Friday, February 23, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE

The House and Senate have been out of session this week for the Presidents’ Day recess. The Senate will return on Monday, February 26, and the House on Tuesday, February 27.

The Senate next week will take up legislation to implement recommendations from the 9/11 commission. With Senators likely to use the occasion as an opportunity to debate the President’s plan to increase U.S. troops in Iraq, consideration of the legislation could last two weeks. CongressDaily reports that the House has no clear floor schedule next week but may consider a bill to make it easier for labor unions to organize.

CongressDaily further reports on some potential difficulties ahead for the agenda of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA):

“Budget matters in particular will be a tough road for Pelosi, who up until now has had strong support within the Caucus for the Democratic legislative agenda. A chief of staff for one moderate member said that the New Democrats and Blue Dogs are going to be tough to persuade to back any budget resolution that does not provide much more in the ways of budget-balancing efforts than are expected.”

OTHER

AAU FY08 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS MATERIALS

Members of the AAU Council on Federal Relations and others are reminded that the AAU summary and analysis of the President’s FY08 budget published on February 5 will NOT be updated (http://www.aau.edu/budget/08Summary_by_Agency.cfm). As in past years, that material is viewed as an historical document.

Updated information on the FY08 budget, including statements and letters, is available under the general category of “FY 2008 Budget” (http://www.aau.edu/budget/fy2008.cfm).

In addition, continuously updated budget and appropriations materials by agency—including the latest funding numbers, a summary of federal and congressional actions, and an overall AAU funding priorities chart—are available under the general category of “FY2008 Appropriations” at: http://www.aau.edu/budget/fy2008.cfm#appropriations.

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