



House Update and Public Laws for the Week of May 12-May 16, 2008

Last Week in the House

On Tuesday, May 13, 2008, the House passed three suspension bills:

- H. Res. 1181, "Expressing condolences and sympathy to the people of Burma for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by Cyclone Nargis" (Agreed to 410-1, [Roll Call 306](#))
- H.R. 6022, "To suspend the acquisition of petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and for other purposes" (Passed 385-25, [Roll Call 307](#))
- H.R. 4008, "To amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to make technical corrections to the definition of willful noncompliance with respect to violations involving the printing of an expiration date on certain credit and debit card receipts before the date of the enactment of this Act" (Passed 407-0, [Roll Call 308](#))

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

On Wednesday, May 14, 2008, the House passed six suspension bills:

- H. Res. 1134, "Supporting the goals and ideals of Mental Health Month" (Agreed to 421-0, [Roll Call 312](#))
- H. Res. 1176, "Supporting the goals and ideals of National Train Day" (Agreed to 415-0, [Roll Call 313](#))
- H. Res. 1133, "Congratulating Winona State University on winning the 2008 Division II men's basketball championships" (Agreed to 413-0, [Roll Call 316](#))
- H.R. 6051, "To amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 16, 2008" (Passed by voice vote)
- H. Res. 1173, "Recognizing AmeriCorps Week" (Agreed to 344-69, [Roll Call 319](#))
- H. Res. 789, "Honoring public child welfare agencies, nonprofit organizations and private entities providing services for foster children" (Agreed to 414-0, [Roll Call 322](#))

On Wednesday, May 14, 2008, the House passed one rule bill:

- H.R. 2419, "To provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes" (Passed 318-106, [Roll Call 315](#))

On Thursday, May 15, 2008, the House passed six suspension bills:

- H.R. 5614, "To authorize the production of Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle ultra-high relief bullion coins in palladium to provide affordable opportunities for investments in precious metals, and for other purposes" (Passed 415-0, [Roll Call 325](#))



- H.R. 406, "To posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Alice Paul in recognition of her role in the women's suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women" (Passed 412-1, [Roll Call 326](#))
- H.R. 5872, "To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes" (Passed 403-8, [Roll Call 327](#))
- H.R. 2894, "To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the "Star Spangled Banner" and the War of 1812, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5916, "To reform the administration of the Arms Export Control Act, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5834, "To amend the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)

On Thursday, May 15, 2008, the House passed one rule bill:

The bill considered was agreeing to the Senate amendments with a series of House amendments to H.R. 2642, "making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes." For information about the nature of the amendments please see the [Legislative Digest for H.R. 2642](#)

- On motion to agree to the Senate amendment to the text with House amendment No. 1 (Troop funding with instructions) (Failed 141-149-132 voting present, [Roll Call 328](#))
- On motion to agree to the Senate amendment to the text with House amendment No. 2 (Policy initiatives) (Agreed to 227-196 [Roll Call 329](#))
- On motion to agree to the Senate amendment to the text with House amendment No. 3 (Domestic Spending) (Agreed to 256-166, [Roll Call 330](#))

Public Laws Signed Last Week

Week of May 12-May 16, 2008, the President signed 2 bills into law:

S. 2929, "[A bill to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965](#)"

H.R. 6051, "To amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 16, 2008"

Thus far in the 110th Congress, the President has signed 231 bills into law. Of those bills, 93 (41%) were for the purpose of naming post offices or public buildings.