Post Office Designation Act

Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$0

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: \$0

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 3

Number of Reported Bills that Don’t Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 3

H.R. 4013 — To amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to provide for conjunctive use of surface and groundwater in Juab County, Utah — *as reported* (Cannon, R-UT)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4013 adds Juab County, Utah to the current list of Utah counties eligible to receive federal funding in a current \$10 million study and development project by the Utah Division of Water Resources of systems to allow ground water recharge, management, and the conjunctive use of surface water resources with ground water resources. The current list of counties includes: Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, Wasatch, and Weber.

Additional Information: According to CBO, conjunctive use projects are a type of water distribution system that stores water runoff from the surface in groundwater aquifers. Under the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992, the counties listed above are eligible to receive federal funding for conjunctive use projects.

According to Committee Report 109-443, the “federal Central Utah Project has enabled the State of Utah to beneficially use a substantial portion of its allotted share of Colorado River water under the Colorado River Compact. During initial Project feasibility studies, planners had envisioned developing water supplies in the northern mountainous region and delivering them through a series of reservoirs, tunnels and pipelines to the southern basin areas, including Juab County. That plan never materialized because it was initially determined that the water would stay north to meet the growing population demands of the northern counties rather than agricultural needs in the southern counties. Although Juab County continues to pay into the Project, it is not receiving benefits. As local water demands grow, Juab County is seeking to more effectively use its existing water supplies through conjunctive use of surface and groundwater sources.”

Committee Action: H.R. 4013 was introduced on October 7, 2005 and was referred to the Committee on Resources, which considered it, held a mark-up, and reported the bill by unanimous consent on April 27, 2006.

Cost to Taxpayers: Although the original Act in 1992 authorized \$10 million for these projects, according to CBO, currently Congress has appropriated only \$2.5 million for a project in Salt Lake County. CBO estimates that the federal share of a project in Juab county would be \$5 million, subject to appropriations.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Committee Report 109-443 finds Constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, but fails to cite a specific clause. House Rule XIII, Section

3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution.”
[emphasis added]

RSC Staff Contact: Joelle Cannon; joelle.cannon@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718.

H.R. 4162 — Los Padres National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2005 — as introduced (Gallegly, R-CA)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 4162 authorizes the United Water Conservation District of California to convey approximately 340 acres of land to the Secretary of Agriculture (to be called the Los Padres National Forest). In exchange, the Department of Agriculture is authorized to convey to the District (in California) 440 acres of certain National Forest System lands. In addition, the bill requires the Water Conservation District to agree to construct a gravel parking area to provide access to the Potholes trail of the Los Padres National Forest. H.R. 4162 exempts water rights owned by the District and the U.S. from the exchange, and provides that the costs of conducting the land exchange are to be shared equally by both parties. Finally, the bill allows the values of the lands to be equalized through a cash payment.

Committee Action: H.R. 4162 was introduced on October 27, 2005 and was referred to the Committee on Resources, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: There is no CBO estimate available for H.R. 4162.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: There is no Committee Report available for H.R. 4162.

RSC Staff Contact: Joelle Cannon; joelle.cannon@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718.

H.R. 3967 — Pactola Reservoir Reallocation Authorization Act of 2005 — as reported (Herseth, D-SD)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3967 lists the following findings:

- “it is appropriate to reallocate the costs of the Pactola Dam and Reservoir, South Dakota, to reflect increased demands for municipal, industrial, and fish and wildlife purposes; and
- “section 302 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7152) prohibits such a reallocation of costs without congressional approval.”

H.R. 3967 permits the Secretary of the Interior, as provided in the contract of August 2001 entered into between Rapid City, South Dakota, and the Rapid Valley Conservancy District, to reallocate, in a manner consistent with Federal reclamation law, the construction costs of Pactola Dam and Reservoir, Rapid Valley Unit, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, South Dakota, from irrigation purposes to municipal, industrial, and fish and wildlife purposes. According to CBO, “this change would allow the bureau [of Reclamation] to provide water to Rapid City, South Dakota, under a new contract that would replace expired contracts for supplemental irrigation and municipal and industrial water.”

Additional Information: According to Committee Report 109-431, the “Pactola Dam, located near Rapid City, South Dakota, stores water from Rapid Creek and is part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program. ... The effort to reallocate Pactola Dam costs stems from population growth around Rapid City, with corresponding increases in demand for M&I [municipal and industrial] water and decreases in demand for irrigation water. Pactola Dam originally provided water storage for flood control, irrigation, and M&I uses. A 40-year water service contract between the Bureau of Reclamation and Rapid City for M&I water expired in 1991. Water for Rapid City has been subsequently provided under annual contracts. A second, 40-year contract between Reclamation and the Rapid Valley Conservancy District for irrigation water expired in 2001. The District decided not to renew this contract due to decreased irrigation demand and sufficient alternative water sources. Since the District no longer needs Pactola water, repayment of construction costs originally allocated to irrigation can be re-allocated to M&I (for use in Rapid City) and fish and wildlife purposes.”

