

The Ehlers e-Newsletter

Tuesday, October 14, 2003

Last Week in the U.S. House of Representatives

MICHIGAN CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS URGE GRANHOLM TO SIGN LEGAL DEFINITION OF LIFE ACT – Several members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation on Wednesday sent to Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm a letter urging her to sign into law the Legal Definition of Life Act. (*Gov. Granholm vetoed the legislation on Friday.*)

For more information, please read the press release on our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/100803DefinitionofLife.html

EHLERS DISCUSSES LIFE-RELATED ISSUES IN KUYPER LECTURE –

Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers discussed life-related issues such as abortion, cloning, euthanasia and hospice in a major address Monday evening in Grand Rapids. Ehlers, spoke in the Pantlind Ballroom of the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in a speech titled “Protecting and Enhancing Life” as part of the Annapolis, Md.-based Center for Public Justice’s ninth annual Kuyper Lecture.

For more information, please read the press release on our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/101003KuyperLectureADV.html

THIS WEEK IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2003

On Monday, the House will not be in session in observance of the Columbus Day federal holiday.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2003

On Tuesday, the House will meet at 12 noon in a Pro Forma Session.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2003

On Wednesday, the House will meet at 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Suspensions (11 Bills):

(Bills on suspension are generally considered non-controversial and have reduced debate time, but require a two-thirds majority vote to be passed.)

- 1) **H.Con.Res. 106 - Recognizing and honoring America’s Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary, supporting the designation of an “American Jewish History Month.”**
- 2) **H.Con.Res. 270 - Supporting the goals and ideals of College Savings Month.**
- 3) **H.Con.Res. 273 - Recognizing and congratulating the East Boynton Beach, Florida, Little League team as the 2003 United States Little League Champions.**
- 4) **H.J.Res. 70 - Recognizing Inspectors General over the last 25 years in their efforts to prevent and detect waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, and to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the Federal Government.**

- 5) **H.R. 1883 - Eddie Mae Steward Post Office Designation Act** (*Jacksonville, Fla.*).
- 6) **H.R. 1442 - Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Act**: Authorizes the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. (VVMF) to design and construct a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to provide information to the public on the Memorial and the Vietnam War.
- 7) **H.R. 1092 - Nevada National Forest Land Disposal Act of 2003**: Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell certain parcels of Federal land in Carson City and Douglas County, Nevada.
- 8) **H.R. 1598 - Irvine Basin Surface and Groundwater Improvement Act of 2003**: Amends the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in projects within the San Diego Creek Watershed, California.
- 9) **H.R. 1521 - Johnstown Flood National Memorial Boundary Adjustment Act of 2003**: Provides for additional lands to be included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial in the State of Pennsylvania.
- 10) **H.R. 1821 - To award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Dorothy Height in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation**: Known as the grand dame of America's civil rights movement, Dr. Height began her career as a rights advocate in the 1930's when she gained prominence through her tireless efforts to register and educate voters, promote interracial schooling, and to empower women in American society.
- 11) **H.R. 1828 - Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003**: Expresses the Sense of Congress with respect to Syria and establishes a set of policies for the United States with respect to Syria. It provides for incentives, in the form of sanctions, for Syria to change its actions; the sanctions will help deny Syria the ability to continue its irresponsible behavior. The sanctions are to be imposed unless the President certifies that Syria is not providing support for international terrorists, has ceased all support for terrorist activities inside of Iraq; has withdrawn all personnel from Lebanon, has ceased the production, development, deployment, acquisition, or transfer of weapons of mass destruction and long-range ballistic missiles, has provided credible assurances that such behavior will not be undertaken in the future, and has agreed to allow United Nations and other international observers to verify such actions and assurances.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 AND 17, 2003

On Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business.

H.R. XXXX - Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004: This legislation would provide nearly \$87 billion for Iraq relief and reconstruction, Afghanistan relief and reconstruction and National Defense.

** Possible Motions to go to Conference*

** Possible Motions to Instruct Conferees*

Historical Tidbits

On Oct. 13 ...

1775 - The U.S. Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet.

1792 - The cornerstone of the Executive Mansion was laid in Washington, DC. The building became known as the White House in 1818.

1999 - The U.S. Senate rejected the ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

On Oct. 14 ...

1960 - U.S. presidential candidate John F. Kennedy first suggested the idea of a Peace Corps.

1962 - The Cuban Missile Crisis began when U.S. reconnaissance aircrafts photographed Soviet construction of intermediate-range missile sites in Cuba.

1968 - The first live telecast to come from a manned U.S. spacecraft was transmitted from *Apollo 7*.

On Oct. 15 ...

1892 - The U.S. government announced that the land in the western Montana was open to settlers. The 1.8 million acres were bought from the Crow Indians for 50 cents per acre.

1914 - The Clayton Antitrust Act was passed by the U.S. Congress.

1966 - U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a bill creating the Department of Transportation.

1993 - U.S. President Clinton sent warships to enforce trade sanctions that had been imposed on Haitian military rulers.

On Oct. 16 ...

1962 - U.S. President Kennedy was informed that there were missile bases in Cuba, beginning the Cuban missile crisis.

1989 - U.S. President Bush signed the Gramm-Rudman budget reduction law that ordered federal programs be cut by \$16.1 billion.

2002 - It was reported that North Korea had told the U.S. that it had a secret nuclear weapons program in violation of an 1994 agreement with the U.S.

On Oct. 17 ...

1777 - American troops defeated British forces in Saratoga, NY. It was the turning point in the American Revolutionary War.

1973 - Eleven Arab nations began an oil-embargo against several countries including the U.S. and Great Britain. The incident stemmed from Western support of Israel when Egypt and Syria attacked the nation on October 6, 1973. The embargo lasted until March of 1974.

2001 - The U.S. Capitol building was closed because of an outside threat. The Capitol building and all House office buildings were closed for inspection following the discovery of anthrax in a Senate office building.

(Information from <http://www.on-this-day.com>)

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