



Turner Government and Public Affairs Newsletter

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Turner GPA is one of the most highly respected government and public affairs firms in the nation. Our cutting edge advocacy has earned respect and acclaim from the media, clients, policymakers and even our competitors!

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Ms. Caren Turner,
Esq.



CEO, Turner Government
and Public Affairs

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Defense News

Fiscal Year 2009 Defense Budget

- With the appropriations process stalled, and a much delayed committee mark-up of the House bill finally completed on July 30th, a 2009 defense appropriations bill has yet to hit the floor of either chamber.
- If any spending bill is completed in this Congress it is likely to be the defense bill as funding is needed to support ongoing military operations.
- There is some speculation that the defense bill could become the vehicle for a continuing resolution to fund the government through the fall.

F-22 Raptor



- The House Defense Authorization bill approved \$523 million for twenty additional F-22's, but the entire bill is subject to a White House veto threat and has been stalled till September.
- The Senate has not yet taken up their version of the bill, which currently contains \$497 million for either shut-down of F-22 production plants or procurement of additional planes.
- Lockheed Martin Corp. recently stated that it doesn't expect to have a final decision on whether to produce more of the F-22s until a new administration takes office in January.

- Caren Turner has been named **Founder and member of the Steering Committee of Together4Us.com**, a website devoted to equal rights for women.
- Caren Turner recently appeared on **FOX News** addressing misogyny in the media and problems within the Democratic community.

Recent Photos



Caren Turner with Hillary
Clinton

F-35 Lightning II



- The Air Force recently announced an anticipated gap of 800 fighters beginning in 2017 and running through 2024, making it a top priority to increase yearly purchases of F-35's from the current level of 48 annually to as many as 110 annually.
- Production of additional F-35's may divert funds from the F-22 program.

C-17 Globemaster III



- In 2007, Boeing announced that C-17 production may end in mid-2009 if it were to receive no further U.S. or international orders.
- The \$162 billion war spending bill passed in June allocated \$3.6 billion for the production of 15 C-17's.

Tanker Contract

- On July 9, 2008, the Pentagon announced that it will reopen bids for the \$35 billion tanker contract.
- The Pentagon will request revised proposals from industry and the new competition will address all eight issues cited by the Government Accountability Office (GAO).
- The new contract award date is currently slated for December.

Congress Takes on the Energy Crisis

With oil prices nearing record highs at \$146 per barrel of crude, and average retail prices for gasoline hovering around \$4.00 per gallon, Congress is feeling the heat from the American people to bring prices down before they permanently harm an already shaky economy. Just how to get that done is a matter of some controversy. Democratic leaders have blamed rising energy prices on increased speculation in the energy markets. In response, they've taken up the Stop Excessive Energy Speculation Act of 2008. The bill would substantially broaden U.S. Commodities Futures Trading Commission's (CFTC) authority over the marketplace, require the CFTC to distinguish between "legitimate" and "non-legitimate" hedging transactions and call for the hiring of 100 new CFTC employees to collect data on large over-the-counter traders, index traders and swap dealers in order to determine to what extent speculation affects energy prices.

The Republicans on the other hand, are concentrating their efforts on offshore oil and gas drilling. Their position is that offshore drilling is necessary to help wean the U.S. off foreign oil and they point out that a majority of the electorate support this position. President Bush has recently lifted the executive ban on offshore drilling, but Congress must first lift its own ban before any drilling can be started. Democrats are wary of increasing domestic drilling because of the harmful environmental effects and the long time, probably nine to ten years, it would take to see any results.

While there is bipartisan support for increased CFTC oversight and regulation, Republicans are refusing to support any energy bill that does not



Caren Turner and Gov. Bill Richardson (NM)



Caren Turner, Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH), and Daren Kennedy



Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Caren Turner

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include language lifting the ban on offshore drilling, essentially stalling any action on the energy speculation bill. In fact, this huge political quibble is creating an across the board holdup in Congress, stalling the entire appropriations process as Republicans continue to insist on introducing drilling amendments and Democrats seek to bar them. "This issue is washing over the Democrats. They're scrambling like crazy to try to figure out how to avoid it," said Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell. Meanwhile, Congress is grinding to a halt and nothing is being done to ease the effects of the energy crisis.

You've heard the word "cloture," but what does it mean?

Cloture is a process used to speed up debate on a measure in the Senate and is often used to end a filibuster. The process begins when sixteen senators sign a petition for cloture. The petition is presented to the clerk, then ignored until the second day that the Senate sits in session after the presentation of the petition. On that day, with a quorum present, the President of the Senate or President pro tempore again presents the petition for cloture and the Senate votes on the petition. A vote of three-fifths of the Senate (sixty with no vacancies) is required to invoke cloture. If cloture is being invoked to change the rules of the Senate then the required majority increases to two-thirds of the senators present for the vote. Once cloture has been invoked debate on the measure is limited to thirty hours, no senator may speak for longer than one hour, no amendments may be moved unless they were filed between the presentation of the petition for cloture and the vote for cloture, all amendments discussed must be relevant to the ensuing debate, the presiding officer gains additional power over the debate, and no other matters may be considered until the issue on which cloture was invoked is settled.

Turner GPA is proud to announce the addition of Morgan Muchnick as Director, Government Affairs



- Morgan will advise clients on public policy matters including international affairs, defense, aeronautics, and homeland security
- Former Senior Public Policy and Government Relations Manager with the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
- Served as Professional Staff to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Relations under the leadership of Senator Fred Thompson (R-TN) where he drafted key aspects of the legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security.
- Master in Public Policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government
- Bachelor of Arts from UCLA with high honors

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