Committee Action: H.R. 3967 was introduced on October 3, 2005 and was referred to the Committee on Resources, which considered it, held a mark-up, and reported the bill by unanimous consent on April 25, 2006.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to CBO enacting this legislation will have little effect on the Federal Budget. However, the bill allows the Bureau of Reclamation and Rapid City for M&I to enter into a new water service contract. According to CBO, “this would result in a small increase in receipts to the federal government, above amounts that would be received under existing interim contracts. Based on information from the bureau, CBO estimates that increase in contract payments would be about \$100,000 annually. [These] payments are recorded in the budget as offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending).”

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Committee Report 109-431 finds Constitutional authority in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, but fails to cite a specific clause. House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution.” *[emphasis added]*

RSC Staff Contact: Joelle Cannon; joelle.cannon@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718.

H. Con. Res. 368 — Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to honoring the goals and ideals of Alex's Lemonade Stand Days, June 9 through 11, 2006 — as introduced (Gerlach, R-PA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

The 104th Congress changed House rules to prohibit a bill from being considered on the House floor if “it establishes or expresses a commemoration”, which is defined as “a remembrance, celebration, or recognition for any purpose through the designation of a specified period of time” (<http://clerk.house.gov/legisAct/legisProc/rules/rule12.html>)

This resolution resolves that Congress supports the ideals and goals of the day. Because the resolution merely states support for, but does not establish a commemorative day, the parliamentarian’s office has ruled that it is allowable under House rules.

Summary: H. Con. Res. 368 resolves that Congress:

- “honors the goals and ideals of Lemonade Stand Days;
- “honors Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation as a unique organization that has evolved from a young cancer patient’s front yard lemonade stand to a nationwide fundraising movement for childhood cancer;
- “commends the Foundation’s fundraising efforts for childhood cancer causes and research into new cures and treatments for childhood cancer;
- “honors the Foundation’s work in encouraging and educating the public on childhood cancer issues and helping individuals start their own lemonade stands; and
- “commends the Foundation’s help in expediting the process of finding new cures for childhood cancer.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “Alex’s Lemonade Stand grew out of the front yard lemonade stand started by Alexandra ‘Alex’ Scott, a pediatric cancer patient;
- “in 2000, at the age of four, Alex opened her first annual lemonade stand in hopes of raising money for childhood cancer causes, specifically research for a cure;
- “after Alex’s untimely death at the age of eight in August of 2004, her parents established the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation in her memory and has raised almost \$5,000,000 to date;

- “Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation has donated millions of dollars to pediatric cancer care centers across the country and the Foundation works intensively with research and treatment facilities nationwide to identify specific ways in which the Foundation can make a difference for children who need new advances in cancer treatments;
- “adults and children alike have been inspired by Alex’s innovative idea and, since 2000, 1,000 Alex’s Lemonade Stands have been organized by a diverse group of devoted volunteers in front yards, schools, law firms, supermarkets, malls, and churches; and
- “the Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation has designated the second weekend in June as the Lemonade Stand Days, the goal of which is to create awareness and raise funds for childhood cancer research.”

Committee Action: H. Con. Res. 368 was introduced on March 29, 2006, and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Marcus Kelley; marcus.kelley@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717

H. Con. Res. 338 — Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere — *as reported* (Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Con Res. 338 resolves that Congress:

- “recognizes the potential threat that sympathizers and financiers of Islamist terrorist organizations that operate in the Western Hemisphere pose to the United States, our allies and interests;
- “acknowledges the commitment and cooperation of some governments of countries of the Western Hemisphere to deny the use of their territory to Islamist terrorist organizations and calls on all governments to intensify their efforts; and
- “encourages the President to direct the United States Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS) to--
 - (A) seek support from OAS member countries for the creation of a special task force of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE) to assist governments in the region in investigating and combating the proliferation of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere and to coordinate regional efforts to prevent the spread of this threat; and

