

US online gaming debate heats up

9 November 2007

WASHINGTON, DC -- (PRESS RELEASE) -- The potential \$100 billion trade dispute between Europe and the U.S. over the fast-growing online gaming industry heated up this week when Europe's trade director came to Washington and stated that the U.S. Congress should either open its market to overseas operators or compensate Europe for blocking the American gambling market to European operators.

"When a member of the W.T.O. defaults on its commitments, compensation is due," said Peter Mandelson, European Union Trade Commissioner in an interview with Reuters. "That's the case of online gambling."

Mandelson's comments came in the context of an increasingly contentious trade dispute over online gaming resulting from Antigua's World Trade Organization victory over the U.S. earlier this year. After the W.T.O. ruled that the U.S. had violated trade rules in barring Antiguan online gaming operators from the U.S. market, the U.S. withdrew its W.T.O. obligations with regard to free trade in the gaming area.

The U.S. withdrawal - something that never before had happened in the 12-year history of the W.T.O. - allows Europe and other countries to demand trade concessions up the size of the entire sector on an annual basis. Because the U.S. gaming industry is worth \$100 billion, the E.U. theoretically could seek that amount in trade concessions. Already, the two parties have agreed to extend settlement discussions twice because they could not agree on the size of the concessions.

If the parties cannot settle the matter between themselves, the E.U. could demand a binding arbitration before a W.T.O. panel. Separately, Antigua is involved in an arbitration with the U.S. to determine the size of the compensation due it. Other countries seeking compensation include India, Costa Rica, and Canada.

Legislation introduced by Representative Barney Frank (D-MA), the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act, would regulate Internet gambling and possibly bring the U.S. into compliance with W.T.O. rules by creating a level playing field among domestic and international operators.

"I think (Frank) takes a fair-minded, common sense approach to this and we look forward to that being effective legislation," said Mandelson.

Mandelson made his comments during a visit to Washington, D.C. this week for meetings on "Transatlantic Economic Cooperation." During the visit, he met with U.S. Trade Representative Susan Schwab over compensation owed to the E.U. and other countries following the U.S. withdrawal of services trade concessions in the W.T.O. related to gaming. Mandelson also met with Representative Frank to discuss possible legislative solutions to the trade dispute.

Trade experts applauded E.U. Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson's comments and visit. "Mandelson's visit signals a new chapter in the resolution of the W.T.O. case," said Nao Matsukata, formerly Director of Policy Planning for USTR Robert Zoellick and now a Senior Advisor for Alston and Bird LLP. "His willingness to meet with Chairman Frank suggests that Mandelson is open to finding a legislative solution to the problem.

The meeting today initiated a mutually supportive effort to resolve the unfortunate decisions of the United States to withdraw from its GATS commitments, and should help create positive momentum for the Frank legislation on Capitol Hill. Next steps should include closer consultations between congressional staff and Mandelson and his staff."

"The U.S. Congress is seeking to regulate online gambling in a competitive and fairly taxed environment that encourages the participation of responsible companies," said Lode Van Den Hende, a trade expert in Brussels who works closely on cases involving the E.U. "It is possible for U.S. legislation to create strong consumer protections, facilitate consumer choice, and provide durable tax revenues for the future. Since the U.S. Trade Representative's sole interest seems to be to continue to violate U.S. treaty obligations under the WTO, it is incumbent upon the E.U. to work directly with the U.S. Congress to develop a responsible solution."

The W.T.O. ruling that U.S. laws discriminated against foreign operators has financial ramifications far beyond the gaming industry itself. It wiped out billions of dollars from the balance sheets of European institutional investors, pension funds, and financial services companies as well as affecting the many supplier industry sectors to the gaming industry.

Several key W.T.O. partners of the U.S. have already expressed concern over the broader impact of USTR's decisions on global trade. "At a minimum, Washington's actions call into question the United States' credibility in current W.T.O. negotiations for greater trade liberalization," Matsukata said. "It will be readily apparent to significant economies such as China, India, and Brazil, that the United States seeks to create one standard for its trading partners, and another for itself. This risks setting a precedent in the W.T.O. that would ultimately prove harmful not only to the global, rules-based trading system, but also to the long term ability of the U.S. to remain competitive."

