

114TH CONGRESS }
1st Session

SENATE

{ REPORT
114-9

R E P O R T
ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES SENATE
DURING THE
113TH CONGRESS
PURSUANT TO
Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules
OF THE
UNITED STATES SENATE



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[113TH CONGRESS—COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP]

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ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., Pennsylvania ⁴	

¹ Resigned from the Senate February 6, 2014.

² Appointed committee chairman February 12, 2014.

³ Resigned from the Senate February 1, 2013.

⁴ Joined committee February 12, 2013.

⁵ Joined committee February 13, 2014.

⁶ Appointed chairman Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure April 3, 2014.

⁷ Appointed chairman Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight April 3, 2014.

⁸ Appointed chairman Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness April 3, 2014.

⁹ Appointed chairman Subcommittee on Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth April 3, 2014.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE,
Washington, DC, March 31, 2015.

Honorable JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SECRETARY: In accordance with rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the United States Senate and the pertinent unanimous consent order pertaining to this rule, I am transmitting herewith a report on the activities of the Committee on Finance of the United States Senate for the 113th Congress.

Sincerely,

ORRIN G. HATCH, *Chairman.*

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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS

MARCH 31, 2015.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on Finance,
submitted the following

REPORT

This report reviews the legislative and oversight activities of the Committee on Finance during the 113th Congress. These activities parallel the broad scope of responsibilities vested in the committee by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended, rule XXV(k) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and additional authorizing resolutions.

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION

Rule XXV(i) of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires reference to this committee of all proposed legislation, and other matters, dealing with (i) Committee on Finance, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Bonded debt of the United States, except as provided in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.
2. Customs, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery.
3. Deposit of public moneys.
4. General revenue sharing.
5. Health programs under the Social Security Act and health programs financed by a specific tax or trust fund.
6. National social security.
7. Reciprocal trade agreements.
8. Revenue measures generally, except as provided in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.
9. Revenue measures relating to the insular possessions.
10. Tariffs and import quotas, and matters related thereto.
11. Transportation of dutiable goods.

COMMITTEE RULES

I. RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 1. *Regular Meeting Days.*—The regular meeting day of the committee shall be the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, except that if there be no business before the committee the regular meeting shall be omitted.

Rule 2. *Committee Meetings.*—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 3 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to special meetings called by a majority of the committee) and subsection (b) of this rule, committee meetings, for the conduct of business, for the purpose of holding hearings, or for any other purpose, shall be called by the chairman. Members will be notified of committee meetings at least 48 hours in advance, unless the chairman determines that an emergency situation requires a meeting on shorter notice. The notification will include a written agenda together with materials prepared by the staff relating to that agenda. After the agenda for a committee meeting is published and distributed, no nongermane items may be brought up during that meeting unless at least two-thirds of the members present agree to consider those items.

(b) In the absence of the chairman, meetings of the committee may be called by the ranking majority member of the committee who is present, provided authority to call meetings has been delegated to such member by the chairman.

Rule 3. *Presiding Officer.*—(a) The chairman shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the committee except that in his absence the ranking majority member who is present at the meeting shall preside.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a) any member of the committee may preside over the conduct of a hearing.

Rule 4. *Quorums.*—(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) one-third of the membership of the committee, including not less than one member of the majority party and one member of the minority party, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a) one member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

Rule 5. *Reporting of Measures or Recommendations.*—No measure or recommendation shall be reported from the committee unless a majority of the committee is actually present and a majority of those present concur.

Rule 6. *Proxy Voting; Polling.*—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 7(a)(3) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to limitation on use of proxy voting to report a measure or matter), members who are unable to be present may have their vote recorded by proxy.

(b) At the discretion of the committee, members who are unable to be present and whose vote has not been cast by proxy may be polled for the purpose of recording their vote on any rollcall taken by the committee.

Rule 7. *Order of Motions.*—When several motions are before the committee dealing with related or overlapping matters, the chairman may specify the order in which the motions shall be voted upon.

Rule 8. *Bringing a Matter to a Vote.*—If the chairman determines that a motion or amendment has been adequately debated, he may call for a vote on such motion or amendment, and the vote shall then be taken, unless the committee votes to continue debate on such motion or amendment, as the case may be. The vote on a motion to continue debate on any motion or amendment shall be taken without debate.

Rule 9. *Public Announcement of Committee Votes.*—Pursuant to paragraph 7(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to public announcement of votes), the results of rollcall votes taken by the committee on any measure (or amendment thereto) or matter shall be announced publicly not later than the day on which such measure or matter is ordered reported from the committee.

Rule 10. *Subpoenas.*—Subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and the production of memoranda, documents, and records shall be issued by the chairman, or by any other member of the committee designated by him.

Rule 11. *Nominations.*—In considering a nomination, the committee may conduct an investigation or review of the nominee's experience, qualifications, and suit-

ability, to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. To aid in such investigation or review, each nominee may be required to submit a sworn detailed statement including biographical, financial, policy, and other information which the committee may request. The committee may specify which items in such statement are to be received on a confidential basis. Witnesses called to testify on the nomination may be required to testify under oath.

Rule 12. *Open Committee Hearings.*—To the extent required by paragraph 5 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to limitations on open hearings), each hearing conducted by the committee shall be open to the public.

Rule 13. *Announcement of Hearings.*—The committee shall undertake consistent with the provisions of paragraph 4(a) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to public notice of committee hearings) to issue public announcements of hearings it intends to hold at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearings.

Rule 14. *Witnesses at Hearings.*—(a) Each witness who is scheduled to testify at any hearing must submit his written testimony to the staff director not later than noon of the business day immediately before the last business day preceding the day on which he is scheduled to appear. Such written testimony shall be accompanied by a brief summary of the principal points covered in the written testimony. Having submitted his written testimony, the witness shall be allowed not more than 10 minutes for oral presentation of his statement.

(b) Witnesses may not read their entire written testimony, but must confine their oral presentation to a summarization of their arguments.

(c) Witnesses shall observe proper standards of dignity, decorum, and propriety while presenting their views to the committee. Any witness who violates this rule shall be dismissed, and his testimony (both oral and written) shall not appear in the record of the hearing.

(d) In scheduling witnesses for hearings, the staff shall attempt to schedule witnesses so as to attain a balance of views early in the hearings. Every member of the committee may designate witnesses who will appear before the committee to testify. To the extent that a witness designated by a member cannot be scheduled to testify during the time set aside for the hearing, a special time will be set aside for the witness to testify if the member designating that witness is available at that time to chair the hearing.

Rule 15. *Audiences.*—Persons admitted into the audience for open hearings of the committee shall conduct themselves with the dignity, decorum, courtesy, and propriety traditionally observed by the Senate. Demonstrations of approval or disapproval of any statement or act by any member or witness are not allowed. Persons creating confusion or distractions or otherwise disrupting the orderly proceeding of the hearing shall be expelled from the hearing.

Rule 16. *Broadcasting of Hearings.*—(a) Broadcasting of open hearings by television or radio coverage shall be allowed upon approval by the chairman of a request filed with the staff director not later than noon of the day before the day on which such coverage is desired.

(b) If such approval is granted, broadcasting coverage of the hearing shall be conducted unobtrusively and in accordance with the standards of dignity, propriety, courtesy, and decorum traditionally observed by the Senate.

(c) Equipment necessary for coverage by television and radio media shall not be installed in, or removed from, the hearing room while the committee is in session.

(d) Additional lighting may be installed in the hearing room by the media in order to raise the ambient lighting level to the lowest level necessary to provide adequate television coverage of the hearing at the then current state of the art of television coverage.

(e) The additional lighting authorized by subsection (d) of this rule shall not be directed into the eyes of any members of the committee or of any witness, and at the request of any such member or witness, offending lighting shall be extinguished.

Rule 17. *Subcommittees.*—(a) The chairman, subject to the approval of the committee, shall appoint legislative subcommittees. All legislation shall be kept on the full committee calendar unless a majority of the members present and voting agree to refer specific legislation to an appropriate subcommittee.

(b) The chairman may limit the period during which House-passed legislation referred to a subcommittee under paragraph (a) will remain in that subcommittee. At the end of that period, the legislation will be restored to the full committee calendar. The period referred to in the preceding sentences should be 6 weeks, but may be extended in the event that adjournment or a long recess is imminent.

(c) All decisions of the chairman are subject to approval or modification by a majority vote of the committee.

