



House Update and Public Laws for the Week of September 15 - September 18, 2008

Last Week in the House

On Monday, September 15, 2008, the House passed five suspension bills:

- H. Res. 1200, "Honoring the dedication and outstanding work of military support groups across the country for their steadfast support of the members of our Armed Forces and their families" (Agreed to 374-0, [Roll Call 589](#))
- H. Con. Res. 390, "Honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States" (Agreed to 374-0, [Roll Call 590](#))
- H.R. 5938, "To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide secret service protection to former Vice Presidents, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6889, "To extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase guaranteed student loans for an additional year, and for other purposes" (Passed 368-4, [Roll Call 591](#))
- H.R. 5167, "To amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 to remove the authority of the President to waive certain provisions" (Passed by voice vote)

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

On Tuesday, September 16, 2008, the House passed four bills from the private calendar:

- H.R. 1485, "For the relief of Esther Karinge" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 2760, "For the relief of Shigeru Yamada" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5030, "For the relief of Corina de Chalup Turcinovic" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5243, "For the relief of Kumi Iizuka-Barcena" (Motion to reconsider laid on the table; Agreed to without objection.)

**H.R. 2575 remains on the Private Calendar. It was intentionally passed over without prejudice, during consideration of the Private Calendar on Tuesday September 16, 2008.*

On Tuesday, September 16, 2008 the House passed one rule bill:

- H.R. 6899, "Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act" (Passed 236-189, [Roll Call 599](#))

On Wednesday, September 17, 2008 the House passed 30 suspension bills:

- S. 3406, "To restore the intent and protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 2608, "To amend section 402 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide, in fiscal years 2008 through 2010, extensions of supplemental security income for refugees, asylees, and certain other humanitarian immigrants,



and to amend the Internal Revenue Code to collect unemployment compensation debts resulting from fraud" (Passed by voice vote)

- H.R. 6893, "To amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to connect and support relative caregivers, improve outcomes for children in foster care, provide for tribal foster care and adoption access, improve incentives for adoption, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- S. 996, "To amend title 49, United States Code, to expand passenger facility fee eligibility for certain noise compatibility projects" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6627, "To authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out certain construction projects, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H. Res. 1335, "Celebrating the 120-year partnership between the Government and State veterans homes" (Agreed to 411-0, [Roll Call 602](#))
- S. 2339, "To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in Alpena, Michigan, as the "Lieutenant Colonel Clement C. Van Wagoner Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic" (Passed 412-0, [Roll Call 603](#))
- H.R. 1594, "To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Hermitage, Pennsylvania, as the *Michael A. Marzano Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic*" (Passed 410-0, [Roll Call 604](#))
- H. Res. 1448, "Authorizing and directing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire whether the House should impeach G. Thomas Porteous, a judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H.R. 3019, "To establish an Office of Housing Counseling to carry out and coordinate the responsibilities of the Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding counseling on homeownership and rental housing issues, to make grants to entities for providing such counseling, to launch a national housing counseling advertising campaign, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5772, "To amend section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act to improve the program under such section for supportive housing for persons with disabilities" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5611, "To reform the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H. Res. 1255, "Honoring Toby Keith's commitment to members of the Armed Forces" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H. Res. 1372, "Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and recognizing the partnership between the City of Omaha, its citizens, and the University to build a vibrant and dynamic community" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H. Res. 1425, "Honoring the life and music of the late Isaac Hayes, a passionate humanitarian, whose music laid the foundation for many musical styles, including R&B, disco, and rap" (Agreed to by voice vote)