WTO online gaming negotiation deadline extended

24 October 2007

WASHINGTON, DC -- (PRESS RELEASE) -- Yesterday's deadline to negotiate settlements the U.S. must pay the European Union and seven other trading partners as part of a World Trade Organization (WTO) violation related to Internet gambling has been extended to December 14. This extension of time to reach agreement also provides Congress further opportunity to avoid paying trade concessions worth an estimated \$100 billion by regulating Internet gambling through legislation.

The Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act, introduced by U.S. Representative Barney Frank (D-MA), would regulate Internet gambling and bring the U.S. into compliance with WTO trade agreements by effectively creating a level playing field among domestic and foreign Internet gambling operators.

The WTO Internet gambling trade conflict is by far the most significant WTO case in history and the implications are enormous. "Failure by the U.S. to meaningfully engage in the compensation talks puts at risk U.S. negotiating credibility and undermines the institutional process of the WTO," said Naotaka Matsukata, a senior policy advisor with Alston & Bird and former director of policy planning for U.S. Trade Representative Robert B. Zoellick. "With potentially up to \$100 billion in damages at stake, there remains a significant threat to certain U.S. industries if the matter is not resolved in a timely manner."

The WTO previously ruled, in response to a dispute filed by the Caribbean island nation of Antigua and Barbuda, that the U.S. unfairly prohibits foreign Internet gambling operators from accessing the U.S. market, while allowing domestic companies to legally accept online bets. In response, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative announced the U.S. intention to withdraw its commitments to the WTO, thus allowing the United States to keep closed its markets to offshore based internet gambling operators. The European Union, Japan, India, Canada, Australia, Costa Rica, Macao originally joined Antigua and Barbuda in requesting talks to

discuss compensation with the U.S. resulting from this trade agreement violation. Australia later dropped its claim, while Japan reached a deal with the U.S., the terms of which have not been made public. If the U.S. does not settle with each country by December 14, trade concessions will be determined by WTO arbitration.

"The USTR should seriously engage with the U.S. Congress to consider legislative solutions provided by the Frank bill, which would bring the United States into compliance with the WTO on the internet gambling case and eliminate the rationale for potentially significant economic compensation concessions to the EU and a number of other countries," commented Matsukata.

Momentum has been building for the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act, with more members of Congress co-sponsoring the legislation. "Additional support for the Frank bill provides encouragement that the U.S. can avoid a major trade clash and paying billions in trade compensation and penalties," said Jeffrey Sandman, spokesperson of the Safe and Secure Internet Gambling Initiative. "Congressional action now to regulate Internet gambling can provide a responsible policy solution that would allow the U.S. to comply with WTO requirements. It would also give all Americans the right to make up their own mind whether to gamble online."

E.U. commissioner urged to defend Online Gaming industry

6 November 2007

WASHINGTON, DC -- (PRESS RELEASE) -- European politicians and industry representatives are calling on E.U. Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson to use his visit to the U.S. capital this week to seek the reversal of illegal discrimination against Europe's financial services, e-commerce and gaming industries. Mr. Mandelson's meetings will feature negotiations with U.S. Trade Representative Susan Schwab over compensation owed to the E.U. and other countries following the U.S. withdrawal of services trade concessions in the World Trade Organization related to gaming.

"The United States has engaged in blatantly protectionist behavior. U.S. companies are entitled to operate in European markets, while we've been forced out of the United States," said Clive Hawkswood, Chief Executive of the Remote Gambling Association. "Commissioner Mandelson's visit is a good opportunity to address discrimination against responsible European companies. The USTR should be put on notice that the E.U. will not allow the wholesale denial of trade rights protected by the World Trade Organization. Brussels should take every conceivable measure to defend the system of global trade law."

"In the ongoing negotiations on what concessions the U.S. will offer, it is vitally important that the European Commission extract the maximum possible benefit for European companies," said Member of the European Parliament Robert Sturdy. "The U.S. must not be allowed to unilaterally withdraw a whole market sector from its trade commitments simply because the growth of that market sector is being driven by European companies. It is incumbent on the Commission to protect Europe's interests in this case," MEP Sturdy said.