(d) The full committee may at any time by majority vote of those members present discharge a subcommittee from further consideration of a specific piece of legislation.

(e) The chairman and ranking minority member shall serve as nonvoting *ex officio* members of the subcommittees on which they do not serve as voting members.

(f) Any member of the committee may attend hearings held by any subcommittee and question witnesses testifying before that subcommittee.

(g) Subcommittee meeting times shall be coordinated by the staff director to ensure that—

(1) no subcommittee meeting will be held when the committee is in executive session, except by unanimous consent;

(2) no more than one subcommittee will meet when the full committee is holding hearings; and

(3) not more than two subcommittees will meet at the same time.

Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), a subcommittee may meet when the full committee is holding hearings and two subcommittees may meet at the same time only upon the approval of the chairman and the ranking minority member of the committee and subcommittees involved.

(h) All nominations shall be considered by the full committee.

(i) The chairman will attempt to schedule reasonably frequent meetings of the full committee to permit consideration of legislation reported favorably to the committee by the subcommittees.

Rule 18. *Transcripts of Committee Meetings.*—An accurate record shall be kept of all markups of the committee, whether they be open or closed to the public. A transcript, marked as “uncorrected,” shall be available for inspection by Members of the Senate, or members of the committee together with their staffs, at any time. Not later than 21 business days after the meeting occurs, the committee shall make publicly available through the Internet—

(a) a video recording;

(b) an audio recording; or

(c) after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements, a corrected transcript.

Notwithstanding the above, in the case of the record of an executive session of the committee that is closed to the public pursuant to Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the record shall not be published or made public in any way except by majority vote of the committee after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements made.

Rule 19. *Amendment of Rules.*—The foregoing rules may be added to, modified, amended, or suspended at any time.

TAX

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

During the 113th Congress, the Senate Finance Committee played a critical role in maintaining funding for the nation's infrastructure and in preventing tax increases from expiring provisions for American families and businesses. The Committee also continued the push for comprehensive tax reform, publishing ten bipartisan papers on tax reform options, which covered important policy questions on individual and corporate taxation.

A series of hearings held by the Senate Finance Committee during the 113th Congress examined several options related to tax reform and tax compliance, including hearings on education incentives, international taxation, retirement savings, and energy tax incentives.

2014 Legislation

On April 3, 2014, the Committee reported S. 2260, the Expiring Provisions Improvement, Reform, and Efficiency (EXPIRE) Act, which provided a 2-year extension of various expired and expiring tax code provisions in order to provide taxpayers with certainty and to build a bridge to tax reform. On May 7, 2014, Chairman Wyden proposed the text of S. 2260 as an amendment to a House-passed revenue bill, H.R. 3474, but the Senate failed to invoke cloture on the Wyden amendment by a vote of 53–40.

On April 3, 2014, the Committee reported S. 2261, the Tax Technical Corrections Act of 2014.

On July 10, 2014, the Committee voted to report an original bill, The Preserving America's Transit and Highways (PATH) Act. The bill provided an extension of highway fund expenditures and provided revenue for highway programs primarily through improvements in tax compliance. On July 29, 2014, the Senate agreed to the provisions of the PATH Act as an amendment to H.R. 5021, the Highway and Transportation Funding Act, which provided revenue for highway programs primarily by reducing private pension funding requirements and increasing customs fees. The bill was further amended by Senate amendment no. 3583. On July 31, 2014, the House of Representatives disagreed to the Senate amendments, and the Senate receded from its amendments and passed H.R. 5021, which became law on August 8, 2014 (Pub. L. No. 113–159).

On December 16, 2014, H.R. 5771, the Tax Increase Prevention Act, was passed in the Senate. The bill extends certain expiring provisions and makes technical corrections, and provides for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities. It became law on December 19, 2014 (Pub. L. No. 113–295).

FULL COMMITTEE HEARINGS

2013

February 26, 2013—"The Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2013–2023." The hearing covered the budget and economic outlook for fiscal years 2013–2023 with an emphasis on employment and balancing budgets. Testimony was heard from Dr. Douglas W. Elmendorf, Director, Congressional Budget Office, Washington, DC; Mr. Robert Greenstein, President, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Washington, DC; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Ph.D., President, American Action Forum, Washington, DC.

April 11, 2013—"President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget." The hearing covered the President's 2014 budget and touched on health care, tax reform, and employment. Testimony was heard from Hon. Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC.

April 16, 2013—"Tax Fraud and ID Theft: Moving Forward with Solutions." The hearing examined tax-related identity theft and identified concrete legislative proposals to effectively address the issue. Testimony was heard from Mr. Steven Miller, Acting Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC; Ms. Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC; Mr. Jeffrey A. Porter, Chair of the Tax Executive Committee, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and Founder, Porter and Associates, Huntington, WV; and Ms. Marianna LaCanfora, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration, Baltimore, MD.

May 21, 2013—"A Review of Criteria Used by the IRS to Identify 501(c)(4) Applications for Greater Scrutiny." The hearing covered the rules applying to major tax-exempt organizations—501(c)(4), (c)(5), and (c)(6)—and the criteria used by the IRS to identify 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations for greater scrutiny. Testimony was heard from Mr. Steven Miller, Acting Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC; Hon. J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC; and Hon. Douglas Shulman, Former IRS Commissioner, and Guest Scholar, Brookings Institution, Washington, DC.

2014

March 5, 2014—"President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget." The hearing covered the President's fiscal year 2015 budget and included commentary on the following policy areas: employment, infrastructure, workforce training and education, safety and security, health care, tax reform, and immigration reform. Testimony was heard from Hon. Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC.

March 13, 2014—"Innovative Ideas to Strengthen and Expand the Middle Class." The hearing examined the economic underpinnings of the middle class and what policies could expand the number and strengthen the economic security of middle-class Americans. Testimony was heard from Ms. Diane Swonk, Chief

Economist and Senior Managing Director, Mesirow Financial, Chicago, IL; Mr. George Packer, Staff Writer, Author, *The New Yorker* magazine, “The Unwinding: An Inner History of the New America,” Brooklyn, NY; Dr. William C. Dunkelberg, Chief Economist, National Federation of Independent Business, Washington, DC; Dr. Lawrence B. Lindsey, President and CEO, The Lindsey Group, Fairfax, VA; and Dr. Leonard Burman, Ph.D., Director, Tax Policy Center, The Urban Institute, Washington, DC.

April 8, 2014—“Protecting Taxpayers from Incompetent and Unethical Return Preparers.” The hearing highlighted the problems created by unqualified or unscrupulous tax return preparers and solicited ways to protect taxpayers and maintain an effective tax collection system. Testimony was heard from Hon. John A. Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC; Ms. Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC; Mr. James R. McTigue Jr., Director, Tax Issues, Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC; Mr. Wayne A. McElrath, Director, Investigative Services, Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC; Mr. William Cobb, President and CEO, H&R Block, Kansas City, MO; Ms. Janis Salisbury, Chair, Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners, Oregon City, OR; Dr. John Barrick, Associate Professor, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT; Ms. Chi Chi Wu, Staff Attorney, National Consumer Law Center, Boston, MA; and Mr. Dan Alban, Attorney, Institute for Justice, Arlington, VA.

May 6, 2014—“New Routes for Funding and Financing Highways and Transit.” The hearing focused on methods for addressing the long-term gap between revenues and outlays for the highway trust fund, including new funding sources, increasing private financing of public infrastructure, and examining the federal government’s overall role in infrastructure. Testimony was heard from Hon. Barbara Boxer, U.S. Senator, State of California; Dr. Joseph Kile, Assistant Director for Microeconomic Studies Division, Congressional Budget Office, Washington, DC; Hon. Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., Secretary of Transportation, State of Virginia, Richmond, VA; Mr. Jayan Dhru, Managing Director, Corporate and Infrastructure Ratings, Standard and Poor’s Ratings Services, New York, NY; Ms. Samara Barend, Senior Vice President and P3 Development Director, AECOM Capital, New York, NY; and Mr. Chris Edwards, Director, Tax Policy Studies, Cato Institute, Washington, DC.

June 24, 2014—“Less Student Debt from the Start: What Role Should the Tax System Play?” The hearing focused on the complexity and effectiveness of education tax incentives and whether the tax system should play a role in reducing the amount that students borrow up front to attend college. Testimony was heard from Ms. Amber Lee, Graduate, Willamette High School, Eugene, OR; Hon. Mark J. Mazur, Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC; Ms. Jayne Caflin Fonash, Director of School Counseling, Loudoun Academy of Science, Sterling, VA; Mr. Dean Zerbe, National Managing Director, alliantgroup, Washington, DC; and Mr. Scott A. Hodge, President, Tax Foundation, Washington, DC.

