



# The Daily Whip

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**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2004**

| House Meets At...   | Last Vote Predicted At... |
|---|---------------------------|
| <b>10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business</b><br><br><b>Unlimited "One Minutes"</b> | <b>4:00 – 5:00 p.m.</b>   |

## FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

**H.R. 2751 - GAO Human Capital Reform Act of 2003** (*Rep. JoAnn Davis - Government Reform*) (*Under Unanimous Consent, One Hour of Debate*). This bill gives GAO a variety of personnel flexibilities and new discretion to manage its workforce. These changes include: giving the Comptroller General greater discretion to set annual pay increases (based in part on job performance); giving the Comptroller general the authority to offer annual leave incentives to help recruit and retain employees; and giving GAO the authority to offer voluntary early retirement and voluntary separation payments to certain employees. The bill requires GAO to provide annual reporting to Congress on its use of the flexibilities under the bill. In addition, this bill changes the name of the GAO from General Accounting Office to Government Accountability Office.

### Suspensions (2 bills):

- H.Con.Res. 287** - Recognizing and honoring the life of the late Raul Julia, his dedication to ending world hunger, and his great contributions to the Latino community and the performing arts (*Rep. Gutierrez - Government Reform*)
- H.R. 3690** - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 West Main Street in Batavia, New York, as the "Barber Conable Post Office Building" (*Rep. Reynolds - Government Reform*)

**H.Res. 529 - Rule for H.R. 1997 - Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2003** (*Hart - Judiciary / Armed Services*). Today, the House will only consider the rule for H.R. 1997. The Rules Committee has recommended a modified closed rule that provides for two hours of general debate; provides that the bill shall be considered as read for amendment; provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Judiciary Committee now printed in the bill, modified by the Sensenbrenner Manager's Amendment shall be considered as adopted; provides for consideration of an amendment in the nature of a substitute to be offered by Rep. Lofgren or her designee; waives all points of order against the Lofgren substitute amendment; and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

- **Sensenbrenner (Manager's Amendment).** This self-executing amendment makes two technical changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) portion of the bill to conform those provisions to the format of the UCMJ.
- **Lofgren (Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to be debated for one hour).** This amendment would make it a separate federal crime to cause, whether intentionally or not, a prenatal injury or the termination of the pregnancy while committing one of a number of specified federal offenses. Penalties for the perpetrator could be up to life in prison.

## TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: On Thursday, the House will meet at 10:00 a.m. to consider:

**H.R. 1997 - Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2003** (*Rep. Hart - Judiciary / Armed Services*) (*Subject to a Rule*)

### Daily Quote...

"The Conference Board, the premier authority on this question [of Americans' confidence in the economy], said its index of consumer confidence dropped sharply in February, to 87.3 from 96.4 in January. That is a glaring sign that voters are worried about where the economy is headed -- a worry surely attributable in part to rising concerns about jobs disappearing. Worse for the president, the number doesn't appear to be an aberration; earlier this month, the University of Michigan's similar survey of consumer sentiment fell just as sharply."

- Gerald Seib in *The Wall Street Journal* today