The United States has taken draconian steps to seal its domestic gambling markets from foreign participants, including gaming companies as well as financial services and information technology companies. This despite the fact that the U.S. possesses the world's largest gambling market, and allows U.S. operators to offer certain forms of online gambling for U.S. operators. "European jurisdictions have already proven

the merits of a regulated environment. We would encourage the development of a similarly fair and balanced environment in the United States," Hawkswood added.

The World Trade Organization ruled in 2004 and 2005 that U.S. laws discriminated against foreign competitors, in violation of global trade rules and the United States' own ratified commitments to the W.T.O. This year, after failing to comply with a W.T.O. ruling that U.S. laws be reformed, the United States announced it would withdraw those commitments, entitling W.T.O. member countries to fair compensation for the lost market access. The closure of the \$100 billion U.S. gaming market had financial ramifications far beyond the gaming industry itself, wiping out billions of dollars from the balance sheets of European institutional investors, pension funds, and financial services companies as well as affecting the many supplier industry sectors to the gaming industry.

"It's clear from the W.T.O. rulings that the European Union and other W.T.O. partners are entitled to full and fair compensation," said Nao Matsukata, formerly Director of Policy Planning for USTR Robert Zoellick and now a Senior Advisor for Alston and Bird LLP. "Failure to resolve the United States' discriminatory practices would lead the W.T.O. to authorize countries to enact enormous sanctions against the U.S. equal to the value of the lost market access. This situation could be avoided through a legislative solution. Frankly, the Congress is already moving in a responsible manner on this issue, and should take the matter out of USTR's hands to prevent the further deterioration of U.S.- European trade relations."

Draft legislation offered by House Financial Services Chairman Barney Frank (D-MA) in the U.S. Congress would create a national licensing system for online gambling in the United States. This approach would provide blanket authority for foreign operators to participate in U.S. state markets to the extent that those markets are open to domestic providers of gambling services. "The U.S. Congress is seeking to regulate online gaming in a competitive and fairly taxed environment that encourages the participation of responsible companies," said Lode Van Den Hende of Herbert Smith LLP. "The legislation would create strong consumer protections, facilitate consumer choice, respond to technological innovation, and provide durable tax revenues for the future. Since the U.S. Trade Representative's sole interest seems to be violating the rights of European industry, it is incumbent upon Commissioner Mandelson to work with the U.S. Congress to develop a responsible solution."

Several key W.T.O. partners of the United States have already expressed concern over the broader impact of USTR's decisions on global trade. "At a minimum, Washington's actions call into question the United States' credibility in current W.T.O. negotiations for greater trade liberalization," Matsukata said. "It will be readily apparent to significant economies such as China, India and Brazil, that the United States seeks to create one standard for its trading partners, and another for itself. This risks setting a precedent in the W.T.O. that would ultimately prove harmful not only to the global, rules-based trading system, but also to the long term ability of the U.S. to remain competitive."

<http://www.online-casinos.com/news/news4384.asp>

Under-Valued Gems In Online Gambling

INVESTORS CAN FIND REAL, UNDER-VALUED GEMS IN ONLINE GAMBLING

Investment expert sounds a positive note on some industry stocks

Investment manager Rupert Morell believes that online gambling stocks are undervalued following the controversy over online gambling last year, when the US Congress outlawed credit-card and money-transfer companies from accepting payments to gambling websites.

And he intends to do something about it, according to Citywire which quotes the head of Premier's GBP 13 million European Growth Fund as saying: "No-one is in this sector any more, since everyone said 'that's it for on-line gambling' last October. But there are real under-valued gems here."

The 13 million pound European Growth Fund has enjoyed a strong performance since Morrell took over in June 2005, but has only matched the average manager in the IMA Europe ex-UK sector over the past year due to poor market timing and stock ideas, especially in Eastern Europe.

He intends to improve the Fund's position by getting into Austrian company Bwin Interactive and Swedish on-line gaming company Unibet. Morrell told Citywire that his choices have no exposure to the US and have impressive valuations following the global sell-off. Although Unibet has one million active customers across Europe, it is trading on a price-earnings ratio of nine. It also has a 7 percent dividend yield.