July 22, 2014—“The U.S. Tax Code: Love It, Leave It, or Reform It.” The hearing examined the United States’ current system of international corporate taxation and recent proposals to reform and improve it. Testimony was heard from Mr. Robert B. Stack, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Tax Affairs, U.S. Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC; Mr. Pascal Saint-Amans, Director, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris, France; Dr. Mihir A. Desai, Mizuho Financial Group Professor of Finance and Professor of Law, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; Dr. Peter R. Merrill, Director, National Economics and Statistics Group, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Washington, DC; Dr. Leslie Robinson, Associate Professor of Business Administration, Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; and Mr. Allan Sloan, Senior Editor at Large, *Fortune*, New York, NY.

July 29, 2014—“Tobacco: Taxes Owed, Avoided, and Evaded.” The hearing examined the extent to which legislation is needed to combat tobacco tax avoidance and evasion, and also possible unintended consequences of legislation. Testimony was heard from Mr. John J. Manfreda, Administrator, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Washington, DC; Dr. David B. Gootnick, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC; Mr. Ronald J. Bernstein, President and CEO, Liggett Vector Brands LLC, Morrisville, NC; Mr. Rocky Patel, Owner, Board Member, Rocky Patel Premium Cigars Inc., Cigar Rights of America, Naples, FL; Mr. Michael Tynan, Policy Officer, Oregon Public Health Division, Portland, OR; and Mr. Scott Drenkard, Economist and Manager of State Projects, Tax Foundation, Washington, DC.

September 16, 2014—“Retirement Savings 2.0: Updating Savings Policy for the Modern Economy.” The hearing examined the current system of tax incentives for retirement savings in the United States, and covered options for improvement and reform. Testimony was received from Mr. John C. Bogle, Founder and Former CEO, Vanguard, Valley Forge, PA; Dr. Brian Reid, Chief Economist, Investment Company Institute, Washington, DC; Mr. Scott Betts, Senior Vice President, National Benefit Services, West Jordan, UT; Dr. Brigitte C. Madrian, Aetna Professor of Public Policy and Corporate Management, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, MA; Dr. Andrew G. Biggs, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC; and Ms. Ellen Schultz, Author and Investigative Reporter, formerly with *The Wall Street Journal*, New York, NY.

September 17, 2014—“Reforming America’s Outdated Energy Tax Code.” The hearing covered reforms to the Code as it relates to the energy sector and made business and environmental cases for both energy tax reform and energy policy updates. Testimony was heard from Hon. Don Nickles, Chairman and CEO, The Nickles Group, LLC, Washington, DC; Mr. Norman R. Augustine, Retired Chairman and CEO, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Bethesda, MD; Dr. Gilbert Metcalf, Professor of Economics, Tufts University, Medford, MA; Mr. Ethan Zindler, Head of Policy

Analysis, Bloomberg New Energy Finance, Washington, DC; and Dr. David W. Kreutzer, Research Fellow in Energy Economics and Climate Change, Center for Data Analysis, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, DC.

FULL COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

2014

April 3, 2014—Open Executive Session to consider a Chairman’s Mark entitled, “Expiring Provisions Improvement, Reform, and Efficiency (EXPIRE) Act;” a Chairman’s Mark entitled, “The Tax Technical Corrections Act of 2014;” and to fill vacancies on subcommittees, the Joint Committee on Taxation, the Congressional Oversight Group, and the Congressional Trade Advisors on Trade Policy and Negotiations.

June 26, 2014—Open Executive Session to consider a Chairman’s Mark entitled, “The Preserving America’s Transit and Highways (PATH) Act.”

July 10, 2014—Continuation of the Open Executive Session to consider a Chairman’s Mark entitled, “The Preserving America’s Transit and Highways (PATH) Act.”

SENATORS’ ONLY MEETINGS

2013

January 30, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss the Committee agenda.

March 21, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to families and businesses.

April 11, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to business investment and innovation.

April 18, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to family, education, and opportunity.

April 25, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to infrastructure, energy, and natural resources.

May 9, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to international competitiveness.

May 15, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to economic and community development.

May 23, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to health, retirement, life insurance, fringe benefits, and executive compensation.

June 4, 2013—Senators’ Meeting with Secretary Jacob Lew to discuss the Federal debt limit.

June 6, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to types of income and business entities.

June 13, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to tax exempt organizations and charitable giving.

June 20, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to non-income tax issues and related areas.

June 27, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform.

September 18, 2013—Senators’ Meeting with Secretary Jacob Lew to discuss the Federal debt limit.

November 19, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss tax reform options related to international business taxation.

2014

June 4, 2014—Senators’ Meeting to discuss options for funding the Highway Trust Fund.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES,
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

2013

July 31, 2013—“Powering Our Future: Principles for Energy Tax Reform.” The hearing covered principles of energy tax reform around which consensus can be built. Testimony was heard from Hon. Christopher A. Coons, U.S. Senator, State of Delaware; Hon. Jerry Moran, U.S. Senator, State of Kansas; Ms. Phyllis Cuttino, Director, Clean Energy, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, DC; Mr. Dan Reicher, Executive Director, Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy Finance, Professor, Stanford Law School, and Lecturer, Stanford Graduate School of Business, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA; Mr. Will Coleman, Partner, OnRamp Capital, San Francisco, CA; and Ms. Margo Thorning, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist, American Council for Capital Formation, Washington, DC.

2014

December 3, 2014—“Natural Gas Vehicles: Fueling American Jobs, Enhancing Energy Security, and Achieving Emissions Benefits.” The hearing discussed the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel and considered a range of policy proposals that would encourage additional investment in natural gas infrastructure. Testimony was heard from Mr. Robert Carrick, Natural Gas Sales Manager, Daimler Trucks North America, Portland, OR; Mr. Mike Whitlatch, Senior Director of Global Energy and Procurement, UPS, Atlanta, GA; Mr. Joseph A. Calabrese, CEO, General Manager, and Secretary-Treasurer, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cleveland, OH; Mr. Ronald W. Jibson, Chairman, President, and CEO, Questar, Salt Lake City, UT; Mr. Rich Kassel, Senior Vice President, East Coast Operations, Gladstein, Neandross, and Associates, New York, NY; and Mr. Harrison Clay, President, Clean Energy Renewable Fuels, Newport Beach, CA.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAXATION AND IRS OVERSIGHT

2014

July 23, 2014—“Saving for an Uncertain Future: How the ABLE Act Can Help People With Disabilities and Their Families.” The hearing addressed the policy needs for the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (S. 313) from the perspective of individuals living with disabilities, advocates, lawmakers, and financial planners. Testimony was heard from Ms. Sara C. Wolf, Self-Advocate and Board Member, National Down Syndrome Society, Moscow, PA; Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Member, United

States House of Representatives, Spokane, WA; Mr. Robert D'Amelio, Volunteer Advocate, Autism Speaks, Charlotte, NC; and Mr. Chase Alston Phillips, Financial Advisor, Alexandria, VA.

November 18, 2014—"Tax Relief after a Disaster: How Individuals, Small Businesses, and Communities Recover." The hearing examined how the tax code can help areas recover and rebuild after major disasters. Testimony was heard from Hon. Andy Berke, Mayor, City of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN; Hon. Robert G. Loughery, Chairman, Bucks County Board of Commissioners, Doylestown, PA; Hon. Vincent Ignizio, Council Member, New York City Council, New York, NY; Mr. Sean T. Cronin, Executive Director, St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District, Longmont, CO; Mr. Steve Ellis, Vice President, Taxpayers for Common Sense, Washington, DC; and Mr. Troy K. Lewis, Chair, AICPA Tax Executive Committee, Draper, UT.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY,
PENSIONS, AND FAMILY POLICY

2013

December 18, 2013—"The Role of Social Security, Defined Benefits, and Private Retirement Accounts in the Face of the Retirement Crisis." The hearing discussed the challenges facing Social Security along with the lack of individual saving happening in America and the potential negative impact in terms of future poverty rates among senior citizens. Testimony was heard from Mr. Robert G. Romasco, President, AARP, Washington, DC; Mr. Andrew G. Biggs, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC; Mr. Dean Baker, Co-Director, Center for Economic and Policy Research, Washington, DC; and Mr. John F. Sweeney, Executive Vice President, Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA.

