

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Daniel Coats, of Indiana, to be Director of National Intelligence.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1809–S1851

Measures Introduced: Thirty-nine bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 630–668, S. Res. 87–89, and S. Con. Res. 9. **Pages S1839–41**

Measures Passed:

Faleomavaega Eni Fa’aua’a Hunkin VA Clinic: Committee on Veterans’ Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1362, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa’aua’a Hunkin VA Clinic, and the bill was then passed. **Page S1848**

Trafficking of illicit fentanyl into the United States from Mexico and China: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 83, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the trafficking of illicit fentanyl into the United States from Mexico and China, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S1848–49**

Honoring King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 9, honoring in praise and remembrance the extraordinary life, steady leadership, and remarkable 70-year reign of King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1849**

National Rosie the Riveter Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 76, expressing support for the designation of March 21, 2017, as “National Rosie the Riveter Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1849**

National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 89, supporting the designation of March 2017 as “National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month”. **Page S1849**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.; Monday, March 20, 2017 at 10 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Monday, March 20, 2017, it next convene at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 21, 2017. **Page S1849**

Breyer and Reeves Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following morning business on Tuesday, March 21, 2017, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Charles R. Breyer, of California, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, and Danny C. Reeves, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission; that the time until 12 noon be equally divided, and that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations en bloc, with no intervening action or debate; and that no further motion be in order. **Page S1814**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 85 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 89), Daniel Coats, of Indiana, to be Director of National Intelligence. **Pages S1811–24, S1851**

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

By 88 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. 88), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S1811–12**

By 86 yeas to 10 nays (Vote No. EX. 90), Lt. Gen. Herbert R. McMaster Jr., U.S. Army. **Pages S1824–26, S1851**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination be withdrawn. **Page S1814**

Messages from the House: **Page S1838**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1838–39**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S1839**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1839**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1841–42**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1842–48

Additional Statements: **Pages S1837–38**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1848**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1848**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—90) **Pages S1812, S1824–25**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:04 p.m., until 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1849.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense received a closed briefing regarding a ballistic missile defense program update from Vice Admiral James D. Syring, USN, Director of the Missile Defense Agency, Department of Defense.

STEM EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine STEM education, focusing on preparing students for the careers of today and the future, after receiving testimony from Sarah Tucker, West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education, Charleston; Larry Plank, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Tampa, Florida; Neil Lamb, HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, Huntsville, Alabama; and Caroline King, Washington STEM, Seattle.

WARFARE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine all arms warfare in the 21st century, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General David A. Deptula, USAF (Ret.), Mitchell Institute of Aerospace Power Studies; Colonel Douglas A. Macgregor, USA (Ret.), Burke-

Macgregor Group; and Paul Scharre, Center for a New American Security 20YY Warfare Initiative.

ASSESSING U.S. SANCTIONS ON RUSSIA

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine assessing U.S. sanctions on Russia, focusing on the next steps, after receiving testimony from Eric Lorber, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, and Elizabeth Rosenberg, Center for a New American Security, both of Washington, D.C.; and Rodney D. Ludema, Georgetown University Department of Economics, Rockville, Maryland.

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine unmanned aircraft systems, focusing on innovation, integration, successes, and challenges, after receiving testimony from Earl Lawrence, Director, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Office, Federal Aviation Administration; Diana Marina Cooper, Precision Hawk USA Inc., Raleigh, North Carolina, on behalf of the Small UAV Coalition; Ben Fowke, Xcel Energy, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Brendan Schulman, DJI Technology, Inc., New York, New York; John Villasenor, University of California, Los Angeles; and Emilio T. Gonzalez, Miami-Dade Aviation Department, Miami, Florida.

SOLUTIONS TO CONTROL INVASIVE SPECIES

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine innovative solutions to control invasive species and promote wildlife conservation, after receiving testimony from Jim Kurth, Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Jamie K. Reaser, Executive Director, National Invasive Species Council, both of the Department of the Interior; Brian R. Nesvik, Wyoming Game and Fish Department Chief Game Warden and Chief of the Wildlife Division, Cheyenne; Carter Roberts, World Wildlife Fund, Washington, D.C.; and David Ullrich, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

SIX YEARS OF WAR IN SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine six years of war in Syria, focusing on the human toll, after receiving testimony from Neal Keny-Guyer, Mercy Corps, Portland, Oregon; David Miliband, International Rescue Committee, New York, New York; and Farida, Abdulkhalek, and Abu Rajab, all of the Syrian American Medical Society, Aleppo, Syria.