



The Daily Whip

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Five "One Minutes" Per Side	4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

H.Res. 426 - Rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative day of Thursday, September 8, 2005 (Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart- Rules -1 hour of debate). During consideration of HRes 426, Ranking Member Obey intends to offer an amendment to the Hurricane Katrina Emergency Supplemental bill to improve the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The amendment would: 1) restore FEMA's status as an independent agency; 2) reestablish the position of the FEMA director to one that reports directly to the President; 3) require the FEMA director have extensive experience in emergency or disaster related management; 4) establish a 5 year term for the director; and establish a Deputy Director with primary responsibility for disasters, both natural and terror related. **Therefore, Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on the Previous Question on the Rule in order to allow consideration of Ranking Member Obey's amendment.**

Suspensions (6 bills):

- 1) **H.R. 3669** - To increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the national flood insurance program (*Rep. Ney - Financial Services*)
- 2) **H.R. 3668** - Student Grant Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act (*Rep. Jindal - Education and the Workforce*)
- 3) **H.R. 3672** - TANF Emergency Response and Recovery Act of 2005 (*Rep. McCrery - Ways and Means*)
- 4) **H.Res. 428** - Expressing the sincere gratitude of the House of Representatives to the foreign individuals, organizations, and governments that have offered material assistance and other forms of support to those who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina (*Rep. Hyde - International Relations*)
- 5) **H.Res. 427** - Relating to the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001 (*Rep. Hyde - International Relations*)
- 6) **H.R. ____** - **Making emergency supplemental appropriations for 2005 (Rep. Lewis (CA) - Appropriations).** This bill provides an additional \$51.8 billion for the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security, and the Army Corps of Engineers for immediate emergency response and recovery needs associated with Hurricane Katrina. These funds include \$50 billion for FEMA; \$1.4 billion for the Department of Defense; and \$400 million for the Army Corps of Engineers.

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Friday, no votes are expected in the House.

Daily Quote...

"Over the past four years, the Bush administration has replaced competent leaders [at the Federal Emergency Management Agency] with people long on political connections but short on disaster management expertise. At the same time, the war on terrorism has drained the agency's resources and reduced its effectiveness. Katrina would have been devastating regardless, but those actions turned FEMA into something akin to New Orleans' famous levees — a structure sure to fail when a big disaster struck."

- An editorial in *USA Today* this morning