2014

February 26, 2014—"Retirement Savings for Low-Income Workers." The hearing considered the status of private-sector retirement options offered to low-income workers and allowed for the discussion of a range of policy responses. Testimony was heard from Mr. J. Mark Iwry, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Retirement and Health Policy, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC; Ms. Diane Oakley, Executive Director, National Institute on Retirement Security, Washington, DC; Mr. Stephen P. Utkus, Principal and Director, Vanguard Center for Retirement Research, Malvern, PA; and Ms. Judy A. Miller, MSPA, FSA, MAAA, Director of Retirement Policy, American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries (ASPPA), ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries, Arlington, VA.

TRADE

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

In the 113th Congress, the Senate Finance Committee played a key role on trade issues, with a focus on growing the American economy by expanding trade- and investment-related opportunities overseas. The Committee held a variety of hearings to examine the successes and challenges of current U.S. trade agreements, as well as the potential for growth presented by deeper trade relationships with Europe, Africa, and the Asia-Pacific. The Committee also debated the renewal of Trade Promotion Authority, which, among other things, provides Congressional direction to the President on trade negotiating objectives, establishes consultation requirements with Congress, and sets out expedited procedures for Congressional consideration of trade agreements.

FULL COMMITTEE HEARINGS

2013

March 19, 2013—“President’s 2013 Trade Agenda.” This hearing examined the President’s trade priorities for 2013, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), and agreements governing services and information technology. The Committee also discussed Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). Acting U.S. Trade Representative Hon. Demetrios Marantis testified at the hearing.

April 24, 2013—“The Trans-Pacific Partnership: Opportunities and Challenges.” At this hearing, the Committee discussed the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), with a focus on further opening new markets in the Asia Pacific region and encouraging exports while removing barriers to trade and protecting American intellectual property. The Committee heard testimony from Hon. Karan Bhatia, Vice President and Senior Counsel of Global Government Affairs and Policy for General Electric; Mr. Bob Hanson, President of the Montana Farm Bureau Federation; Mr. David Hirschmann, President and CEO of the Global Intellectual Property Center at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. Tom Suber, President of the U.S. Dairy Export Council.

May 22, 2013—“S. 662, The Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2013.” This hearing focused on legislation to reauthorize Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the agencies that secure U.S. borders and facilitate trade through American ports. Priorities in the bill included the facilitation of trade and the protection of intellectual property rights. Witnesses included Mr. William A. Cook, Director of Worldwide Logistics and Customs for Chrysler Group; Mr. David Cooper, Global Customs Compliance Manager

for Procter and Gamble; Mr. Clark Silcox, General Counsel and Secretary of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association; and Ms. Mary Ann Comstock, Brokerage Compliance Manager for UPS Supply Chain Solutions.

October 30, 2013—“The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: Achieving the Potential.” This hearing focused on the U.S.-E.U. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and the opportunities it presents to increase trade, boost U.S. exports, and grow jobs. The Committee also addressed hurdles that must be overcome, including the protection of intellectual property rights and barriers to digital trade. The witnesses were Mr. Michael L. Ducker, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of FedEx; Mr. Ryan McCormick, President of the Montana Grain Growers Association; Mr. Dave Ricks, Senior Vice President of Eli Lilly and Company and President of Lilly Bio-Medicines; and Mr. William Roenigk, Senior Vice President of the National Chicken Council.

2014

January 16, 2014—“Advancing Congress’s Trade Agenda: The Role of Trade Negotiating Authority.” This hearing addressed Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), with a focus on increasing American exports, enabling the growth of the manufacturing sector, reducing tariffs, and increasing American competitiveness in the global market. Witnesses were Mr. David M. Cote, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Honeywell International; Mr. Jim Allen, President of New York Apple Association, Inc.; Ms. Elena M. Stegemann, Director of International Business of NuStep Inc.; and Mr. Larry Cohen, President of Communications Workers of America.

May 1, 2014—“President Obama’s 2014 Trade Policy Agenda.” This hearing focused on the President’s trade agenda, including Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), protecting American intellectual property abroad, and maintaining America’s competitiveness in light of trade barriers erected by China, India, and others. The Committee heard testimony from Hon. Michael Froman, the U.S. Trade Representative.

June 25, 2014—“Trade Enforcement: Using Trade Rules to Level the Playing Field for U.S. Companies and Workers.” The hearing explored proposals to improve the enforcement of U.S. trade laws. Witnesses were Mr. Kevin Brosch, Trade Consultant, BroschTrade LLC, on behalf of the National Chicken Council, Washington, DC; Mr. Richard Wilkins, Treasurer, American Soybean Association, Greenwood, DE; Mr. Bart Peterson, Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Communications, Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN; Mr. Leo W. Gerard, International President, The United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union (United Steelworkers), Pittsburgh, PA; and Mr. Mario Longhi, President and Chief Executive Officer, United States Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA.

July 17, 2014—“The Role of Trade and Technology in 21st-Century Manufacturing.” At this hearing, the Committee discussed opportunities for strengthening American manufacturing in the tech-

nology sector, with a focus on trade agreements that can open new markets abroad and increase exports. Witnesses were Mr. Stephen Ezell, Senior Analyst for the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation; Ms. Jacklyn A. Sturm, Vice President and General Manager of Global Supply Management at Intel; and Mr. Ray Kimber, Founder, Owner, and President of Kimber Kable, on behalf of himself and the Consumer Electronics Association.

July 30, 2014—“The African Growth and Opportunity Act at 14: The Road Ahead.” This hearing focused on the successes and challenges of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which was enacted to strengthen the economies of sub-Saharan African countries by allowing many of their goods to be imported duty-free. The Committee discussed improvements that could be built into a reauthorization of AGOA, including steps to strengthen intellectual property rights and reduce unnecessary regulations. Hon. Michael Froman, the U.S. Trade Representative, testified at the hearing.

SENATORS’ ONLY MEETINGS

2014

March 12, 2014—Senators’ Meeting to discuss the status of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement with United States Trade Representative Michael Froman.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE, CUSTOMS, AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

2014

July 29, 2014—“The U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement: Lessons Learned Two Years Later.” The purpose of this hearing was to examine the economic impact of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, as well as the opportunities and challenges it presented to U.S. businesses and workers. Testimony was heard from Mr. Stephen E. Biegun, Vice President of International Governmental Affairs for the Ford Motor Company; Mr. Sean Murphy, Vice President and Counsel for Qualcomm; Ms. Shawna Morris, Vice President of Trade Policy for the National Milk Producers Federation and U.S. Dairy Export Council; and Mr. Michael Rue, Owner of Rue and Forsman Ranch, Inc., on behalf of the USA Rice Federation.

HEALTH

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Throughout the 113th Congress, the committee held hearings on and favorably reported a bipartisan bill to permanently repeal and replace Medicare's flawed physician sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula. The bill replaces the SGR formula with a payment system that emphasizes quality and value while ensuring that physicians do not receive arbitrary payment cuts that are currently mandated by the SGR formula.

During the course of the Congress, the committee also held hearings that focused on improving the Medicare and Medicaid Programs for beneficiaries and providers alike.

The committee also focused on oversight of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Multiple hearings were held to receive and discuss progress reports from the implementing agencies and departments, both at the Federal and state levels. The committee produced bipartisan, bicameral legislation which standardized post-acute care assessment data for quality, payment, and discharge planning, called the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act. The IMPACT Act, specifically increased oversight of hospice agencies through a survey and certification process, audits of agencies with long hospice stays above a set threshold, and an updated method for calculating the hospice payment cap. The House passed companion legislation, H.R. 4994, unanimously on September 16, 2014, and on September 18, 2014, the Senate passed the same bill by unanimous consent. H.R. 4994 was signed by the President and became law on October 2, 2014 (Pub. L. 113-185).

During the second session, Sylvia Mathews Burwell's nomination for Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services was favorably reported out of Committee. Her nomination was later confirmed by the full Senate by a 78-17 vote.

