

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate insisted on its amendment to H.R. 5895, Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, agreed to the request from the House for a conference, and appointed conferees.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, Pages S4881–S4922

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3192–3198, and S. Res. 572. **Page S4916**

Measures Reported:

S. 1459, to establish Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park in the State of South Carolina, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 115–295)

S. 1646, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of President Station in Baltimore, Maryland. (S. Rept. No. 115–296)

H.R. 2786, to amend the Federal Power Act with respect to the criteria and process to qualify as a qualifying conduit hydropower facility, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 115–297)

Report to accompany S. 3153, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System. (S. Rept. No. 115–298) **Page S4916**

House Messages:

Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act: Senate insisted on its amendment to H.R. 5895, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, agreed to the request of the House for a conference, and authorized the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to be instructed to insist on the inclusion

in the final conference report the following motions proposed thereto: **Page S4890**

Adopted:

By 94 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 150), Cassidy Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that have the effect of extending the National Flood Insurance Program, and the authority of the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to issue notes and obligations with respect to that program, through January 31, 2019. **Pages S4890–91**

By 88 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. 151), Corker Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the conference report include language providing a role for Congress in making a determination under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1862). **Pages S4890–91**

The Chair appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Shelby, Alexander, Boozman, Daines, Lankford, Leahy, Feinstein, Schatz, and Murphy. **Page S4891**

Ney Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Paul C. Ney, Jr., of Tennessee, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense. **Pages S4897–S4909**

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

By 74 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 153), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S4896–97**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, July 12, 2018; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, all post-cloture time on the nomination expire at 1:30 p.m. **Page S4919**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. EX. 152), Brian Allen Benczkowski, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Pages S4881–90, S4891–96, S4922**

Messages from the House: **Pages S4910–11**

Measures Referred: **Page S4911**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S4911**

Executive Communications: **Pages S4911–16**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S4916**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4916–17**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S4917–18

Additional Statements: **Page S4910**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S4918–19

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4919**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—153) **Page S4890–91, S4896–97**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:38 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 12, 2018. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4919.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine complex cybersecurity vulnerabilities, focusing on lessons learned from Spectre and Meltdown, after receiving testimony from Donna Dodson, Chief Cybersecurity Advisor, and Director, National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; Jose-Marie Griffiths, Dakota State University, Madison, South Dakota; Joyce Kim, Arm, San Jose, California; Art Manion, Carnegie Mellon University Software Engineering Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Sri Sridharan, University of South Florida Center for Cybersecurity, Tampa.

RESTORE OUR PARKS ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine S. 3172, to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, after receiving testimony from Senator Warner; Lena McDowall, Deputy Director,

Management and Administration, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Marcia Argust, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and Kristen Brengel, National Parks Conservation Association, both of Washington, D.C.; and Holly Fretwell, Property and Environment Research Center, Bozeman, Montana.

FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE LOANS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the long-term value to United States taxpayers of low-cost Federal infrastructure loans, after receiving testimony from Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, Washington, D.C.; Brian Motyl, DelDOT, Dover, Delaware; and Vicente Sarmiento, Orange County Water District, Fountain Valley, California.

PAID FAMILY LEAVE

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy concluded a hearing to examine the importance of paid family leave for American working families, after receiving testimony from Senators Ernst and Gillibrand; Andrew G. Biggs, American Enterprise Institute, and Vicki Shabo, National Partnership for Women and Families, both of Washington, D.C.; and Carolyn O'Boyle, Deloitte Services LP, Boston, Massachusetts.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. Res. 557, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the strategic importance of NATO to the collective security of the transatlantic region and urging its member states to work together at the upcoming summit to strengthen the alliance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

A routine list in the Foreign Service.

WARRANTLESS SMARTPHONE SEARCHES

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management concluded a hearing to examine warrantless smartphone searches at the border, including S. 823, to ensure the digital contents of electronic equipment and online accounts belonging to or in the possession of United States persons entering or exiting the United States are adequately protected at the border, after receiving testimony from Laura K. Donohue, Georgetown University Law Center, Neema Singh Guliani, American Civil Liberties Union, and Matthew Feeney, Cato Institute, all of Washington, D.C.