

for fiscal year 2019, after receiving testimony from Alex M. Azar II, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Dennis Shea, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, and C. J. Mahoney, of Kansas, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China, and the Western Hemisphere), with the rank of Ambassador.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Andrea L. Thompson, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, who was introduced by Senator Thune, Susan A. Thornton, of Maine, to be an Assistant Secretary (East Asian and Pacific Affairs), and Francis R. Fannon, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy Resources), who was introduced by Senator Gardner, all of Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1917, to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions; and

The nominations of Michael B. Brennan, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Susan Paradise Baxter, and Marilyn Jean Horan, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Daniel Desmond Domenico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Adam I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, McGregor W. Scott, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of California, and Gary G. Schofield, to be United States Marshal for the District of Nevada.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

INTELLIGENCE

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

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 36 public bills, H.R. 5030–5065; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 739–740 were introduced. **Pages H1211–12**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1213–14**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 717, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require review of the economic cost of adding a species to the list of endangered species or threatened species, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–560);

H.R. 1274, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require making available to States affected by determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species all data that is the basis of such determinations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–561);

H.R. 2603, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that nonnative species in the

United States shall not be treated as endangered species or threatened species for purposes of that Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–562);

H.R. 3131, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to conform citizen suits under that Act with other existing law, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–563, Part 1);

H.R. 3225, to allow the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians to lease or transfer certain lands (H. Rept. 115–564); and

H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–565).

Pages H1210–11

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Simpson to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1181**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H1181, H1200**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:22 a.m. and reconvened at 10:27 a.m. **Page H1192**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened at 11:20 a.m. **Page H1198**

Americans with Disabilities Act Education and Reform Act: The House passed H.R. 620, to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to promote compliance through education, to clarify the requirements for demand letters, and to provide for a notice and cure period before the commencement of a private civil action, by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 80.

Pages H1183–92, H1192–98, H1198–H1200

Agreed to:

Denham amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–559) that ensures the Department of Justice's Disability Rights Section takes action, to the extent practicable, to make ADA compliance publications available in languages commonly used by owners and operators of U.S. businesses;

Pages H1192–94

Speier amendment (No. 4 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–559) that clarifies that the defendant is still liable if the defendant fails to make substantial progress to remove the barrier;

Pages H1195–96

Bera amendment (No. 5 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–559) that shortens the timeline from 180 to 120 total days; and

Pages H1196–97

McMorris Rodgers amendment (No. 6 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–559) that strikes the requirement that the written notices of alleged violation include the specific sections of the ADA alleged to have been violated.

Pages H197–98

Rejected:

Foster amendment (No. 3 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–559) that sought to allow for punitive damages for noncompliance after the cure period; and

Page H1195

Langevin amendment (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–559) that sought to remove the requirement that a person who claims discrimination must first provide written notice that allows 60 days for an owner to acknowledge receipt of the complaint and 120 days to demonstrate substantial progress in removing the barrier before legal action may be pursued (by a recorded vote of 188 yeas to 226 nays, Roll No. 79).

Pages H1194–95, H1198–99

H. Res. 736, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 620), (H.R. 3299), and (H.R. 3978) was agreed to yesterday, February 14th.

Inspector General for the U.S. House of Representatives—Appointment: The Chair announced on behalf of the Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader, the joint appointment of Mr. Michael Ptasienski of McLean, Virginia, as Inspector General for the U.S. House of Representatives. **Page H1200**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1198–99 and H1199–H1200. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Committee Meetings

STRATEGIC COMPETITION WITH CHINA

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Strategic Competition with China”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EVOLUTION, TRANSFORMATION, AND SUSTAINMENT: A REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET REQUEST FOR U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES AND COMMAND

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing entitled “Evolution, Transformation, and Sustainment: A Review and Assessment of the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request for U.S. Special Operations Forces and Command”. Testimony was heard from General Raymond A. Thomas, Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; and Owen West, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict, Department of Defense.

THE OPIOIDS EPIDEMIC: IMPLICATIONS FOR AMERICA'S WORKPLACES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions; and Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a joint hearing entitled “The Opioids Epidemic: Implications for America's Workplaces”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Department of Health and Human Services”. Testimony was heard from Alex Azar, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

EXAMINING DE-RISKING AND ITS EFFECT ON ACCESS TO FINANCIAL SERVICES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a