

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6615–S6660

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2029–2036, and S. Res. 252–256. **Page S6651**

Measures Reported:

S. 1090, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance. (S. Rept. No. 114–142)

S. 1580, to allow additional appointing authorities to select individuals from competitive service certificates. (S. Rept. No. 114–143)

S. Res. 252, expressing the sense of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate relating to easing the burden of Federal tax compliance on small businesses, with a preamble.

S. 1400, to amend the Small Business Act to direct the task force of the Office of Veterans Business Development to provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1756, to help small businesses take advantage of energy efficiency.

S. 1857, to amend the Small Business Act to provide for expanded participation in the microloan program.

S. 1866, to establish the veterans' business outreach center program, to improve the programs for veterans of the Small Business Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6651**

Measures Passed:

Equity in Government Compensation Act: Senate passed S. 2036, to suspend the current compensation packages for the chief executive officers of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. **Page S6659**

National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 245, designating the week beginning September 13, 2015, as "National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week", and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6659**

Hispanic Heritage Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 254, recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States. **Page S6657**

National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 255, designating the week beginning September 14, 2015, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week. **Pages S6657–58**

School Bus Safety Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 256, designating September 2015 as "School Bus Safety Month". **Page S6658**

Measures Considered:

Hire More Heroes Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of H.J. Res. 61, amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S6617–44**

Rejected:

McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Foreign Relations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2645, to change the enactment date. (Senate tabled the motion.) **Page S6617**

McConnell Amendment No. 2643 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2640), to change the enactment date. (Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S6617, S6643**

McConnell Amendment No. 2641 (to Amendment No. 2640), to change the enactment date. (Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S6617, S6643**

Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 2640, of a perfecting nature. **Page S6617**

McConnell Amendment No. 2656 (to Amendment No. 2640), to prohibit the President from waiving, suspending, reducing, providing relief from,

or otherwise limiting the application of sanctions pursuant to an agreement related to the nuclear program of Iran. **Page S6643**

McConnell Amendment No. 2657 (to Amendment No. 2656), to change the enactment date. **Page S6643**

McConnell Amendment No. 2658 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2640), to change the enactment date. **Page S6643**

McConnell Amendment No. 2659 (to Amendment No. 2658), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S6643–44**

McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Foreign Relations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2660, to prohibit the President from waiving, suspending, reducing, providing relief from, or otherwise limiting the application of sanctions pursuant to an agreement related to the nuclear program of Iran. **Page S6644**

McConnell Amendment No. 2661 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2660), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6644**

McConnell Amendment No. 2662 (to Amendment No. 2661), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6644**

A motion was entered to close further debate on McConnell Amendment No. 2656 (to Amendment No. 2640), and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, September 17, 2015. **Page S6644**

A motion was entered to close further debate on McConnell Amendment No. 2640, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of McConnell Amendment No. 2656 (to Amendment No. 2640). **Page S6644**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the joint resolution, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of McConnell Amendment No. 2640. **Page S6644**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 56 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 265), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on McConnell Amendment No. 2640. **Page S6643**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the joint resolution, be withdrawn. **Page S6644**

McConnell Amendment No. 2646 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2645), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Foreign Rela-

tions, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2645 (listed above) was tabled. **Page S6617**

McConnell Amendment No. 2647 (to Amendment No. 2646), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 2646 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2645) (listed above) fell. **Page S6617**

McConnell Amendment No. 2644 (to Amendment No. 2643), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 2643 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2640) (listed above) was tabled. **Page S6617**

McConnell Amendment No. 2642 (to Amendment No. 2641), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 2641 (to Amendment No. 2640) (listed above) was tabled. **Page S6617**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 11 a.m., on Wednesday, September 16, 2015, with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that the filing deadline for all first-degree amendments be at 2:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. **Page S6660**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Rebecca Goodgame Ebinger, of Iowa, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.

2 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral. **Page S6660**

Messages from the House: **Page S6649**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S6649**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S6649**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6649–51**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6652–53**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6653–58**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6648–49**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6658–59**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6659**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—265) **Page S6643**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 1 p.m. and adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6660.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intel-

ligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 7 public bills, H.R. 3504–3510; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 419 were introduced. **Page H5980**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5980–81**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Rooney (FL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5977**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Committee Meetings

REVIEW OF USDA ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, PART I

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing to review USDA organization and program administration, part I. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Alexis Taylor, Deputy Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment; and Catherine Woteki, Under Secretary, Research Education, and Economics.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the Food and Drug Administration's efforts to ensure the safety of the food supply and protect American consumers, 2 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine United States military operations to counter the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217, following the open session, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the cause, response, and impacts of EPA's Gold King Mine spill, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the United States role and strategy in the Middle East, focusing on Syria, Iraq, and the fight against ISIS, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine achieving the promise of health information technology, focusing on improving care through patient access to their records, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine regulatory reform proposals, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine EPA's Gold King Mine disaster, focusing on the harmful impacts to Indian country, 2:15 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine reforming the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 10:15 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 290, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 563, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans program to seek to employ physicians