(B) urge OAS member countries to designate Hezbollah, Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, al-Qaeda and its constituent entities, and other such groups as terrorist organizations if they have not already done so.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “the Department of State has concluded in its most recent Country Reports on Terrorism, which was released in April 2005, that although the threat of international terrorism in the Western Hemisphere remains relatively low as compared to other world regions, international terrorists may seek safe-haven, financing, recruiting, illegal travel documentation, or access to the United States from Latin American and Caribbean countries and thus pose serious threats;
- “in recent years, the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere have focused on financing their criminal and terrorist activities outside of the region rather than carrying out or directly supporting terrorist attacks in the Western Hemisphere;
- “as the 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Argentina and the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Argentina clearly showed, international terrorist organizations, such as Hezbollah, are ready, willing, and able to carry out attacks in the Western Hemisphere;
- “Ashref Ahmed Abdallah, an Egyptian national who is one of the most significant human smuggling targets, was arrested by United States authorities at Miami International Airport in July 2004 for using Central America and Brazil as a staging ground for smuggling illegal aliens from countries of the Middle East, including special interest countries that are linked to international terrorism, into the United States;
- “section 7102 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 22 U.S.C. 2656f note) amends United States law to identify and address emerging and current terrorist sanctuaries and secure international cooperation to combat this threat; and
- “many countries of the Western Hemisphere have cooperated with the United States and regional organizations to counter the threat of regional and international terrorism, including by participating in joint counterterrorism training and simulations, Counterterrorism Action Group (CTAG) meetings which are hosted by United States embassies, and the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States (OAS).”

Committee Action: H. Con. Res. 338 was introduced on February 8, 2006, and referred to the Committee on International Relations. The bill was marked-up on May 25, 2006. No changes to the text were made.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

H. Res. 794 — Recognizing the 17th anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes — *as reported* (Smith, R-NJ)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 794 resolves that Congress:

- “expresses sympathy to the families of those killed, tortured, and imprisoned as a result of their participation in the democracy protests of June 3–4, 1989, in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People’s Republic of China, and to all those persons who have suffered for their efforts to keep that struggle alive during the past 17 years, and to all the people of China who lack fundamental human rights;
- “calls upon those nations planning to participate in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing to insist that China comply with the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights; and
- “condemns the ongoing and egregious human rights abuses by the Communist Government of China; and
- “calls on that Government to—
 - “release all prisoners of conscience, including those persons still in prison as a result of their participation in the peaceful pro-democracy protests of 1989
 - “end its censorship of legitimate free speech on the Internet, and its persecution of Internet dissidents;
 - “end its persecution of Falun Gong;
 - “end organ harvesting and ensure that its organ donor programs proceed only on a purely voluntary and non-commercial basis;
 - “end its coercive one-child policy;
 - “grant the United Nations High Commission on Refugees access to all refugees, and end forcible repatriations of refugees, particularly to North Korea;
 - “close its ‘re-education through labor’ camps, respect the rights of workers, and end police detention without trial;
 - “release United States permanent resident Dr. Yang Jianli, a participant in the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989, who has been illegally detained by the Communist Government of China since April 26, 2002, and whose wife and two children are United States citizens; and
 - “release United States permanent resident Dr. Wang Bingzhang, long-time peaceful democracy activist, who was abducted in June 22 2002, and illegally imprisoned for life on false charges of espionage and terrorism, and whose sister, son, and daughter are United States citizens.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “freedom of expression, assembly, association, and religion are fundamental human rights that belong to all people and are recognized as such under the United Nations

Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

- “on June 3-4, 1989, Chinese authorities ordered the People’s Liberation Army and other security forces to use lethal force to disperse demonstrators in Beijing, especially around Tiananmen Square;
- “independent observers report that hundreds, perhaps thousands, were killed and wounded in 1989 by the People’s Liberation Army soldiers and other security forces;
- “20,000 people throughout China suspected of taking part in the democracy movement were arrested and sentenced without trial to prison or reeducation through labor, and many were reportedly tortured;
- “the Communist Government of China undertakes active measures to deny its citizens the truth about the Tiananmen Square massacre, including the blocking of uncensored Internet sites and weblogs, and the placement of misleading information on the events of June 3–4, 1989 on Internet sites available in China, often **with the collusion** and cooperation of **United States Internet companies such as Yahoo, Google, Microsoft, and Cisco**;
- “the Communist Government of China continues to suppress dissent by imprisoning pro-democracy activists, lawyers, journalists, labor union leaders, religious believers, members of ethnic minority rights organizations, and other individuals in China and Tibet who seek to express their political or religious views in a peaceful manner;
- “the Communist Government of China continues its reprehensible policies of organ harvesting of executed prisoners; maintenance of hundreds, perhaps thousands of slave labor camps; coercive sterilization and forced abortions resulting in sex-selective abortions, female infanticide, and trafficking in persons; and forcible repatriation of thousands of refugees to North Korea to face persecution, imprisonment, and death in violation of its international commitments; and
- “June 4, 2006, is the 17th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre.”

