

Wade T. Najjum, Assistant Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General; Anu K. Mittal, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Team, GAO; and public witnesses.

## POST-9/11 G.I. BILL STATUS

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on VA Status Report on Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. Testimony was heard from Keith M. Wilson, Director, Office of Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

## VA INAPPROPRIATE BILLING PRACTICES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on Identifying the Causes of Inappropriate Billing Practices by the VA. Testimony was heard from Kay Daly, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO; Gary M. Baker, Chief Business Officer, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans; and representatives of veterans organizations.

## BUDGET COMMITTEE RECONCILIATION LETTER

*Committee on Ways and Means*: Approved the reconciliation letter to the House Committee on the Budget.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

## NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1178)

S. 1707, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to promote an enhanced strategic partnership with Pakistan and its people, and for other purposes. Signed on October 15, 2009. (Public Law 111-73)

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on H.R. 515, Radioactive Import Deterrence Act, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 19 through October 24, 2009

### Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at approximately 4:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1776, Medicare Physicians Fairness Act, and after a period of debate, vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

### Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

*Committee on Armed Services*: October 22, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christine H. Fox, of Virginia, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Frank Kendall III, of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition and Technology, Gladys Commons, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Terry A. Yonkers, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*: October 20, to hold hearings to examine the state of the nation's housing market, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation*: October 21, Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine space, focusing on the value, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources*: October 21, to hold hearings to examine the costs and benefits for energy consumers and energy prices associated with the allocation of greenhouse gas emission allowances, 9:45 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Finance*: October 20, to hold hearings to examine S. 1631, to reauthorize customs facilitation and trade enforcement functions and programs, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations*: October 22, to hold hearings to examine the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), focusing on a strategic concept for transatlantic security, 10 a.m., SD-419.

October 22, Full Committee, to receive a briefing to examine Iran, 3 p.m., SVC-217.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*: October 21, business meeting to consider the nominations of Craig Becker, of Illinois, Mark Gaston Pearce, of New York, and Brian Hayes, of Massachusetts, all to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, Rolena Klahn Adorno, of Connecticut, and Marvin Krislov, of Ohio, both to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, Gloria Valencia-Weber, of New Mexico, Julie A. Reiskin, of Colorado, Martha L. Minow, of Illinois, John Gerson Levi, of Illinois, and Robert James Grey, Jr., of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation, and David Morris Michaels, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of

Labor for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 10 a.m., SD-430.

October 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine keeping America's families safe, focusing on reforming the food safety system, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* October 20, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Susan Tsui Grundmann, of Virginia, to be Chairman, and Anne Marie Wagner, of Virginia, to be a Member, both of the Merit Systems Protection Board, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

October 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine H1N1 flu, focusing on monitoring the nation's response, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

October 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the past, present, and future of policy czars, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* October 22, business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Indian energy and energy efficiency, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* October 20, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, to hold hearings to examine medical debt, focusing on bankruptcy reform, 10 a.m., SD-226.

October 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine effective strategies for preventing health care fraud, 10 a.m., SD-226.

October 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jane Branstetter Stranch, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, and Benjamin B. Tucker, of New York, to be Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs, Office of National Drug Control Policy, 2 p.m., SD-226.

October 22, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 1340, to establish a minimum funding level for programs under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 for fiscal years 2010 to 2014 that ensures a reasonable growth in victim programs without jeopardizing the long-term sustainability of the Crime Victims Fund, and S. 714, to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* October 20, to hold hearings to examine health care solutions for America's small businesses, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* October 21, to hold hearings to examine S. 977, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide improved benefits for veterans who are former prisoners of war, S. 1109, to provide veterans with individualized notice about available benefits, to streamline application processes of the benefits, S. 1118, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the amount of monthly dependency and indemnity compensation payable to surviving spouses by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, S. 1155, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the position of Director of Physician Assistant Services within the office of the Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for health, S. 1204,

