

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM
TOM DAVIS, CHAIRMAN



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
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Government Reform Committee to Consider
Program Assessment and Results Act

What: Government Reform Committee Business Meeting (Hearing on government's role in combating obesity to immediately follow)

When: THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2004, 10:00 a.m.

Where: ROOM 2154, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Background:

The Government Reform Committee will hold a business meeting to mark up the following legislation:

H.R. 3826, the "Program Assessment and Results Act"

H.R. 3826 was introduced on February 25, 2004, by Government Efficiency and Financial Management Subcommittee Chair Todd Platts (R-PA) and full Committee Chair Tom Davis (R-VA), and approved by the Subcommittee on May 19, 2004, by voice vote.

H.R. 3826 would amend the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) by requiring the Office of Management and Budget to review each program activity in the federal government at least once every five years. Currently GPRA requires agencies to develop annual performance plans and reports, but it stops short of requiring any type of comprehensive assessment of the operations and effectiveness of federal programs. H.R. 3826 would improve upon GPRA by requiring such a review to take place at least every five years.

The purpose of the legislation is to require OMB to review each program activity at least once every 5 fiscal years, focusing on the program's purpose, design, strategic plan, management, results, and any other matters that the OMB Director considers appropriate.

OMB would then be required to submit the results of the reviews for a fiscal year to the Congress along with the President's next budget following the end of the fiscal year in which the reviews were conducted. The legislation would further provide for the sunset of the programmatic reviews by September 30, 2013, after two comprehensive review cycles have been completed, so that Congress can assess whether the reviews have been effective and should be continued.

H. Res. 653, a resolution honoring former President George Herbert Walker Bush on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Perhaps best known for striving to make the United States "a kinder and gentler nation," President George H. W. Bush brought to the presidency a dedication to traditional American values after serving as Vice President, Central Intelligence Director, and Ambassador to China and the United Nations.

H. Con. Res. 257, a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery. This resolution requests the President to award the nation's highest civilian award to Harry Colmery, a World War II veteran and former National Commander of the American Legion, who drafted the G.I. Bill of Rights in 1943.

H.R. 4222, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 550 Nebraska Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Newell George Post Office Building." Congressman Newell George represented the second district of Kansas for one term in the House of Representatives from 1959-1961 and served as United States attorney for the district of Kansas from 1961-68.

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