LEGISLATION

December 12, 2013—Mark up: "An Original Bill to Repeal the Sustainable Growth Rate System and to Consider Health Care Extenders," S. 1871. The purpose of this mark-up was to consider legislation that would repeal Medicare's SGR and replace it with policies that improve the existing fee-for-service system through a value-based performance program, provide an accurate valuation of services, improve chronic care management, and encourage evidence-based care. The legislation also would encourage the adoption of alternative payment models, such as accountable care organizations, patient-centered medical homes, bundled payments, and data transparency among providers. Finally, the bill

would extend funding for other health services for Medicare and Medicaid and other programs. Although S. 1871 was not taken up on the Senate floor, on March 31, 2014, the Senate passed H.R. 4302, the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014, which suspended the SGR increase, and extended various health programs, until March 31, 2015. The bill was signed by the President and became law on April 1, 2014 (Pub. L. 113–93).

FULL COMMITTEE HEARINGS

2013

February 14, 2013—“Health Insurance Exchanges: Progress Report.” The purpose of this hearing was to receive an update on the progress of establishing Exchanges as part of the Affordable Care Act. Testimony was received for Panel I from Mr. Gary Cohen, Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC. Testimony for Panel II was received from Ms. Christine Ferguson, Director of Rhode Island Health Benefit Exchange, State of Rhode Island, Providence, RI; Ms. Bettina Tweardy Riveros, Advisor to the Governor and Chair of the Delaware Health Care Commission, State of Delaware, Wilmington, DE; and Mr. Don Hughes, Advisor to the Office of the Governor, State of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ.

February 28, 2013—“Delivery System Reform: Progress Report from CMS.” The purpose of this hearing was to receive an update from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on delivery system reforms and the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Testimony was received from Mr. Jonathan Blum, Acting Principal Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Medicare, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Baltimore, MD.

March 20, 2013—“Reforming the Delivery System: The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.” The purpose of this hearing was to review the activities of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). Testimony was received from Richard J. Gilfillan, M.D., Director, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Baltimore, MD.

April 17, 2013—“President’s Fiscal Year 2014 Health Care Proposals.” The purpose of this hearing was to review and ask questions about the President’s fiscal year 2014 proposed budget. Testimony was received from Hon. Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC.

April 23, 2013—“The Antwone Fisher Story as a Case Study for Child Welfare.” The purpose of this this hearing was to discuss solutions to the challenges faced by youth in the foster care system and the ways which legislation is helping to strengthen and improve the child welfare system. Key witness Antwone Fisher’s life story was used to view the evolution of America’s foster care system. Testimony was received from Mr. Antwone Fisher, Author, Director and Film Producer, Los Angeles, CA; Mr. Gary

Stangler, Executive Director, Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, St. Louis, MO; Mr. Eric Fenner, Managing Director, Casey Family Programs, Westerville, OH; and Mr. Kevin Campbell, Founder, Center for Family Finding and Youth Connectedness, Lakewood, WA.

May 14, 2013—“Advancing Reform: Medicare Physicians Payments.” The purpose of this hearing was to discuss repealing the flawed SGR formula and what Congress can do to improve the physician payment system to incentivize and reward high-quality, high-value care. Testimony was received from Mark E. Miller, Ph.D., Executive Director, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, Washington, DC; A. Bruce Steinwald, MBA, President, Bruce Steinwald Consulting, Washington, DC; and Kavita K. Patel, MD, MSHS, Fellow and Managing Director, The Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC.

June 11, 2013—“Sex Trafficking and Exploitation in America: Child Welfare’s Role in Prevention and Intervention.” The purpose of this this hearing was to discuss the limitations of the child welfare system in preventing sex trafficking of foster youth. Testimony was received from Ms. Asia Graves, Maryland Outreach Services Coordinator and Survivor Advocate, FAIR Girls, Baltimore, MD; Ms. Michelle Guymon, Probation Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department: Innocence Lost LA Task Force, Los Angeles, CA; Ms. Susan Goldfarb, Executive Director, Children’s Advocacy Center of Suffolk County, Boston, MA; and Hon. Joette Katz, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Children and Families, Hartford, CT.

June 18, 2013—“High Prices, Low Transparency: The Bitter Pill of Health Care Costs.” The purpose of the hearing was to discuss the issues raised by the March 4, 2013, *Time* magazine article by journalist Steven Brill entitled “Bitter Pill: Why Medical Bills are Killing Us.” Testimony was received from Mr. Steven Brill, J.D., Contributing Editor, *Time*, New York, NY; Dr. Suzanne Delbanco, Executive Director, Catalyst for Payment Reform, San Francisco, CA; Dr. Paul Ginsburg, President, Center for Studying Health System Change, Washington, DC; and Dr. Giovanni Colella, CEO and Co-Founder, Castlight Health, San Francisco, CA.

June 25, 2013—“Program Integrity: Oversight of Recovery Audit Contractors.” The purpose of this hearing was to provide a broad overview of the Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC) program from the vantage point of a RAC and health care providers. Testimony was received from Ms. J.J. Carmody, Director of Reimbursement, Billings Clinic, Billings, MT; Ms. Suzie Draper, Vice President, Business Ethics and Compliance, Intermountain Healthcare, Salt Lake City, UT; and Mr. Robert Rolf, Vice President, CGI Federal Inc., Fairfax, VA.

June 26, 2013—“Health Care Quality: The Path Forward.” The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the state of quality in healthcare and issues related to quality measure development, quality reporting, and pay-for-performance. Testimony was received from Hon. Mark McClellan, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution, Washington, DC; Dr. Christine K. Cassel,

President and CEO, National Quality Forum, Washington, DC; Dr. David Lansky, President and CEO, Pacific Business Group on Health, San Francisco, CA; and Dr. Elizabeth A. McGlynn, Director, Kaiser Permanente Center for Effectiveness and Safety Research, Pasadena, CA.

July 10, 2013—"Repealing the SGR and the Path Forward: A View from CMS." The purpose of this hearing was to hear the views of the Center from Medicare and Medicaid Services on repealing the SGR and improving the Medicare physician payment system. Testimony was received from Mr. Jonathan Blum, Acting Principal Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Medicare, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Baltimore, MD.

July 17, 2013—"Health Information Technology: A Building Block to Quality Health Care." The purpose of this hearing was to hear from the Administration and discuss their actions to encourage, incentivize, and help eligible professionals and eligible hospitals to implement the health information technology "meaningful use" program. Testimony was received from Farzad Mostashari, MD, ScM, National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC; and Patrick Conway, MD, MSc, Chief Medical Officer and Director, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality, and Acting Director, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Washington, DC.

July 24, 2013—"Health Information Technology: Using it to Improve Care." The purpose of this hearing was to hear the views of health information technology vendors, eligible professionals, and eligible hospitals as they implement health information technology to improve care. Testimony was received from Ms. Janet Marchibroda, Director, Health Innovation Initiative, Bipartisan Policy Center, Washington, DC; Dr. John Glaser, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, Health Services, Siemens Healthcare, Malvern, PA; Mr. Marty Fattig, Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Nemaha County Hospital, Auburn, NE; and Dr. Colin Banas, MD, Chief Medical Information Officer and Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

November 6, 2013—"Health Insurance Exchanges: An Update from the Administration." The purpose of this hearing was to receive an update from the Administration regarding *Healthcare.gov* and their plan to improve the functionality of the website. Testimony was received from Hon. Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC.

2014

April 10, 2014—"President's Fiscal Year 2015 Health Care Proposals." The purpose of this hearing was to review and ask questions about the President's fiscal year 2015 proposed budget. Testimony was received from Hon. Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC.

July 15, 2014—“Chronic Illness: Addressing Patients’ Unmet Needs.” The purpose of this hearing was to hear from patients, caregivers, and providers about the challenges of living with chronic illness and the challenges faced in care coordination. Testimony was received from Ms. Stephanie Dempsey, Patient, Blairsville, GA; Mrs. Mary Margaret Lehmann, Caregiver, Minneapolis, MN; Dr. William A. Bornstein, Chief Quality and Medical Officer, Emory Healthcare, Atlanta, GA; Ms. Cheryl DeMars, President and CEO, The Alliance, Fitchburg, WI; and Mr. Chet Burrell, President and CEO, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, Baltimore, MD.

SENATORS’ ONLY MEETINGS

2013

March 14, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss the implementation of the Affordable Care Act with Hon. Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, United States Department of Health and Human Services.

July 31, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss the Medicare physician sustainable growth rate system.

October 20, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss the Medicare physician sustainable growth rate system.

