



House Update and Public Laws for the Week of March 31-April 4, 2008

Last Week in the House

On Monday, March 31, 2008, the House passed nine suspension bills:

- H.R. 1187, "To expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary" (Passed voice)
- H.R. 2342, "To direct the President to establish a National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System, and for other purposes" (Passed voice)
- H.R. 4933, "To amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to protect captive wildlife and to make technical corrections, and for other purposes" (Passed voice)
- H.R. 3352, "To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes (Passed 308 – 60, [Roll Call 147](#))
- H.R. 3891, "To amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act to increase the number of Directors on the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation" (Passed voice)
- H.R. 2675, "To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes" (Passed 370 – 2, [Roll Call 148](#)).
- H.R. 3651, "To require the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard" (Passed voice)
- H.R. 2515, "To authorize appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for other purposes" (Passed voice)
- H. Con. Res. 302, "Supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes" (Adopted 371 - 0 [Roll Call 149](#))

**Note: Suspension bills require two-thirds majority for passage.*

On Tuesday, April 1, 2008, the House passed thirteen suspension bills:

- H. Res. 997, "Expressing the strong support of the House of Representatives for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to enter into a Membership Action Plan with Georgia and Ukraine" (Adopted voice)
- H. Res. 185, "Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region as a result of human rights violations" (Adopted voice)
- H. Con. Res. 154, "Expressing the sense of Congress that the fatal radiation poisoning of Russian dissident and writer Alexander Litvinenko raises significant concerns about the potential



involvement of elements of the Russian Government in Mr. Litvinenko's death and about the security and proliferation of radioactive materials" (Adopted voice)

- H.R. 2040, "To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semicentennial of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" (Passed voice)
- H. Con. Res. 310, "Expressing support for a national day of remembrance for Harriet Ross Tubman" (Adopted 416 – 0, [Roll Call 150](#))
- H. Res. 1005, "Supporting the goals and ideals of Borderline Personality Awareness Month" (Adopted 414 – 0, [Roll Call 151](#))
- H. Res. 1021, "supporting the goals, ideals, and history of National Women's History Month" (Adopted, 413 – 0, [Roll Call 152](#))
- H.R. 5168, "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 19101 Cortez Boulevard in Brooksville, Florida, as the "Cody Grater Post Office Building"" (Passed voice)
- H.R. 5551, "To amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to implement the increase provided under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2008, in the amount of funds made available for the compensation of attorneys representing indigent defendants in the District of Columbia courts, and for other purposes" (Passed voice)
- S. 550, "To preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia" (Passed voice)
- H. Res. 945, "Raising awareness and promoting education on the criminal justice system by establishing March 2008 as "National Criminal Justice Month"" (Adopted voice)
- H.R. 1312, "To expedite adjudication of employer petitions for aliens of extraordinary artistic ability" (Passed voice)
- H. Res. 1061, "commemorating the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and encouraging people of the United States to pause and remember the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and for other purposes" (Adopted voice)

On Wednesday, April 2, 2008, the House passed one rule bill:

- H.R. 5501, "Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act" (Passed 308 – 116, [Roll Call 158](#))

On Thursday, April 3, 2008, the House passed one rule bill:

- H.R. 4847, "To reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes" (Passed 412 – 0, [Roll Call 160](#))

Public Laws Signed Last Week

For the Weeks of March 17-March 28, 2008, the President signed 3 bills into law:



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

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- S. 2745, "A bill to extend agricultural programs beyond March 15, 2008, to suspend permanent price support authorities beyond that date, and for other purposes"
- S.J. Res. 25, "A joint resolution providing for the appointment of John W. McCarter as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution"
- S. 2733, "Higher Education Extension Act of 2008"

Thus far in the 110th Congress, the President has signed 198 bills into law. Of those bills, 76 (38%) were for the purpose of naming post offices or public buildings.