

proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support met in open session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities met in open session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel met in open session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016.

AMERICAN MINERAL SECURITY ACT OF 2015

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 883, to facilitate the reestablishment of domestic, critical mineral designation, assessment, production, manufacturing, recycling, analysis, forecasting, workforce, education, and research capabilities in the United States, after

receiving testimony from Suzette Kimball, Acting Director, Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Ed Fogels, Alaska Department of Natural Resources Deputy Commissioner, Anchorage, on behalf of The Interstate Mining Compact Commission; Red Conger, Freeport-McMoRan Americas, Washington, D.C., on behalf of National Mining Association; and Kevin J. Cosgriff, National Electrical Manufacturers Association, and Richard Silberglitt, The RAND Corporation, both of Arlington, Virginia.

CIVIL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH CHINA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the civil nuclear agreement with China, focusing on balancing potential risks and rewards, after receiving testimony from Thomas M. Countryman, Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation; and Lieutenant General Frank G. Klotz, USAF (Ret.), Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security and Administrator, National Nuclear Safety Administration.

VETERANS CHOICE PROGRAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the implementation and future of the Veterans Choice Program, after receiving testimony from Sloan Gibson, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and David J. McIntyre, Jr., TriWest Healthcare Alliance, Donna Hoffmeier, Health Net Federal Services, Roscoe G. Butler, The American Legion, Darin Selnick, Concerned Veterans for America, Joseph A. Violante, Disabled American Veterans, Bill Rausch, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and Carlos Fuentes, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 38 public bills, H.R. 2247–2284; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 50; and H. Res. 254, 256–259, were introduced.

Pages H2876–77

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2879–80

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2250, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–110); Supplemental report on H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military

construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–102, Part 2); and

H. Res. 255, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 36) to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2048) to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 114–111). **Pages H2875–76**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Womack to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2823**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:16 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H2825**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Andrew Walton, Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC. **Page H2825**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:13 p.m. and reconvened at 4:01 p.m. **Page H2826**

Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015: The House passed H.R. 1732, to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, by a recorded vote of 261 ayes to 155 noes, Roll No. 219. **Pages H2827–40, H2851–54**

Rejected the Aguilar motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 175 yeas to 241 nays, Roll No. 218. **Pages H2852–53**

Pursuant to the Rule, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–13, modified by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–98, shall be considered as read. **Pages H2836–37**

Agreed to:

Kildee amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–98) that gives a state two years to be-

come compliant with the new ‘waters of the U.S.’ rule in order to protect a state from automatically losing their state permitting programs through the Clean Water Act because of the new rule. **Pages H2839–40**

Rejected:

Edwards amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–98) that sought to provide policy provisions that the Secretary and Administrator are prohibited from including in a final rule (by a recorded vote of 167 yeas to 248 noes, Roll No. 217). **Pages H2837–39**

H. Res. 231, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1732), the conference report to accompany the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 11), and the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 43) was agreed to on April 30th.

Recess: The House recessed at 6:21 p.m. and reconvened at 6:31 p.m. **Page H2850**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu National Blue Alert Act of 2015: S. 665, to encourage, enhance, and integrate Blue Alert plans throughout the United States in order to disseminate information when a law enforcement officer is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty, is missing in connection with the officer’s official duties, or an imminent and credible threat that an individual intends to cause the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer is received; **Pages H2840–46**

Don’t Tax Our Fallen Public Safety Heroes Act: H.R. 606, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain compensation received by public safety officers and their dependents from gross income, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 413 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 216; **Pages H2846–48**

Defending Public Safety Employees’ Retirement Act: H.R. 2146, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, and air traffic controllers to make penalty-free withdrawals from governmental plans after age 50, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 407 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 220; and **Pages H2848–50, H2854–55**

Fallen Heroes Flag Act of 2015: H.R. 723, to provide Capitol-flown flags to the immediate family of fire fighters, law enforcement officers, members of rescue squads or ambulance crews, and public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty. **Pages H2856–57**

Oath of Office—Eleventh Congressional District of New York: Representative-elect Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. presented himself in the well of the

House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Robert A. Brehm and Mr. Todd D. Valentine, Co-Executive Directors of the New York State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held May 5, 2015, the Honorable Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. was elected Representative to Congress for the Eleventh Congressional District, State of New York.

Pages H2850–51

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from New York, the whole number of the House is 433.

Page H2851

Supplemental Report: Agreed that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to file a supplemental report on H.R. 1735, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016.

Page H2855

WIOA Technical Amendments Act: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass S. 1124, to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the Act.

Page H2855

Expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable James Claude Wright, Jr.: The House agreed to H. Res. 254, expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable James Claude Wright, Jr., a Representative from the State of Texas.

Page H2855

Recess: The House recessed at 9:11 p.m. and reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

Page H2865

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages H2826, H2850–51.

Senate Referrals: S. 179, S. 136, and S. 994 were referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. S. Con. Res. 16 was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Page H2866

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2850, H2851–52, H2853, H2853–54, and H2854–55. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and at 10:16 p.m., pursuant to H. Res. 254, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on May 13, 2015 out of respect for the late Honorable James Claude Wright, Jr.

Committee Meetings

PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT; NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016; USA FREEDOM ACT OF 2015

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 36, the “Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act”; H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016” (General Debate); and H.R. 2048, the “USA FREEDOM Act of 2015”. The committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a general debate rule for H.R. 1735. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that no further consideration of the bill shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House. Additionally, the rule grants a closed rule for H.R. 36. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule also grants a closed rule for H.R. 2048. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Lastly, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of May 14, 2015, or May 15, 2015, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules, as though under clause 1 of rule XV and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. Testimony was heard from Chairman Thornberry, Chairman Goodlatte, and Representatives Smith of Washington, Courtney, Nadler, Issa, Polis, Yoder, Amash, Massie, Franks of Arizona, and Cohen.