December 11, 2013—Senators’ Meeting to discuss the original bill to repeal the sustainable growth rate system, health care extenders, and The Supporting At-Risk Children Act.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

2014

September 16, 2014—“The Children’s Health Insurance Program: Protecting America’s Children and Families.” The purpose of this hearing was to provide background on the history of the program and an overview of the role and importance of the Children’s Health Insurance Program in the changing insurance landscape. Testimony was received from Mr. Bruce D. Lesley, President, First Focus, Washington, DC; Dr. James M. Perrin, President, American Academy of Pediatrics, Elk Grove Village, IL; Ms. Cathy Caldwell, Director, Bureau of Children’s Health Insurance, Alabama Department of Public Health, Montgomery, AL; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Ph.D., President, American Action Forum, Washington, DC.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAXATION AND IRS OVERSIGHT

2014

July 23, 2014—“Saving for an Uncertain Future: How the ABLE Act Can Help People With Disabilities and Their Families.” The purpose of this hearing was to discuss a bill that would create tax-advantaged savings accounts for people with disabilities similar to accounts set up to pay for higher education expenses under section 529, known as the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act. Testimony was received from Ms. Sara C. Wolff, Self-Advocate and Board Member, National Down Syndrome Society, Moscow, PA; Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Member, United

States House of Representatives, Spokane, WA; Mr. Robert D'Amelio, Volunteer Advocate, Autism Speaks, Charlotte, NC; and Mr. Chase Alston Phillips, Financial Advisor, Alexandria, VA.

SOCIAL SECURITY

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

During the 113th Congress, the Committee and Subcommittee held hearings about the Federal policies and programs that provide income during retirement, and the Social Security Disability Insurance program administered by the Social Security Administration.

FULL COMMITTEE HEARINGS

2014

July 24, 2014—"Social Security: A Fresh Look at Workers' Disability Insurance." This hearing featured the testimony of Mr. Stephen Goss, Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration, Baltimore, MD; Ms. Marianna LaCanfora, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration, Baltimore, MD; Ms. Rebecca Vallas, Associate Director, Poverty to Prosperity Program, Center for American Progress Action Fund, Washington, DC; and Dr. Richard Burkhauser, Professor, Adjunct Scholar, Cornell University, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC. The testimony focused on the past, present, and future performance of the Disability Insurance (DI) portion of the Social Security program, including the circumstances surrounding the projected exhaustion date of the DI trust fund in 2016.

December 9, 2014—"Social Security: Is a Key Foundation of Economic Security Working for Women?" The hearing featured the testimony of Ms. Barbara Perrin, Beneficiary, Eugene, OR; Catherine J. Dodd, Ph.D., RN, Chair of the Board of Directors, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Washington, DC; Sita Nataraj Slavov, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy, George Mason University, Visiting Scholar, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC; and Ms. Janet M. Barr, MAAA, ASA, EA, Actuary, on behalf of the American Academy of Actuaries, Chicago, IL. The testimony focused on the impact of Social Security benefits on women while working and during retirement, and options to strengthen Social Security for women and families. Compelling testimony was delivered by Ms. Perrin who, despite doing almost everything right in terms of trying to prepare for retirement, found herself at age 68 living solely on a Social Security benefit of \$775 a month.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY,
PENSIONS, AND FAMILY POLICY*2013*

December 18, 2013—“The Role of Social Security, Defined Benefits, and Private Retirement Accounts in the Face of the Retirement Crisis.” This hearing featured the testimony of Mr. Robert G. Romasco, President, AARP, Washington, DC; Dr. Andrew G. Biggs, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC; Mr. Dean Baker, Co-Director, Center for Economic and Policy Research, Washington, DC; and Mr. John F. Sweeney, Executive Vice President, Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA. The testimony focused on how the current system for retirement savings is or is not meeting the needs of workers and retirees.

2014

February 26, 2014—“Retirement Savings for Low-Income Workers.” This hearing featured the testimony of Mr. J. Mark Iwry, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Retirement and Health Policy, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC; Ms. Diane Oakley, Executive Director, National Institute on Retirement Security, Washington, DC; Mr. Stephen P. Utkus, Principal and Director, Vanguard Center for Retirement Research, Malvern, PA; and Ms. Judy A. Miller, MSPA, FSA, MAAA, Director of Retirement Policy, American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries (ASPPA), ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries, Arlington, VA. The testimony focused on how current policies to promote retirement savings are or are not meeting the needs of low-income workers. The witness from the Administration described the President’s proposal to increase retirement savings for low-income workers: myRA.

May 21, 2014—“Strengthening Social Security to Meet the Needs of Tomorrow’s Retirees.” This hearing featured the testimony of Mr. Stephen Goss, Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration, Baltimore, MD; Dr. Teresa Ghilarducci, Chair of the Economics Department, New School for Social Research, The New School, New York, NY; Dr. Jason J. Fichtner, Senior Research Fellow, Mercatus Center, George Mason University, Arlington, VA; and Dr. Maya Rockey Moore, President and CEO, Center for Global Policy Solutions, Washington, DC. The testimony focused on whether Social Security benefits are adequate to meet the challenges facing current and future retirees and what policies should be considered to expand Social Security.

FEDERAL DEBT LIMIT

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

During the 113th Congress, the Committee held a hearing about the Federal Debt Limit.

FULL COMMITTEE HEARINGS

2013

October 10, 2013—“The Debt Limit.” This hearing featured the testimony of Hon. Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, United States Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC. The hearing was held during a “shut down” of the Federal Government. The testimony focused on the potential impacts of a failure to increase the debt ceiling.

OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

IRS 501(c)(4) Investigation

Chairman Baucus and Chairman Wyden, working with Ranking Member Hatch, undertook a bipartisan investigation into the IRS's processing of applications for tax-exempt status. In May, 2013, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) found that the IRS "used inappropriate criteria that identified for review Tea Party and other organizations applying for tax-exempt status." In response, on May 21, 2013, the Committee held a hearing on the matter, "A Review of Criteria Used by the IRS to Identify 501(c)(4) Applications for Greater Scrutiny." The Committee also undertook an extensive bipartisan investigation. In total, Committee investigators interviewed 30 IRS and Treasury Department employees and reviewed nearly a million documents. On June 13, 2014, the IRS informed Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Hatch that it could not produce all responsive emails sent and received from January 2009 through April 2011 by the former director of the IRS Exempt Organizations Division Lois Lerner, who is a central figure in the alleged misconduct at the IRS, due to a hard drive crash. On June 23, 2014, the Chairman and Ranking Member requested that TIGTA investigate the nature of the hard drive crash and whether emails sent or received by Lerner could be recovered. Committee staff closely monitored TIGTA's efforts as it undertook a forensic analysis of IRS data backups. In November 2014, TIGTA informed the Committee that it has potentially identified missing Lerner emails on IRS disaster recovery tapes and would produce them to the Committee in a readable format as soon as it was feasible. Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Hatch issued a joint press release stating that they are unable to release their report before the end of the 113th Congress but expect to release it in early 2015 after they review TIGTA's findings along with any additional recovered emails.

Tax Avoidance by Hedge Funds through Off-Shore Reinsurance Companies

In June 2014, Chairman Wyden initiated an inquiry into a growing trend of the formation and investment in off-shore reinsurance companies by U.S.-based hedge funds. Under the tax code, investments in insurance companies are subject to exceptions from foreign passive investment tax rules. At issue is whether or not the offshore companies are substantially engaged in the insurance business as defined by U.S. tax law. Chairman Wyden wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the IRS Commissioner asking what actions had been taken to stem this practice. He also asked

the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) to prepare an analysis of the use of this tax avoidance practice. The Joint Committee staff provided a memorandum to the Chairman at the end of July 2014 in response to this request. Among other findings, the JCT staff documented the fact that several U.S. hedge fund-backed reinsurance companies were only representationally in the insurance business with two such companies having insurance risk equal to less than 1 percent of their invested assets. Chairman Wyden formally forwarded the JCT analysis to the Treasury Department in September, 2014, with a follow-up request for clarification on why such practices were consistent with U.S. tax law and asked that Treasury identify countries which presented obstacles to IRS enforcement.

