

**Insurance Capital Standards Clarification Act of 2014:** The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass S. 2270, to clarify the application of certain leverage and risk-based requirements under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. **Pages H9019–20**

**Suspension—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

**Supporting America's Charities Act:** H.R. 5806, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and make permanent certain expiring provisions related to charitable contributions. **Pages H8998–H9002**

**National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics—Reappointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's reappointment of the following individual on the part of the House to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics for a term of four years: Dr. Vickie M. Mays, Los Angeles, California. **Pages H9039–40**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H8942, H8968 and H9028.

**Senate Referrals:** S. 1474, S. 2614, S. 2519, and S. 2444 were held at the desk. **Pages H8942, H8968, H9028**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, December 11. **Page H9017**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Seven yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8966–67, H8967, H8968, H8991, H8991–92, H8992–93 and H8993. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### EXAMINING FDA'S ROLE IN THE REGULATION OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD INGREDIENTS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Examining FDA's Role in the Regulation of Genetically Modified Food Ingredients". Testimony was heard from Michael M. Landa, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Food and Drug Administration; and public witnesses.

### COUNTERING ISIS: ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Countering ISIS: Are We Making Progress?". Testimony was heard from Brett McGurk, Deputy Special Presidential Envoy for the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL, Department of State.

### RUSSIAN ARMS CONTROL CHEATING AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSES

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services, held a joint hearing entitled "Russian Arms Control Cheating and the Administration's Responses". Testimony was heard from Rose Gottemoeller, Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Department of State; and Brian McKeon, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, Department of Defense.

### THE UNITED STATES AS AN ARCTIC NATION: OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HIGH NORTH

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats held a hearing entitled "The United States as an Arctic Nation: Opportunities in the High North". Testimony was heard from Admiral Robert Papp, Jr., USCG, Retired, Special Representative for the Arctic, Department of State; and public witnesses.

### AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL: THE WAY FORWARD IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN (PART III)

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa; and the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, held a joint hearing entitled "After the Withdrawal: The Way Forward in Afghanistan and Pakistan (Part III)". Testimony was heard from Jarret Blanc, Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State; Donald L. Sampler, Assistant to the Administrator, Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Mr. James Soiles, Deputy Chief of Operations, Office of Global Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

### THE IMPACT ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES OF THE RELEASE OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN MINORS AND THE NEED FOR CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security held a hearing entitled "The Impact on Local Communities of the Release

of Unaccompanied Alien Minors and the Need for Consultation and Notification”. Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Barletta, Olson, Smith of Nebraska, and Crowley; Leonard Scarcella, Mayor of Stafford, Texas; Thomas M. Hodgson, Sheriff of Bristol County, Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

#### **EXAMINING EPA’S MANAGEMENT OF THE RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD PROGRAM**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements held a hearing entitled “Examining EPA’s Management of the Renewable Fuel Standard Program”. Testimony was heard from Janet G. McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency.

#### **ADDRESSING THE BACKLOG IN THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PROCESS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service, and the Census held a hearing entitled “Addressing the Backlog in the Federal Employee Retirement Process”. Testimony was heard from Kenneth J. Zawodny, Jr., Associate Director of Retirement Services, Office of Personnel Management; Donna Seymour, Chief Information Officer, Office of Personnel Management; Valerie C. Melvin, Director, Information Management and Technology Resource Issues, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

#### **SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL, TO REQUIRE THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO ASSEMBLE A TEAM OF TECHNICAL, POLICY, AND FINANCIAL EXPERTS TO ADDRESS THE ENERGY NEEDS OF THE INSULAR AREAS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY ACTION PLANS AIMED AT PROMOTING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE ENERGY, INCLUDING INCREASING USE OF INDIGENOUS CLEAN-ENERGY RESOURCES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on the Senate amendment to H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes [Consolidated and Further

Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015]. The committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a rule that provides for the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 83. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 83 with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–59 modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The rule provides 80 minutes of debate on the motion, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. In section 2, the rule provides that upon adoption of the motion specified in section 1, H. Con. Res. 122 (enrollment correction to the title) shall be considered as adopted. In section 3, the rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional Record at any time during the remainder of the second session of the 113th Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion specified in the first section of the resolution. In section 4, the rule waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported from the Rules Committee through the legislative day of December 12, 2014. Testimony was heard from Chairman Rogers of Kentucky, Chairman Kline, and Representatives Lowey, Price of North Carolina, George Miller of California, Salmon, Polis, King of Iowa, Deutch, Gohmert, Norton, Bachmann, McClintock, Duncan of South Carolina, Gosar, Huelskamp, Mulvaney, Ribble, and Clawson.

#### **AN UPDATE ON THE SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM AND ORION: MONITORING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATION’S DEEP SPACE EXPLORATION CAPABILITIES**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Space held a hearing entitled “An Update on the Space Launch System and Orion: Monitoring the Development of the Nation’s Deep Space Exploration Capabilities”. Testimony was heard from Bill Gerstenmaier, Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and Cristina Chaplain, Director, Acquisition

and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

### U.S. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS: INTEGRATION, OVERSIGHT, AND COMPETITIVENESS

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “U.S. Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Integration, Oversight, and Competitiveness”. Testimony was heard from Peggy Gilligan, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration; Matthew Hampton, Assistant Inspector General for Aviation Audits, Department of Transportation; Gerald Dillingham, Director of Civil Aviation Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

#### HEARING 2

*Select Committee on Benghazi:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Hearing 2”, relating to reviewing efforts to secure U.S. diplomatic facilities and personnel. Testimony was heard from Greg Starr, Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, Department of State; and Steve Linick, Inspector General, Department of State.

### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* with the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, to hold a joint oversight hearing to examine the implementation of the President’s executive order on Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* business meeting to consider an original resolution to authorize the limited use of the United States Armed Forces against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, S. Con. Res. 38, expressing the sense of Congress that Warren Weinstein should be returned home to his family, S. Res. 595, recognizing

Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai for their efforts to end the financial exploitation of children and to ensure the right of all children to an education, an original resolution commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS Day, H.R. 4573, to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, S. 2922, to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations, the nominations of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State, Leslie Berger Kiernan, of Maryland, as an Alternate Representative of the United States of America, to the Sixty-ninth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and lists in the Foreign Service, 10 a.m., SD–419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* with the Committee on Environment and Public Works, to hold a joint oversight hearing to examine the implementation of the President’s executive order on Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Joan Marie Azrack, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Loretta Copeland Biggs, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, Elizabeth K. Dillon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy, 10 a.m., SD–226.

#### House

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “The Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975: Are We Positioning America for Success in an Era of Energy Abundance?”, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,* Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “The Future of Nuclear Energy”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,* Full Committee, business meeting to approve the second annual activities report for the 113th Congress; hearing entitled “Evaluating Federal and Community Efforts to Eliminate Veteran Homelessness”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.