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House votes to let pilots carry guns

By Eric Aasen
 The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON — The House voted overwhelmingly Wednesday to allow any commercial pilot to carry a gun in the cockpit.

Despite strong objections from the Bush administration and some lawmakers, the House voted, 310-113, to allow pilots to voluntarily arm themselves. The plan, which would be permanent, is significantly stronger than a compromise that would have allowed 1,400 pilots — or 2 percent of the workforce of about 70,000 — to use guns during a two-year trial period.

The Senate is considering a version of what the House approved Wednesday, but its prospects are

unclear. Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., who leads the committee that must approve the bill, said that he

"I think it is the most significant thing we've done for homeland security this year."

Rep. John Mica
 House Aviation
 Subcommittee chairman

has serious reservations about it.

Rep. John Mica, R-Fla., chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee and a chief sponsor of the bill, said it attracted overwhelming sup-

port because of repeated reports of security lapses at airports.

"It's far stronger than anything I would have hoped for," Mica said. "I think it is the most significant thing we've done for homeland security this year."

The trial plan was expected to sail through the House. But the issue took a dramatic turn Wednesday as the House approved an amendment co-sponsored by Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, that dropped the 2 percent cap and the trial period.

The Air Line Pilots Association, which represents most commercial pilots, pleased that the House approved the plan, said it hopes the Senate and the White House will follow suit.

The Air Transport Association, which represents the airlines, has opposed any guns in the cockpit for fear that an errant bullet could damage a plane.

The administration, which decided not to arm pilots in May, reiterated its opposition Wednesday.

"We believe that aviation security has been improved in several ways, including strengthened cockpit doors and additional federal air marshals on airlines," White House spokesman Gordon Johndroe told The Associated Press. "It is not necessary to arm pilots."

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News brief

Earthquake strikes near Oregon Coast

A magnitude 5.9 earthquake struck Tuesday morning about 135 miles west off the Oregon Coast. The tremor wasn't strong enough to trigger a tsunami warning, and there were no reports from coastal residents indicating anyone felt the quake.

According to state geologist Lou Clark, the Cascadia Subduction Trench, located just off the Oregon Coast, has a history of producing earthquakes as large as magnitude 9. She said the last one happened in January of 1700, and while the

pattern is irregular, the cycle could be coming due.

"We are clearly in the area where it is possible to have a very large earthquake on the Oregon Coast," she said.

Clark, who works for the state Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, said that an earthquake would need to be stronger than magnitude 7.5 to create a tsunami. The earthquake scale is logarithmic, which means rising from 5.9 to 7.5 is a large jump.

"We're talking about an earthquake that needs to be 70 or 80 times bigger than this one for a tsunami," she said.

At the University, Associate Professor of Geology Douglas Toomey

said that Tuesday's event was an intra-plate earthquake, which differs substantially from the type of subduction zone event to which Clark referred.

"Because of the way plates are converging (off the coast)," he said, "that region is under a lot of stress."

"But I wouldn't expect that to be triggering anything on the Cascadia plate — in the subduction zone itself. ... There is a lot of seismicity in this area," he said.

Clark echoed that sentiment.

"We get quakes this size several times a year," she said. "It's a very active area but it doesn't really affect us."

"There isn't anything we need to worry about."

— Michael J. Kleckner

Budget

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"The political reality is there isn't the support for his partisan plan," she said. "This is a bipartisan plan."

Since referrals can't be vetoed, Kitzhaber has already signed the following referral bills:

- HB 4059 to set a Sep. 17 special election.
- HB 4065 to send a cigarette

tax-increase measure to the special election.

• HB 4051 to put a 60-cent increase in the cigarette tax if approved by voters.

• Measure 19, formerly Measure 13, that will convert the Education Endowment fund into a rainy-day fund for schools. This measure will also be decided in the special election.

The disputed proposal came after a harrowing special session in

which legislatures defeated two proposals before agreeing on a plan. If Kitzhaber vetoes the bills he disagrees with, it could result in more than \$200 million in school cuts. A veto of the bills, together with a failure of the two ballot measures in September, could send legislatures back to a fourth special session.

Contact the reporter at janmontry@dailyemerald.com.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 11). With your new confidence come new opportunities. You've outgrown your old routine. Go after something better. It's time for you to accept more responsibility and higher wages. Don't be afraid. It'll be fun.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ... Today is a 7 ... Is it just your imagination, or are you getting more effective? It's not just you. You're getting more support. Thank the people who are helping to make you look good.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ... Today is a 7 ... It's a little harder to get going today. You'd much rather stay in bed. Not a bad idea. Think you can get away with it?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) ... Today is a 7 ... Selling is one of your specialties, and now is a good time to make some sales. The money comes from far away, after you offer them a deal they can't refuse.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) ... Today is a 7 ... The long hours of study and research that you've done pay off, as you make an excellent deal. You'll get what you want, with coins left in your pocket. Brilliant.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ... Today is a 7 ... You should be feeling much stronger, and maybe a little stir-crazy. What you need is a workout. Get physical!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ... Today is a 7 ... You're not known for your ability to keep a secret, but you can do it when necessary. It's necessary now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ... Today is a 7 - Did you dress to impress? Did you say the right thing? Odds are good that you did, and that you will again. Your friends will provide encouragement regardless.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ... Today is a 7 - You'd like to go, but you have to stay, for several good reasons. That won't be the case this weekend. Make plans to visit old friends. You've got good reasons for that, too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ... Today is a 7 ... How long has it been since you rode your bike to work or school, or did 25 pushups, or ran your exercise tape? Exercising is better than dieting!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ... Today is a 7 ... It's time for a serious discussion. How will you and your partner accomplish your goals? Don't get into petty personality squabbles. Keep guiding the conversation back to dollars and cents.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ... Today is an 8 ... Alleviate the pressure by getting help. Pay for it, if necessary. Meanwhile, it could be wise to make up with a person who's been on the other side, if it'll get the job done.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ... Today is a 7 ... Go the extra mile, and do it all for love. The reward you'll receive is worth lots more than money.

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GTF Position Announcement

Employment Period: Academic Year 2002 - 2003

The Center for the Study of Women in Society invites applications for a GTF position (.40 FTE) for the 2002-2003 academic year. This position has been created to work on NIH and CDC funded projects.

Job Description

To serve as Data Analyst on two federally funded research projects in the area of women's reproductive health. Under the supervision of Marie Harvey this individual will be responsible for conducting analyses of data from several research studies. These analyses will primarily address the measurement of constructs, treatment effects of the intervention, and tests of the theoretical model(s) underlying the projects.

Qualifications

UO graduate student with excellent skills and graduate level training in quantitative research methods; experience and expertise in statistical analyses; experience with SPSS; ability to work independently. Experience in conducting research in women's health/public health is desired. Post MA level graduate student in the social sciences or related discipline is preferred.

Salary is determined by the UO GTFF bargaining contract. The assistantship includes a waiver of tuition.

Deadline
 Friday, August 2, 2002, by 5:00 p.m.

How to Apply
 Send resume and cover letter to S. Marie Harvey, Center for the Study of Women in Society, 1201 University of Oregon, Eugene OR, 97403 or deliver same to CSWS, 340 Hendricks Hall, University of Oregon. Faxed applications are acceptable at 346-5096. Direct questions to Marie Harvey at 346-4120 or mharvey@uoregon.edu.

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