Pricing of Specialty Drugs

In July 2014, Chairman Wyden and Senator Grassley, in his capacity as a member of the Committee, initiated an investigation into the pricing of Sovaldi, a drug for treatment of Hepatitis C, a viral disease affecting roughly 2.7 million Americans. The high cost of the drug, between \$84,000 and \$168,000 for a standard course of treatment depending upon the genotype of the disease and patient characteristics, represents a substantial cost to the U.S. health care system, especially to Medicare and Medicaid programs within the Committee's jurisdiction. The cost of specialty drugs is a growing share of the total cost of prescription drugs within the U.S. health care system. By one recent estimate, specialty drugs, such as Sovaldi, could account for 50 percent of U.S. drug spending by 2019. While the manufacturer of Sovaldi—Gilead Science, Inc.—has provided some of the information and documentation requested, a substantial amount of the information requested in the Senators' initial July 2014 letter has not yet been provided, and additional collection and investigation is continuing.

IRS Whistleblower Programs

In June 2014, Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Hatch made two related requests to the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to ask GAO to conduct reviews of IRS programs where information on suspected tax violations is collected from outside parties. Under Section 7623 of the Internal Revenue Code, the IRS is required to pay informants rewards for information that successfully results in high-value tax collections of \$2 million or more. Between 9,000 and 10,000 such claims are made a year to the IRS Whistleblower Office. The IRS also has a program for receiving information from any informant that may relate to tax violations which receives upwards of 100,000 tips a year, which operates separately from the Section 7623 program. The GAO has been asked to look at each program to evaluate how effectively the IRS is using outside information it receives from these sources.

Avoidance and Evasion of Tobacco Excise Taxes

In March 2014, Chairman Wyden requested that the GAO update work that it had previously done concerning efforts by tobacco companies to avoid and evade tobacco excise taxes related to cigarettes. Cigarette excise taxes were increased in 2009 to provide

funding for reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), legislation reported by the Committee—the Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2009. This legislation not only increased the tax on cigarettes, but it also applied this rate to roll-your-own cigarette tobacco and to small cigars that could be substituted for cigarettes in an effort to prevent circumvention of the new tax rates. As documented by GAO, tobacco companies are circumventing the higher tax on cigarettes by deliberately re-labeling and selling roll-your-own tobacco as pipe tobacco, which is taxed at a lower rate, and adding additional weight and fillers to small cigars to allow them be classified as large cigars, which are also generally taxed at a lower ad valorem rate. In its update, GAO concluded that between \$2.6 billion and \$3.7 billion in excise tax revenue has been lost, to date, as a result of these practices. The Treasury Department's regulatory arm—the Alcohol, Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB)—has intermittently contemplated regulations to tighten the definitions of cigarettes and cigars and pipe tobacco to close these loopholes, but has failed to complete any of them. The Committee held a hearing on this subject in July 2014 entitled "Tobacco: Taxes Owed, Avoided, and Evaded." TTB testified that it would propose new regulations, at least with regard to pipe tobacco, by the beginning of 2015. In August 2014, Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Hatch requested that GAO pursue inquiries regarding two related tobacco tax issues: illicit imports that evade Federal taxation and e-cigarette manufacture and distribution. E-cigarettes constitute a growing part of the smoking market, but are not subject to Federal excise taxes because they are not tobacco products under the tax code even if the nicotine they contain is derived from tobacco.

NOMINATIONS

Antonio F. Weiss, of New York, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury, vice Mary John Miller.

Nov. 12, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Marisa Lago, of New York, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Miriam E. Sapiro, resigned.

Nov. 12, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Seth B. Carpenter, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, vice Matthew S. Rutherford.

Sept. 8, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Ronald Alan Pearlman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2015, vice Nancy Killefer, term expired.

Sept. 8, 2014—Received in the Senate.

Sept. 8, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Brodi L. Fontenot, of Louisiana, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, vice Daniel M. Tangherlini, resigned.

July 31, 2014—Received in the Senate.

July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rafael J. Lopez, of Maryland, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, vice Bryan Hayes Samuels, resigned.

July 31, 2014—Received in the Senate.

July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Andrew LaMont Eanes, of Kansas, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2019, vice Carolyn W. Colvin, term expired.

July 31, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Carolyn Watts Colvin, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2019, vice Michael J. Astrue, resigned.

June 23, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

July 31, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

Sept. 18, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Sept. 18, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Sept. 18, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 1058. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Dec. 13, 2014—Motion to proceed to executive session to consideration of nomination agreed to in Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 52–41. Record Vote Number: 329.

Dec. 13, 2014—Cloture motion presented in Senate.

Dec. 13, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, mandatory quorum under Rule XXII waived.

Dec. 13, 2014—Cloture motion withdrawn by unanimous consent in Senate.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Cary Douglas Pugh, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, vice Robert Allen Wherry, Jr., retired.

June 9, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

July 16, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

July 31, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

July 31, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

- July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 999. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Nov. 19, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote November 20, 2014.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- Sylvia Mathews Burwell**, of West Virginia, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, vice Kathleen Sebelius.
- Apr. 11, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- May 14, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.
- May 21, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- May 8, 2014—Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Hearings held.
- May 21, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- May 21, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 798. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- May 22, 2014—Motion to proceed to executive session to consideration of nomination in Senate by Voice Vote.
- May 22, 2014—Cloture motion presented in Senate.
- May 22, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, mandatory quorum under Rule XXII waived.
- June 4, 2014—Cloture invoked in Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 67–28. Record Vote Number: 174.
- June 4, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- June 4, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote June 5, 2014.
- June 5, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- June 5, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 78–17. Record Vote Number: 175.
- Ramin Toloui**, of Iowa, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury, vice Charles Collins, resigned.
- Apr. 10, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- June 25, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.
- July 31, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- July 31, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 998. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Nov. 19, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote November 20, 2014.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Linda Struyk Millsaps, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2018, vice Paul Jones, term expired.

Mar. 31, 2014—Received in the Senate.

Mar. 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Robert W. Holleyman II, of Louisiana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Demetrios J. Marantis, resigned.

Feb. 27, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

July 16, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

July 31, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

July 31, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 997. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Sept. 17, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote September 18, 2014.

Sept. 18, 2014—Considered by Senate.

Sept. 18, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

D. Nathan Sheets, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury, vice Lael Brainard, resigned.

Feb. 12, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

June 25, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

July 31, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

July 31, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 996. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Sept. 17, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote September 18, 2014.

Sept. 18, 2014—Considered by Senate.

Sept. 18, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Maria Cancian, of Wisconsin, to be Assistant Secretary for Family Support, Department of Health and Human Services, vice Carmen R. Nazario.

Feb. 12, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

June 25, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

July 31, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

July 31, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

July 31, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 995. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Dec. 17, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Darci L. Vetter, of Nebraska, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Islam A. Siddiqui.

Jan. 7, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

May 8, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

May 21, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

May 21, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

May 21, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 797. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

July 8, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote July 9, 2014.

July 9, 2014—Considered by Senate.

July 9, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, vice Daniel M. Tangherlini, resigned.

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate.

Jan. 6, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Mar. 10, 2014—Received message of withdrawal of nomination from the President.

Stefan M. Selig, of New York, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, vice Francisco J. Sanchez, resigned.

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

May 8, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

May 21, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

May 21, 2014—Reported by Senator Wyden, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

May 21, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 796. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

June 4, 2014—Considered by Senate.

June 4, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

- Rhonda K. Schmidtlein**, of Missouri, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring December 16, 2021, vice Shara L. Aranoff, term expired.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 513. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Mar. 6, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote on March 6, 2014.
- Mar. 6, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- Mar. 6, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- Sarah Bloom Raskin**, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, vice Neal S. Wolin.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 512. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- March 6, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote at a time to be determined.
- March 10, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote March 12, 2014.
- March 12, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- March 12, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- L. Paige Marvel**, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years (reappointment).
- Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- Feb. 4, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- Jan. 15, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–381.
- Feb. 4, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- Feb. 4, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 641. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Nov. 19, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote November 20, 2014.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

R. Gil Kerlikowske, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Customs, Department of Homeland Security, vice Alan D. Bersin, resigned.

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Feb. 4, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Jan. 15, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–381.

Feb. 4, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Feb. 4, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 640. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Mar. 6, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote on March 6, 2014.

Mar. 6, 2014—Considered by Senate.

Mar. 6, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Apr. 8, 2014—Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Karen Dynan, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, vice Janice Eberly.

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Feb. 6, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Jan. 30, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–380.

Feb. 6, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Feb. 6, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 654. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

June 25, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote June 26, 2014.

June 26, 2014—Considered by Senate.

June 26, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Tamara Wenda Ashford, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, vice Mary Ann Cohen, retired.

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Feb. 4, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Jan. 15, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–381.