- H. Con. Res. 410, "Recognizing the FBI on their 100th anniversary" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H.R. 2352, "To enhance the safety of elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 2535, "To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility and suitability of constructing a storage reservoir, outlet works, and a delivery system for the Tule River Indian Tribe of California to provide a water supply for domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural purposes, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 3437, "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Jackson Gulch rehabilitation project in the State of Colorado" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5293, "To approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation in Nevada, to require the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the settlement, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5350, "To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange certain National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property located in Norfolk, Virginia, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 5736, "To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Gadsden, Alabama, as the *Colonel Ola Lee Mize Veterans Clinic*" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6064, "To encourage, enhance, and integrate Silver Alert plans throughout the United States (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6503, "To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6855, "To extend the authority for the United States Supreme Court Police to protect court officials off the Supreme Court grounds, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 998, "To direct the Librarian of Congress and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out a joint project at the Library of Congress and the National Museum of African American History and Culture to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of individuals who participated in the Civil Rights movement, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H. Con. Res. 388, "Expressing the sense of Congress that the Department of Defense and the Federal Voting Assistance Program should take certain additional and timely measures to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and their dependents are provided with reasonable information on how to register to vote and vote in the 2008 general elections" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H.R. 6625, "To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)
- H. Con. Res. 61, "Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States flag flown over the United States Capitol should be lowered to half-mast one day each month in honor of the brave



men and women from the United States who have lost their lives in military conflicts" (Agreed to by voice vote)

- H. Con. Res. 415, "Celebrating 75 years of effective State-based alcohol regulation and recognizing State lawmakers, regulators, law enforcement officers, the public health community and industry members for creating a workable, legal, and successful system of alcoholic beverage regulation, distribution, and sale" (Agreed to by voice vote)

On Wednesday, September 17, 2008 the House passed one rule bill:

- H.R. 6842, "To require the District of Columbia to revise its laws regarding the use and possession of firearms as necessary to comply with the requirements of the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of *District of Columbia v. Heller*, in a manner that protects the security interests of the Federal government and the people who work in, reside in, or visit the District of Columbia and does not undermine the efforts of law enforcement, homeland security, and military officials to protect the Nation's capital from crime and terrorism" (Passed 266-152, [Roll Call 601](#))

On Thursday, September 18, 2008 the House passed ten suspension bills:

- H.R. 6460, "To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for the remediation of sediment contamination in areas of concern, and for other purposes" (Passed 371-20, [Roll Call 615](#))
- H. Res. 1432, "Supporting the goals and ideals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children in foster care awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, recognizing current programs and efforts designed to promote adoption, and encouraging people in the United States to seek improved safety, permanency, and well-being for all children" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H.R. 6681, "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Vine Street in New Lenox, Illinois, as the *Jacob M. Lowell Post Office Building*" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6229, "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2523 7th Avenue East in North Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the *Mayor William 'Bill' Sandberg Post Office Building*" (Passed by voice vote)
- H.R. 6338, "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4233 West Hillsboro Boulevard in Coconut Creek, Florida, as the *Army SPC Daniel Agami Post Office Building*" (Passed by voice vote)
- S. 171, "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Commerce Street in Commerce, Oklahoma, as the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building" (Passed by voice vote)
- H. Res. 1356, "Celebrating the 221st anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America, and for other purposes" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H. Con. Res. 408, "Recognizing North Platte, Nebraska, as *Rail Town USA*" (Agreed to by voice vote)
- H.R. 3986, "To amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes" (Passed by voice vote)



- S.J. Res. 35, "To amend Public Law 108-331 to provide for the construction and related activities in support of the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS) project in Arizona" (Agreed to by voice vote)

On Thursday, September 18, 2008, the House passed two rule bills:

- H.R. 6604, "To amend the Commodity Exchange Act to bring greater transparency and accountability to commodity markets, and for other purposes" (Passed 283-133, [Roll Call 608](#))
- H.R. 3036, "To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes" (Passed 293-109, [Roll Call 614](#))

Public Laws Signed Last Week

For the Week of September 15-19 the President signed three bills into law:

- H.R. 6532, "To designate the United States courthouse located in the 700 block of East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, as the "*Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr., United States Courthouse*"
- S. 2837, "A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New York, as the *Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse*"
- S. 2403, "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance"

Thus far in the 110th Congress, the President has signed 320 bills into law. Of those bills, 120 (38%) were for the purpose of naming post offices or public buildings.