to amend the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001 to require the provision of chiropractic care and services to veterans at all Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, S. 1237, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the grant program for homeless veterans with special needs to include male homeless veterans with minor dependents and to establish a grant program for reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children, S. 1302, to provide for the introduction of pay-for-performance compensation mechanisms into contracts of the Department of Veterans Affairs with community-based outpatient clinics for the provisions of health care services, S. 1394, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to acknowledge the receipt of medical, disability, and pension claims and other communications submitted by claimants, S. 1427, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a Hospital Quality Report Card Initiative to report on health care quality in Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, S. 1429, to establish a commission on veterans and members of the Armed Forces with post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or other mental health disorders, to enhance the capacity of mental health care providers to assist such veterans and members, to ensure such veterans are not discriminated against, S. 1444, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the meaning of "combat with the enemy" for purposes of service-connection of disabilities, S. 1467, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide coverage under Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance for adverse reactions to vaccinations administered by the Department of Defense, S. 1483, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Alexandria, Minnesota, as the "Max J. Beilke Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic", S. 1518, to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune, S. 1531, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs the position of Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction, S. 1547, to amend title 38, United States Code, and the United States Housing Act of 1937 to enhance and expand the assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness, S. 1556, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, S. 1607, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain rights and benefits for persons who are absent from positions of employment to receive medical treatment for service-connected disabilities, and S. 1668, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain active duty service in the reserve components as qualifying service for purposes of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, and any pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SR-418.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* October 20, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community, 2:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

October 22, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., S-407, Capitol.

### House Committees

*Committee on Agriculture,* October 21, to consider derivatives legislation; and to approve the Dunloup Creek Watershed of West Virginia and the Cape Cod Watershed of Massachusetts projects, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

October 21, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops and Foreign Agriculture, hearing to examine U.S. Department of Agriculture rural business programs, conditions for rural entrepreneurship and business development, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

October 22, Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy and Poultry, hearing to review the economic conditions facing the pork industry, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Armed Services,* October 21, hearing on U.S. Military Redeployment from Iraq: Issues and Challenges, 10 a.m., 210 HVC.

October 22, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Afghanistan and Iraq: Perspectives on U.S. Strategy, 2 p.m., 210 HVC.

October 22, Subcommittee on Terrorism Threats and Capabilities, hearing on counterterrorism within the Afghanistan counterinsurgency, 10 a.m., 210 HVC.

*Committee on the Budget,* October 21, hearing on the Defense Costs and Long-Term Fiscal Challenges, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* October 20, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on H.R. 2708, Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2009, 2 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

October 20, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The High Cost of Small Business Health Insurance: Limited Options, Limited Coverage," 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, hearing entitled "Video Competition in a Digital Age," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* October 21, hearing on U.S. Policy Toward Burma, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, hearing on International Violence Against Women: Stories and Solutions, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, hearing on Concerns Regarding Possible Collusion in Northern Ireland: Police and Paramilitary Groups, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on House Administration,* October 21, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing on Modernizing the Election Registration Process, 1 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* October 20, Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy, hearing on Examining the State of Judicial Recusals after *Caperton v. A.T. Massey*, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 20, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, hearing on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System: Strategies to Help Girls Achieve Their Full Potential, 2:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on Too Big to Fail: The Role for Bankruptcy and Antitrust Law in Financial Regulation Reform, 11 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* October 20, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on the following bill: H.R. 1672, Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Authorization Act of 2009; and H.R. 2548, Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act of 2009, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

October 21, full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2523, Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership Act or the HEARTH Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

October 22, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 3770, To make technical corrections to subtitle A of title VII of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* October 20, Subcommittee on Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing entitled: "National Archives: Advisory Committees and their Effectiveness," 2 p.m. Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing entitled: "The 2010 Census Master Address File: Issues and Concerns," 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

October 22, full Committee, and the Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, joint hearing entitled "Bank of America and Merrill Lynch: How Did a Private Deal Turn Into a Federal Bailout? Part IV," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science and Technology,* October 21, to consider pending legislation, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on Biomass for Thermal Energy and Electricity Through a Research and Development Portfolio for the Future, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, hearing on Engineering in K-12 Education, 10 a.m., 2325 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing on Strengthening NASA's Technology Development Programs, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

October 22, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on Cybersecurity Activity at NIST's Information Technology Laboratory, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,* October 20, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, hearing on Looking Out for the Very Young, the Elderly and Others with Special Needs: Lessons from Katrina and Other Major Disasters, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

October 21, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing on Addressing the Problem of Distracted Driving, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Ways and Means,* October 22, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing on administration of the

first-time homebuyer tax credit, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, October 22, Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, hearing regarding the statutory requirements for congressional notifications of intelligence activities, 10 a.m., to be announced.

*Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming*, October 22, hearing entitled “Building U.S. Resilience to Global Warming Impacts,” 9:30 a.m., to be announced.

### Joint Meetings

*Joint Economic Committee*: October 22, to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon Building.

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe*: October 22, to receive a briefing on new media in authoritarian regimes, 2 p.m., 1539 Longworth Building.