The gaming stocks fit into the large 43.77 percent 'other' weighting of the fund, which is made up of an eclectic range of stocks favoured by Morrell such as Semapa, a Portuguese cement producer that has a 68 percent stake in pulp and paper manufacturer Portugal. He also has several alternative energy stocks.

All of the stocks are in 'old' Europe following what Morrell terms a 'poorly timed' move into Eastern Europe last year, one of the main detractors from his performance in 2006.

He bought Hungarian bank OTP following the drop in markets in the spring of last year as he expected emerging markets to recover quickly from the correction. The stock took too long to recover however and he had to sell as he must cut any position that loses more than 15 percent under his mandate. OTP bounced back 50 percent shortly after he had sold it later in the year.

He said: "The experience showed me that my skill set is in mainland Europe. That's where I have stayed since and have found some stocks like Austrian Airlines have done well and actually turned our performance around in the second half of the year."

Morell took over in 2005, having previously run hedge funds through his own company, and has introduced more aggressive hedge fund style techniques to the fund, which has a two-tier investment strategy: 70 percent consists of a core basket of ideas and 30 percent is made up of a short-term trading element that provides the majority of the fund's alpha.

Rep. Steve Cohen [TN-9], representing Memphis/Shelby County of Tennessee, has signed on today to co-sponsor Congressman Barney Frank's Bill H.R. 2046 to become the 39th co-sponsor. Bill HR 2046 is also known as the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act or the IGREA.

Congressman Cohen has served in public office at various levels since 1977, he has received a B.A. from Vanderbilt University and Juris Doctorate at the University of Memphis

The good congressman currently serves on the House Judiciary subcommittees: 'Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property', 'Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties', and Commercial and Administrative Law.' He also serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure subcommittees on: 'Aviation', 'Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management', as well as 'Highways and Transit'. He is also a member of 19 caucus' in the 110th congress

As a member of the Judiciary, one of Rep. Cohen's tasks is to ensure that our civil rights and civil liberties are protected. Congressman Cohen is also a supporter of the veto override of the S-chip program to give important health care to the nations children in need.

This endorsement is important for many reasons, the most obvious is that the total including Barney Frank, now stands at 40 supporters in the House for the IGREA (HR 2046), but more importantly, Congressman Cohen is known throughout his career for standing up and speaking out for the people who elected him, and not the special interests. Rep. Cohen is regarded as the father of the Tennessee Lottery, which, since 2004 has raised more than \$800 million for students continuing their education at the college level.

Congressman Cohen is well known for his rigorous service and his continuing fight for those who do not have the power bestowed by wealth and advantage.

A note of thanks, or a phone call showing support, is being requested to give the congressman. His phone number in Washington is 202-225-3265, his fax number is 202-225-5663, and you can write to him at 1004 Longworth House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515. Writing to his Memphis office will get to him quicker. That address is 167 North Main St. Suite 369, Memphis, Tn. 38103

House Banking Committee Approves Internet Gambling Funding Bill

The House Banking Committee approved the Internet Gambling Funding Prohibition Act, with an amendment which weakened its effect, by a voice vote on Wednesday, June 28.

The original bill, HR 4419 IH, the Internet Gambling Funding Prohibition Act, sponsored by [Rep. Jim Leach](#) (R-IA), [Rep. John LaFalce](#) (D-NY), and others, would have prohibited the use of checks, credit cards, and electronic funds transfers for Internet gambling.

However, the [House Banking Committee](#) adopted an amendment offered by [Rep. John Sweeney](#) (R-NY) which substantially limits the applicability of the bill. The Sweeney amendment, which passed overwhelmingly on a voice vote, and a show of hands, provides that the prohibition contained in the bill applies only "where such bet or wager

is unlawful under any applicable Federal or State law in the State in which the bet or wager is initiated, received, or otherwise made".

Rep. Leach, the Chairman of the Committee, offered a "compromise" amendment that would have exempted any "lawful bet or wager that is placed, received, or otherwise made on a live horse or a live dog race ..." It was resoundingly defeated. [Rep. James Leach \(R-IA\)](#)

The markup session was lengthy and interrupted by several votes on the House floor. The Banking Committee has not dealt with this issue until just recently. Hence, many members were unfamiliar with the operations of the gambling industry, and how the bill and various amendments would apply.

