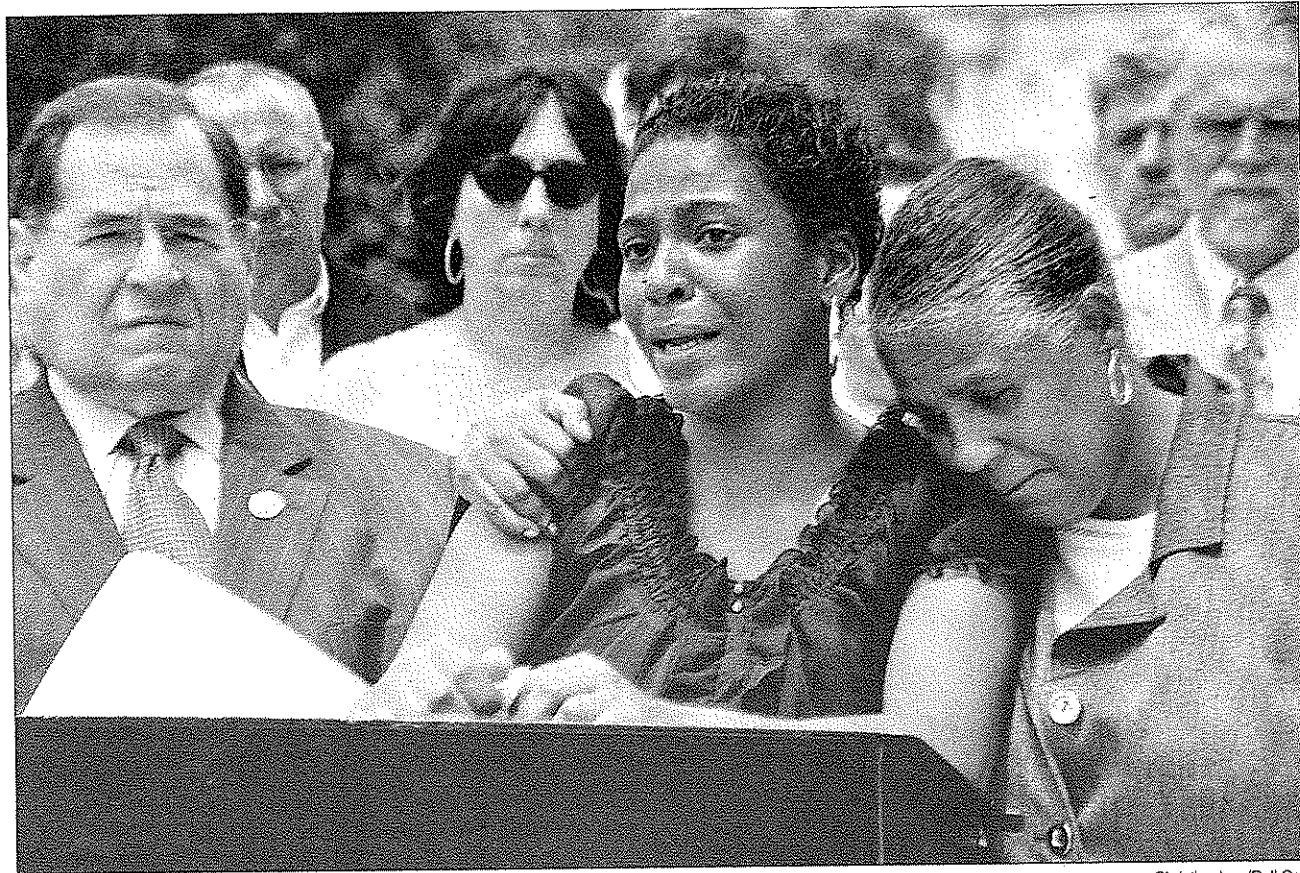


HER BATTLE



Christina Izzo/Roll Call

Althea Edwards leans her head on her daughter, J'Mia Edwards, 28, who spoke Tuesday in front of the Cannon House Office Building about her struggle as a single mother of three while having HIV. Rep. Jerrold Nadler (left) took part in a news conference announcing a Congressional resolution establishing the importance of housing in fighting HIV and AIDS.

Democrats Eye Challenging Summer

House, Senate Hope to Clear Decks of Most Controversial Agenda Items

By Steven T. Dennis
and Emily Pierce

ROLL CALL STAFF

House and Senate Democrats are headed into a legislative minefield over the next two months as they look to cram some of their most controversial agenda items into just eight weeks of work.

Though the two chambers have barely resumed work after the weeklong Memorial Day recess, already House Democrats are facing a GOP revolt on the \$90 billion-plus supplemental war spending bill and an intraparty battle over how quickly to move on climate change legislation.

In the Senate, Democrats are moving cautiously as they prepare for major debates in July over their own massive health care overhaul and a potential partisan brawl over Sonia Sotomayor, President Barack Obama's nominee to replace Supreme Court Justice David Souter.

The immediate issue Congressional De-

statement.

Minority Leader John Boehner (R-Ohio) also appeared to be gearing up for a fight. "Weighing down this critical legislation with non-defense spending will only drag this process out further and cost it essential Republican support needed for passage," he said in a statement.

If Republicans hold together en masse, they could derail the bill, but that would re-

'I met today with Mr. Rangel and ... Chairman Peterson as well, and I'm optimistic that we'll be able to move forward in a timely fashion' on energy legislation.

as a result of of the recession. Final details were still being worked out, along with timing.

The bill could theoretically hit the floor this week, although the IMF dispute and the lack of an imperative for getting it done as soon as possible could easily kick it to next week.

But Republican opposition may be the least of the problems facing Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) as she seeks to get a few of her wayward chairmen on board to advance a climate change bill through the chamber this summer.

With the bill caught in a morass of overlapping committee jurisdictions, Pelosi met Tuesday with both Agriculture Chairman Collin Peterson (D-Minn.) and Ways and Means Chairman Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.) — the two biggest roadblocks remaining in the House.

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