Committee Action: H. Res. 794 was introduced on May 9, 2006, and referred to the Committee on International Relations. The resolution was marked-up on May 25, 2006.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Marcus Kelley; marcus.kelley@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717

H. Res. 804 — Condemning the unauthorized, inappropriate, and coerced ordination of Catholic bishops by the People’s Republic of China — *as introduced* (English, R-PA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Res. 804 resolves that Congress:

- “condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the actions of the Government of the People’s Republic of China to coerce Catholic bishops in China, both those in the Catholic Patriotic Association of China and those who remain loyal to the Pope, to violate their consciences and consecrate bishops in defiance of Rome;
- “extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the Catholic population of China and the Catholic Church for this insult to their beliefs and religious practices;
- “reaffirms the right of all religious organizations to choose their leaders in a manner that is free of intimidation, terror, or coercion in accordance with Article 18 of the Uniform Declaration of Human Rights;
- “urges the Government of China to end its repression of religious organizations, recognize the ecclesiastical authority of religious leaders to provide spiritual leadership to their followers, and end the practice of only allowing religious worship through state-sanctioned patriotic religious associations; and
- “encourages the Government of China to refrain from additional ordination of Catholic bishops while the Vatican and the Catholic Patriotic Association of China resolve their differences and adopt a mutually acceptable process for approving the elevation of bishops.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “on April 30, 2006, the Chinese Government-sanctioned Catholic Patriotic Association of China conducted an unauthorized episcopal ordination of the priest Joseph Ma Yinglin, elevating him to the office of bishop without the approval and against the wishes of the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI;
- “on May 3, 2006, the Chinese Government-sanctioned Catholic Patriotic Association of China conducted an unauthorized episcopal ordination of the priest Joseph Liu Xinhong, elevating him to the office of bishop without the approval and against the wishes of the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI;
- “all other collective religious activities in China are illegal, and individuals from ‘unregistered’ religious groups are subject to harassment, detention, and arrest; and
- “China, like all members of the United Nations, is bound by Article 18 of the Uniform Declaration of Human Rights which states: ‘Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.’”

Committee Action: H. Res. 804 was introduced on May 9, 2006, and referred to the Committee on International Relations. The resolution was marked-up on May 25, 2006.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Marcus Kelley; marcus.kelley@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717

H. Con. Res. 408 — Commending the Government of Canada for its renewed commitment to the Global War on Terror — *as amended* (Burton, R-IN)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006 under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H. Con. Res. 408 resolves that Congress:

- “commends the Government of Canada for its renewed and long-term commitment to the Global War on Terror;
- “commends the Government of Canada for working to secure a democratic and equal Afghanistan;
- “commends the Government of Canada’s commitment to reducing poverty, aiding the counter narcotics efforts through counterterrorism and counterinsurgency campaigns, and ensuring a peaceful and terror-free Afghanistan;
- “commends the Government of Canada for its three-pronged commitment to Afghanistan: diplomacy, development, and defense; and
- “expresses the gratitude and appreciation of the United States for Canada’s enduring friendship and leadership in the Global War on Terror in Afghanistan.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “Canada has stationed approximately 2,300 defense personnel who comprise Task Force Afghanistan, in order to improve security in southern Afghanistan, particularly in the province of Kandahar;
- “on May 17, 2006, the Canadian Parliament voted to extend peace and security operations in Afghanistan until 2009, to increase its development assistance by \$310 million, and to build a permanent and secure embassy in Afghanistan to replace its current facility; and

Committee Action: H. Con. Res. 409 was introduced on May 19, 2006, and referred to the Committee on the International Relations. The bill was marked-up and amended on May 25, 2006.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Marcus Kelley; marcus.kelley@mail.house.gov; 202-226-9717

H.Res. 608 — Condemning the escalating levels of religious persecution in the People’s Republic of China — *as amended* (McCotter, R-MI)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 608 would resolve that:

- 1) “the House of Representatives condemns the imprisonment of religious leaders and people of faith in the People’s Republic of China and urges their release; and
- 2) “it is the sense of the House of Representatives that it should be the policy of the Government of the United States to promote and defend religious freedom and freedom of conscience in China.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “all religious groups and spiritual movements must register with the Chinese Government, which monitors religious services and judges the legitimacy of religious activities;
- “unregistered religious groups in China continue to experience official interference and members of religious groups have been subjected to intimidation, harassment, and detention;
- “many religious leaders and adherents in China, including those in official churches, have been detained, arrested, or administratively sentenced to prison terms in reeducation-through-labor camps; and
- “religious believers are denied the ability to hold public office not by law, but by a logical extension of the fact that most government positions go to members of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and CCP membership and religious belief are considered incompatible.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 608 was introduced on December 14, 2005, and referred to the Committee on International Relations’ Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations. The subcommittee and full committee marked-up the bill, but it was taken up by the House on the Suspension calendar prior to being reported.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Derek V. Baker; derek.baker@mail.house.gov; 202-226-8585