[Rep. Mel Watt](#) (D-NC) suggested that "I don't think anyone understands what we are doing at this point."

Proponents of the Sweeney amendment argued that this was a matter that should be left to the various states to regulate. Some members, such as Rep. Watt and [Rep. Barney Frank](#) (D-MA), couched their arguments in terms of states rights. Others argued that gambling has traditionally been a matter of state regulation.

Others, such as [Rep. Ron Paul](#) (R-TX), argued that gambling was a matter of personal choice, and should not be regulated by the government.

[Rep. Marge Roukema](#) (R-NJ) sided with Rep. LaFalce. She argued that the Sweeney amendment would "undermine the whole intention of the bill."

[Rep. Brad Sherman](#) (D-CA) discussed offering an amendment as an alternative to the Leach and Sweeney amendments. It would have exempted from the prohibition of the bill Internet gambling where the gambler places the bet while in a lawful gambling facility. He argued for a continuation of the current rule that "You can't lose your house without leaving your house." However, he did not offer the amendment.

After a long recess to vote on the House floor on other measures, and to discuss HR 4419, the Committee resumed, and quickly completed its business. In quick succession the Committee conducted three voice votes. First, the Leach amendment was rejected. Second, the Sweeney amendment was approved. Third, the bill, as amended, was approved.

No roll call votes were taken. However, Rep. Leach requested a showing of hands on his amendment. Most of the members present for the vote were Republicans. Almost all voted against the Leach amendAnalysis of Barney Frank's online gambling bill

After a long wait, the famous new online gambling bill was finally made public yesterday.

Initially the bill was described by Rep. Frank as a way to repeal the anti-online gambling law which was passed by Congress last year, attached to the unrelated Port Security Act. And many people were disappointed to see the titled Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007 would do nothing to repeal the law, but mostly let the financial system off the hook.

This bill in its current text would doubtfully be passed by any chamber of the country's legislative body as it leaves so many questions unanswered. It also seems to be very poorly written from the industry's point of view (which was clearly shown by the dive some online gambling stocks took yesterday afternoon on the London Stock Exchange).

But what makes this bill so bad? Read on.

Let's start with the licensing of the online casinos. Frank, as the Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, did a great job in outlining the financial side of the licensing, but unfortunately put the entire licensing process in the hands of only one person - the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. When it comes to land based gambling - you usually see the decision made by a board or a committee, not by only one person. Not to mention that according to the bill, the director can make a decision based solely on his opinion - this form of licensing has never worked in any other industry, and for the online gambling, a \$13 billion industry in US alone, would not work either.

And the fact that licensing will be done by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network could be compared to you, applying for a checking account at the local police office, rather at the bank. There should be a specialized Internet Gambling Board or Committee established which would focus solely on the regulation and enforcement of Internet gambling.

Now here is the worst part of this bill, the one that actually makes online gambling illegal automatically, without explicitly saying that:

"(2) LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY STATES.— No Internet gambling licensee may engage, under any license issued under this subchapter, in the business of conducting any particular types of gambling activities or other contests in any State which prohibits or limits such particular types of gambling activities or other contests if the Governor or other chief executive officer of such State informs the Director of such prohibition or limitation, in a manner which clearly identifies the nature and extent of such prohibition or limitation, before the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007, or in accordance with paragraph (3), until such time as any notice of any amendment or repeal of such specific prohibition or limitation becomes effective under paragraph (3)."

What does this mean? It means that, if a state has a law prohibiting casino gambling at that state, online casinos cannot operate in that particular state, even with a license. And in the United States, there are only 11 states which have private casinos (except Indian tribal gambling, which is treated separately). So in the other 40 states, where casino gambling is illegal - online casinos cannot operate. And when those 11 states already have laws or are working on laws to explicitly prohibit online gambling - there are no states left where a licensee could operate - thus banning online gambling on a state level.

Except for the Indian tribes. According to the Internet gambling bill, Indian casinos have the option to opt-in or opt-out for Internet gambling. This means that the Indian tribes which already have casinos in 27 states, could run online casinos in their states, as well.