Feb. 4, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Feb. 4, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 639. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

- Nov. 19, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote November 20, 2014.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- Nov. 20, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- Richard G. Frank**, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, vice Sherry Glied, resigned.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- Feb. 4, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- Jan. 30, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–380.
- Feb. 4, 2014—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- Feb. 4, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 638. Subject to nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- May 22, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote May 22, 2014.
- May 22, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- May 22, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- Alan L. Cohen**, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2016, vice Dana K. Bilyeu, term expired.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.
- May 8, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–538.
- June 19, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- June 19, 2014—Committee requested information was received.
- July 10, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress. Calendar No. 908. Subject to nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Aug. 1, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote September 8, 2014.
- Sept. 8, 2014—Considered by Senate.
- Sept. 8, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- Lanhee J. Chen**, of California, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2018, vice Mark J. Warshawsky, term expired.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate.
- Jan. 6, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.
- May 8, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–538.

June 19, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

June 19, 2014—Committee requested information was received.

July 10, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress. Calendar No. 909. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Aug. 1, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote September 8, 2014.

Sept. 8, 2014—Considered by Senate.

Sept. 8, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Henry J. Aaron, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2020 (reappointment).

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate.

Jan. 6, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

May 8, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–538.

June 19, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

June 19, 2014—Committee requested information was received.

July 10, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress. Calendar No. 911. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Aug. 1, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote September 8, 2014.

Sept. 8, 2014—Considered by Senate.

Sept. 8, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Henry J. Aaron, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2014, vice Jeffrey Robert Brown, term expired.

Jan. 6, 2014—Received in the Senate.

Jan. 6, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

May 8, 2014—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–538.

June 19, 2014—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

June 19, 2014—Committee requested information was received.

July 10, 2014—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress. Calendar No. 910. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Aug. 1, 2014—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote September 8, 2014.

Sept. 8, 2014—Considered by Senate.

Sept. 8, 2014—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 54–43. Record Vote Number: 258.

Stefan M. Selig, of New York, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, vice Francisco J. Sanchez, resigned.

Nov. 12, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, vice Daniel M. Tangherlini, resigned.

Oct. 30, 2013—Received in the Senate.

Oct. 30, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Alan L. Cohen, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2016, vice Dana K. Bilyeu, term expired.

Sept. 30, 2013—Received in the Senate.

Sept. 30, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Lanhee J. Chen, of California, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2018, vice Mark J. Warshawsky, term expired.

Sept. 30, 2013—Received in the Senate.

Sept. 30, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Tamara Wenda Ashford, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, vice Mary Ann Cohen, retired.

Sept. 18, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Richard G. Frank, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, vice Sherry Glied, resigned.

Sept. 11, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

John Andrew Koskinen, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the term expiring November 12, 2017, vice Douglas H. Shulman, term expired.

Aug. 1, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Dec. 10, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held.

Dec. 13, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Dec. 11, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–390.

Dec. 13, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Dec. 13, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 459. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Dec. 16, 2013—Motion to proceed to consideration of nomination in Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 55–37. Record Vote Number: 278.

Dec. 16, 2013—Considered by Senate.

Dec. 16, 2013—Cloture motion presented in Senate.

Dec. 19, 2013—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote December 20, 2013.

Dec. 20, 2013—Cloture invoked in Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 56–39. Record Vote Number: 287.

Dec. 20, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 59–36. Record Vote Number: 288.

R. Gil Kerlikowske, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Customs, Department of Homeland Security, vice Alan D. Bersin, resigned.

Aug. 1, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Karen Dynan, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, vice Janice Eberly.

Aug. 1, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

L. Paige Marvel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years (reappointment).

July 31, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Sarah Bloom Raskin, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, vice Neal S. Wolin.

July 31, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Nov. 20, 2013—Finance Committee. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–389.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rhonda K. Schmittlein, of Missouri, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring December 16, 2021, vice Shara L. Aranoff, term expired.

July 15, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Nov. 20, 2013—Finance Committee. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–389.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Michael B. Thornton, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years (reappointment).

May 9, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

July 25, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

July 18, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–388.

July 25, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

July 25, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 232. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Aug. 1, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Joseph W. Nega, of Illinois, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, vice Thomas B. Wells, retired.

May 9, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

July 25, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

July 18, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–388.

July 25, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

July 25, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 231. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Aug. 1, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Michael Froman, of New York, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, vice Ronald Kirk, resigned.

May 7, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

June 6, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–227.

June 11, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

June 11, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

June 11, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 182. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

June 19, 2013—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote at a time to be determined.

June 19, 2013—Considered by Senate.

June 19, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 93–4. Record Vote Number: 158.

Henry J. Aaron, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2020 (reappointment).

Apr. 18, 2013—Received in the Senate.

Apr. 18, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Henry J. Aaron, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2014, vice Jeffrey Robert Brown, term expired.

Apr. 18, 2013—Received in the Senate.

Apr. 18, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar in the Privileged Nomination section with nominee information requested by the Committee on Finance, pursuant to S. Res. 116, 112th Congress.

Jan. 3, 2014—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Marilyn B. Tavenner, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, vice Donald M. Berwick, resigned.

Feb. 7, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Apr. 9, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–205.

Apr. 23, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Apr. 23, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Apr. 23, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 92. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

May 9, 2013—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote at a time to be determined.

- May 15, 2013—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote May 15, 2013.
- May 15, 2013—Considered by Senate.
- May 15, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 91–7. Record Vote Number: 126.
- F. Scott Kieff**, of Illinois, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for the term expiring June 16, 2020, vice Daniel Pearson, term expired.
- Feb. 4, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- July 18, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–388.
- July 25, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- July 25, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- July 25, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 230. Subject to nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Aug. 1, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.
- Jacob J. Lew**, of New York, to be Secretary of the Treasury, vice Timothy F. Geithner.
- Jan. 22, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- Feb. 13, 2013—Committee on Finance. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S. Hrg. 113–166.
- Feb. 26, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- Feb. 26, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- Feb. 26, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 26. Subject to nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Feb. 27, 2013—By unanimous consent agreement, debate, and vote today.
- Feb. 27, 2013—Considered by Senate.
- Feb. 27, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 71–26. Record Vote Number: 25.
- William B. Schultz**, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services, vice Daniel Meron.
- Jan. 22, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- Feb. 26, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.
- Feb. 26, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.
- Feb. 26, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 25. Subject to nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.
- Apr. 25, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

Christopher J. Meade, of New York, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury, vice George Wheeler Madison, resigned.

Jan. 22, 2013—Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Feb. 26, 2013—Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported favorably.

Feb. 26, 2013—Reported by Senator Baucus, Committee on Finance, without printed report.

Feb. 26, 2013—Placed on Senate Executive Calendar. Calendar No. 24. Subject to nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

Apr. 25, 2013—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS REFERRED
TO THE COMMITTEE**

There were 542 Senate bills and 15 House bills referred to the committee for consideration during the 113th Congress. In addition, 12 Senate and House resolutions (joint, concurrent, or simple resolutions) were referred to the committee.

REPORTS, PRINTS, AND STUDIES

During the 113th Congress, the committee and supporting joint committees, prepared and issued 8 reports, special prints, and studies on the following topics:

Title	Document no.	To accompany
TAX TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2014	113-155	S. 2261
EXPIRING PROVISIONS IMPROVEMENT REFORM AND EFFICIENCY (EXPIRE) ACT OF 2014.	113-154	S. 2260
THE SUPPORTING AT-RISK KIDS ACT	113-137	S. 1870
TO AMEND TITLE XVIII OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT TO REPEAL THE MEDICARE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH RATE FORMULA AND TO IMPROVE BENEFICIARY ACCESS UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	113-135	S. 1871
STAFF REPORT ON COMPREHENSIVE TAX REFORM FOR 2015 AND BEYOND.	113-31	
JOINT STAFF REPORT ON THE CORPORATE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY IN THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.	113-16	
REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE DURING THE 112TH CONGRESS.	113-5	
RULES OF PROCEDURE, SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.	113-2	

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

During the 113th Congress, a total of 565 official communications were submitted to the committee. Of these, 5 were Presidential Messages; 538 were Executive Communications—these communications include reports to advise and inform the Congress, required annual or semi-annual agency budget and activities summaries, and requests for legislative action. The committee also received 22 Petitions and Memorials.