H.Res. 792 — Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the independence of Guyana and extending beset wishes to Guyana for peace and further progress, development, and prosperity — *as amended* (Meeks, D-NY)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 792 would resolve that “the House of Representatives recognizes the 40th anniversary of the independence of Guyana and extends best wishes to Guyana for peace and further progress, development, and prosperity.”

The resolution also states a number of findings, including the following:

- “Guyana gained independence from the United Kingdom on May 26, 1966;
- “Guyana is a supporter and ally of the United States in the Global War on Terror, and joins the United States in promoting political and economic freedoms, combating poverty, crime, disease, and drugs, and promoting security, stability, and prosperity; and
- “Guyana is an integral member of the Caribbean region and a constructive partner of the United States in fulfilling the agenda of the Western Hemisphere.”

Additional Information: Guyana is located on the northern most part of South America, between Venezuela and Suriname, on the Atlantic coast. Guyana achieved independence from Great Britain in May, 1966, and became a republic on February, 1970, the anniversary of the Cuffy slave rebellion. On October 5, 1992, a new National Assembly and Regional Councils were elected in the first Guyanese elections since 1964 to be internationally recognized as free and fair. For more information on Guyana, please visit: <http://www.guyana.org/> or <http://www.guyanaonline.net/home/>.

Committee Action: H.Res. 792 was introduced on May 2, 2006, and referred to the Committee on International Relations. The bill was marked-up on May 25, 2006. No further action was taken.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

RSC Staff Contact: Derek V. Baker; derek.baker@mail.house.gov; 202-226-8585

H.R. 5169 — Wilfred Edward ‘Cousin Willie’ Sieg, Sr. Post Office Designation Act — *as reported* (Sodrel, R-IN)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 5169 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1310 Highway 64 N.W. in Ramsey, Indiana, as the “Wilfred Edward ‘Cousin Willie’ Sieg, Sr. Post Office.”

Additional Information: Wilfred Edward “Cousin Willie” Sieg, Sr. was born March 16, 1931, in his life-long home of Ramsey, Indiana. He graduated from Indiana University in 1953 with a marketing degree. He later served in the Air Force and Air Force Reserves, and then returned home to help run the family business, Ramsey Popcorn Company. Mr. Sieg later oversaw day-to-day operations with his brothers and eventually became the company president. In 1944, Ramsey Popcorn started selling popcorn kernels door-to-door, and has since grown to one of the top four producers of popcorn in the world. Mr. Sieg died on February 2, 2006, at the age of 74, after losing a battle with lung cancer.

For additional information on “Cousin Willie” submitted in the Record by the sponsor, please click here: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getpage.cgi?dbname=2006_record&page=E596&position=all.

Committee Action: H.R. 5169 was introduced on April 15, 2006, and referred to the Committee on Government Reform. The bill was marked-up on June 8, and it was reported to the House by unanimous consent the same day.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score of H.R. 5169 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a post office renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

RSC Staff Contact: Derek V. Baker; derek.baker@mail.house.gov; 202-226-8585

S. 1445 — William H. Emery Post Office Designation Act — *as received*
(Sen. Salazar, D-CO)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Monday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: S. 1445 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Colorado Avenue in Arriba, Colorado, as the “William H. Emery Post Office.”

Additional Information: According to the sponsor, “William H. Emery carried the mail in Arriba, Colorado for 50 years and six months, a record for any carrier west of the Mississippi River. Mr. Emery started when he was only nineteen years old, delivering the mail on horseback. At different points in his career he also delivered the mail using a single buggy, a Harley Davidson motorcycle, and a Model T Ford.” Mr. Emery retired at the age of 70, having served the Arriba Post Office his entire career.

Committee Action: S. 1445 was introduced in the Senate on July 21, 2005, and passed the Senate by unanimous consent on March 3, 2006. The bill was referred to the House Government Reform Committee, was marked-up on June 8, 2006, and was reported to the House by unanimous consent the same day.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score of S. 1445 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a post office renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

RSC Staff Contact: Derek V. Baker; derek.baker@mail.house.gov; 202-226-8585

###