So what did we learn today from Rep. Barney Frank and his new Internet gambling bill? We learned that online gambling would be given as an option to the Indian tribes, but in its essence would still be illegal operation for anyone else, based on the states' laws.

All Mr. Frank suggests with this bill is to take the burden off the shoulders of the financial institutions, cleverly outlaw online gambling on state level, and let the Indian tribes decide if they want to operate online gambling websites.

This bill does need a lot of work. And answers to many questions, such as advertising boundaries of the online gambling companies and a more clear process of licensing. But then again, other than the Indian tribes, who else would apply for an online gambling license when you cannot use it?

H.R.2046

Title: To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for the licensing of Internet gambling facilities by the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Frank, Barney](#) [MA-4] (introduced 4/26/2007)

[Cosponsors](#) (45)

Related Bills: [H.R.2607](#)

Latest Major Action: 4/30/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection.

COSPONSORS(45), ALPHABETICAL [followed by Cosponsors withdrawn]: (Sort: [by date](#))

Rep Abercrombie, Neil [HI-1] - 7/26/2007	Rep Ackerman, Gary L. [NY-5] - 4/26/2007
Rep Andrews, Robert E. [NJ-1] - 12/4/2007	Rep Baca, Joe [CA-43] - 7/26/2007
Rep Berkley, Shelley [NV-1] - 4/26/2007	Rep Berman, Howard L. [CA-28] - 6/7/2007
Rep Blumenauer, Earl [OR-3] - 11/15/2007	Rep Capuano, Michael E. [MA-8] - 4/26/2007
Rep Carnahan, Russ [MO-3] - 6/28/2007	Rep Carson, Julia [IN-7] - 4/26/2007
Rep Clay, Wm. Lacy [MO-1] - 4/26/2007	Rep Cohen, Steve [TN-9] - 10/17/2007
Rep Crowley, Joseph [NY-7] - 5/22/2007	Rep Delahunt, William D. [MA-10] - 9/24/2007
Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] - 6/7/2007	Rep Fossella, Vito [NY-13] - 6/15/2007
Rep Grijalva, Raul M. [AZ-7] - 10/3/2007	Rep Gutierrez, Luis V. [IL-4] - 4/26/2007
Rep Hastings, Alcee L. [FL-23] - 6/28/2007	Rep Honda, Michael M. [CA-15] - 7/19/2007
Rep Israel, Steve [NY-2] - 4/26/2007	Rep King, Peter T. [NY-3] - 4/26/2007
Rep Larson, John B. [CT-1] - 12/4/2007	Rep McCarthy, Carolyn [NY-4] - 5/22/2007
Rep McDermott, Jim [WA-7] - 5/24/2007	Rep McGovern, James P. [MA-3] - 6/7/2007
Rep Melancon, Charlie [LA-3] - 5/16/2007	Rep Moran, James P. [VA-8] - 10/25/2007
Rep Paul, Ron [TX-14] - 4/26/2007	Rep Perlmutter, Ed [CO-7] -

[Rep Rodriguez, Ciro D.](#) [TX-23] - 5/22/2007
[Rep Sanchez, Linda T.](#) [CA-39] - 5/17/2007
[Rep Scott, Robert C. "Bobby"](#) [VA-3] - 9/7/2007
[Rep Tauscher, Ellen O.](#) [CA-10] - 12/11/2007
[Rep Towns, Edolphus](#) [NY-10] - 5/17/2007
[Rep Weiner, Anthony D.](#) [NY-9] - 7/10/2007
[Rep Woolsey, Lynn C.](#) [CA-6] - 7/26/2007
[Rep Young, Don](#) [AK] - 6/27/2007

5/24/2007
[Rep Rothman, Steven R.](#) [NJ-9] - 7/19/2007
[Rep Schiff, Adam B.](#) [CA-29] - 8/3/2007
[Rep Smith, Adam](#) [WA-9] - 12/4/2007
[Rep Thompson, Bennie G.](#) [MS-2] - 7/10/2007
[Rep Watt, Melvin L.](#) [NC-12] - 4/26/2007
[Rep Wexler, Robert](#) [FL-19] - 4/26/2007
[Rep Wynn, Albert Russell](#) [MD-4] - 7/19/2007