Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action
Routine Proceedings, pages S2383–S2433

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)

USSOUTHCOM AND USNORTHCOM
Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Southern Command and United States Northern Command, after receiving testimony from Admiral Kurt W. Tidd, USN, Commander, United States Southern Command, and General Lori J. Robinson, USAF, Commander, United States Northern Command, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, both of the Department of Defense.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on perspectives on rural air service and the general aviation community, after receiving testimony from Mayor Laurie Gill, Pierre, South Dakota; Spencer Dickerson, American Association of Airport Executives, Alexandria, Virginia, on behalf of the U.S. Contract Tower Association; Mark Baker, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Frederick, Maryland; and Guy M. Smith, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Ormond Beach, Florida.

2017 TAX FILING SEASON AND IRS OPERATIONS
Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the 2017 tax filing season, focusing on Internal Revenue Service operations and the taxpayer experience, after receiving testimony from John A. Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported S. Res. 116, condemning the Assad regime for its continued use of chemical weapons against the Syrian people, with an amendment.

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

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H2783–89
Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 680, to prohibit accessing pornographic websites from Federal computers, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–81);
H.R. 1003, to authorize the establishment of a program of voluntary separation incentive payments for nonjudicial employees of the District of Columbia courts and employees of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service (H. Rept. 115–82);
H. Res. 203, resolution of inquiry requesting the President, and directing the Attorney General, to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to certain communications by the President of the United States, with an amendment; adversely (H. Rept. 115–83);

Pages H2793–94
H.R. 455, to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse” (H. Rept. 115–84);

H.R. 1346, to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled “Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform” (H. Rept. 115–85);

H. Con. Res. 36, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby (H. Rept. 115–86);

H. Con. Res. 35, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition (H. Rept. 115–87); and

H. Res. 254, providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1628) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017 (H. Rept. 115–88).

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Supporting America’s Innovators Act of 2017: The House passed H.R. 1219, to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to expand the investor limitation for qualifying venture capital funds under an exemption from the definition of an investment company, by a yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 221.

H. Res. 242, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1219) was agreed to yesterday, April 5th.

Providing for the reappointment of Steve Case as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass S.J. Res. 30, providing for the reappointment of Steve Case as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Providing for the appointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass S.J. Res. 35, providing for the appointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Providing for the appointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass S.J. Res. 36, providing for the appointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Recess: The House recessed at 1:03 p.m. and reconvened at 2:29 p.m.


Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 8, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H. Con. Res. 48, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to Somalia is to continue in effect beyond April 12, 2017—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 115–28).

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on pages H2766–67. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and at 2:32 p.m., the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 8, 2017, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of H. Con. Res. 48, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

Committee Meetings

EVALUATING THE DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDITING PROCESS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Evaluating the Defense Contract Auditing Process”. Testimony was heard from Anita F. Bales, Director, Defense Contract Audit Agency, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller); and public witnesses.

EXAMINATION OF THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL REGULATORY SYSTEM AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFORM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled “Examination of the Federal Financial Regulatory System and Opportunities for Reform”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.
ENFORCEMENT IS NOT OPTIONAL: THE GOLDMAN ACT TO RETURN ABDUCTED AMERICAN CHILDREN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “Enforcement is Not Optional: The Goldman Act to Return Abducted American Children”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE BEST AND WORST PLACES TO WORK IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “The Best and Worst Places to Work in the Federal Government”. Testimony was heard from Roberta Jeanquart, Director, Office of Human Resources Management, Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Agriculture; Lacey Dingman, Director, Office of Human Resources, Chief Human Capital Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission; Angela Bailey, Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Homeland Security; Lee Gardner, Managing Director, Surface Transportation Board; Veronica Villalobos, Principal Deputy Associate Director, Employee Services Division, Acting Executive Director, Chief Human Capital Officers Council, Office of Personnel Management; and a public witness.

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2017

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1628, the “American Health Care Act of 2017”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–2, a rule providing for further consideration of H.R. 1628, the American Health Care Act of 2017. The rule provides that the further amendment printed in the Rules Committee Report shall be considered as adopted. Testimony was heard from Representatives Schweikert, Palmer, and Gohmert.

SCAM SPOTTING: CAN THE IRS EFFECTIVELY PROTECT SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION?

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Scam Spotting: Can the IRS Effectively Protect Small Business Information?”. Testimony was heard from Russell George, Inspector General, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a markup on H.R. 91, the “Building Supportive Networks for Women Veterans Act”; H.R. 95, the “Veterans’ Access to Child Care Act”; H.R. 467, the “VA Scheduling Accountability Act”; H.R. 907, the “Newborn Care Improvement Act”; H.R. 918, the “Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act”; H.R. 1005, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans; H.R. 1162, the “No Hero Left Untreated Act”; H.R. 1545, the “VA Prescription Data Accountability Act 2017”; H.R. 1662, to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit smoking in any facility of the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1848, the “Veterans Affairs Medical Scribe Pilot Act of 2017”. H.R. 91, H.R. 95, H.R. 467, H.R. 907, H.R. 918, H.R. 1005, H.R. 1162, H.R. 1545, H.R. 1662, and H.R. 1848 were forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

Joint Meetings

BUSINESS MEETING

Joint Committee on the Library: Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 115th Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Joint Committee on Printing: Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 115th Congress.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
9:30 a.m., Friday, April 7
Senate Chamber
Program for Friday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
11 a.m., Saturday, April 8
House Chamber
Program for Saturday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE
Bacon, Don, Nebr., E480
Beatty, Joyce, Ohio, E477
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E476
Brady, Kevin, Tex., E481
Brat, Dave, Va., E475
Cartwright, Matt, Pa., E473, E479, E487
Chu, Judy, Calif., E480
Cohen, Steve, Tenn., E471
Conaway, K. Michael, Tex., E471
Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E469, E472, E474, E486
DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E485
Dent, Charles W., Pa., E475
Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E471
Ellison, Keith, Minn., E477
Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E472
Green, Al, Tex., E474
Harris, Andy, Md., E480
Huizenga, Bill, Mich., E469
Hurd, Will, Tex., E480
Jackson Lee, Sheila, Tex., E479
Kaptur, Marcy, Ohio, E478, E483
Kelly, Trent, Miss., E473, E475, E476, E477, E479, E480, E482, E485, E485
Kind, Ron, Wisc., E471
King, Steve, Iowa, E471
Lawson, Al, Jr., Fla., E473, E477, E480, E487
Lee, Barbara, Calif., E483, E486
Long, Billy, Mo., E481
Lowey, Nita M., N.Y., E480
Luetkemeyer, Blaine, Mo., E470
Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E475
McNerney, Jerry, Calif., E481
Murphy, Stephanie M., Fla., E483
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E482
Payne, Donald M., Jr., N.J., E472
Pelosi, Nancy, Calif., E484
Richmond, Cedric L., La., E484
Roe, David P., Tenn., E483
Ruiz, Basl, Calif., E474, E486
Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E469, E470, E471, E472
Scott, Robert C., “Bobby”, Va., E473
Serrano, Jose R., N.Y., E473, E474, E477, E487
Shimkus, John, Ill., E486
Shuster, Bill, Pa., E470
Thompson, Bonnie G., Miss., E476
Thompson, Mike, Calif., E484
Valadao, David G., Calif., E483
Veasey, Marc A., Tex., E486
Westerman, Bruce, Ark., E486

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