

Colorado Springs, Colorado; Kerry Perry, USA Gymnastics, Indianapolis, Indiana; and Han Xiao, Athlete Advisory Council, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Teri L. Donaldson, of Texas, to be Inspector General, Karen S. Evans, of West Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Cybersecurity, Energy Security and Emergency Response), Christopher Fall, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Science, and Daniel Simmons, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), all of the Department of Energy.

GLOBAL OIL PRICES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine factors that are impacting global oil prices, after receiving testimony from John R. Auers, Turner, Mason and Company, Dallas, Texas; Jason E. Bordoff, Columbia University

School of International and Public Affairs, New York, New York; E. Russell Braziel, RBN Energy, LLC, Houston, Texas; Robert McNally, Rapidan Energy Group, Bethesda, Maryland; and Keisuke Sadamori, International Energy Agency, Paris, France.

THE CHINA CHALLENGE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine the China challenge, focusing on economic coercion as statecraft, after receiving testimony from Dan Blumenthal, American Enterprise Institute, and Ely Ratner, Center for a New American Security, both of Washington, D.C.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 22 public bills, H.R. 6479–6500; and 9 resolutions, H. Res. 1017–1025 were introduced. **Pages H7154–55**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H7156–57**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 5649, to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to amend the Social Security Act, and to direct the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Labor, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to take certain actions to improve transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who separate, retire, or are discharged from the Armed Forces, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–864, Part 1);

H.R. 5882, to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for the termination by a spouse of a lessee of certain leases when the lessee dies while in military service (H. Rept. 115–865);

H.R. 2409, to allow servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite television, and Internet access service contracts while deployed (H. Rept. 115–866);

H.R. 2787, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a pilot program instituting a clin-

ical observation program for pre-med students preparing to attend medical school, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–867);

H.R. 5693, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently, with amendments (H. Rept. 115–868);

H.R. 5974, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–869);

H.R. 5538, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain additional periods of active duty service for purposes of suspending charges to veterans' entitlement to educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during periods of suspended participation in vocational rehabilitation programs (H. Rept. 115–870);

H.R. 5938, to amend the VA Choice and Quality Employment Act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a vacancy and recruitment database to facilitate the recruitment of certain members

of the Armed Forces to satisfy the occupational needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish and implement a training and certification program for intermediate care technicians in that Department, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–871);

H.R. 5864, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish qualifications for the human resources positions within the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–872); and

H. Res. 1020, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 115–873).

Pages H7153–54

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Palazzo to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H7089

Recess: The House recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H7093

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Imam Seyed Ali Ghazvini, Islamic Cultural Center of Fresno, Fresno, California.

Page H7093

Restoring Access to Medication Act of 2018—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 1012, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6199) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include certain over-the-counter medical products as qualified medical expenses, and providing for proceedings during the period from July 27, 2018, through September 3, 2018, by a recorded vote of 229 ayes to 179 noes, Roll No. 369, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 368.

Pages H7100–06

Recess: The House recessed at 4:39 p.m. and reconvened at 4:50 p.m.

Page H7124

Protect Medical Innovation Act: The House passed H.R. 184, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices, by a yea-and-nay vote of 283 yeas to 132 nays, Roll No. 372.

Pages H7119–24, 7124–25

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in H. Rept. 115–860 shall be considered as adopted.

Page H7119

H. Res. 1011, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 184) and (H.R. 6311) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 225 ayes to 184 noes, Roll No. 371, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 188 nays, Roll No. 370.

Pages H7095–H7100, H7106–07

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Equitable Access to Care and Health Act: H.R. 1201, amended, to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate;

Pages H7107–09

Native American Health Savings Improvement Act: H.R. 1476, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit individuals eligible for Indian Health Service assistance to qualify for health savings accounts;

Pages H7109–10

Water and Agriculture Tax Reform Act: H.R. 519, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to facilitate water leasing and water transfers to promote conservation and efficiency;

Pages H7110–12

Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act of 2018: H.R. 3500, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service from rehiring any employee of the Internal Revenue Service who was involuntarily separated from service for misconduct;

Pages H7112–13

Improving Social Security's Service to Victims of Identity Theft Act: H.R. 6084, amended, to amend title VII of the Social Security Act to provide for a single point of contact at the Social Security Administration for individuals who are victims of identity theft;

Pages H7113–15

Improving Seniors Access to Quality Benefits Act: H.R. 4952, amended, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study and submit a report on the effects of the inclusion of quality increases in the determination of blended benchmark amounts under part C of the Medicare program;

Pages H7115–16

Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Transparency Act of 2018: H.R. 6138, amended, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for ambulatory surgical center representation during the review of hospital outpatient payment rates under part B of the Medicare program;

Pages H7116–18

Tribal Social Security Fairness Act of 2018: H.R. 6124, amended, to amend title II of the Social Security Act to authorize voluntary agreements for coverage of Indian tribal council members;

Pages H7118–19

Allowing servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite television, and Internet access service contracts while deployed: H.R. 2409, amended, to allow servicemembers to terminate their cable,

satellite television, and Internet access service contracts while deployed; **Pages H7130–31**

Veterans-Specific Education for Tomorrow's Medical Doctors Act: H.R. 2787, amended, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a pilot program instituting a clinical observation program for pre-med students preparing to attend medical school; **Pages H7132–33**

Amending title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain additional periods of active duty service for purposes of suspending charges to veterans' entitlement to educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during periods of suspended participation in vocational rehabilitation programs: H.R. 5538, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain additional periods of active duty service for purposes of suspending charges to veterans' entitlement to educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during periods of suspended participation in vocational rehabilitation programs; **Pages H7133–34**

Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William 'Bill' Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2018: H.R. 5649, amended, to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to amend the Social Security Act, and to direct the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Labor, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to take certain actions to improve transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who separate, retire, or are discharged from the Armed Forces; **Pages H7134–40**

Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act: H.R. 5882, amended, to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for the termination by a spouse of a lessee of certain leases when the lessee dies while in military service; **Pages H7140–41**

Veterans Serving Veterans Act of 2018: H.R. 5938, amended, to amend the VA Choice and Quality Employment Act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a vacancy and recruitment database to facilitate the recruitment of certain members of the Armed Forces to satisfy the occupational needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish and implement a training and certification program for intermediate care technicians in that Department; and **Pages H7142–44**

Department of Veterans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Affording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General Safety Enhancements Act: H.R. 5974, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated

medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities. **Pages H7144–45**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

The American Legion 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act: S. 1182, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 100th anniversary of The American Legion; and **Pages H7125–30**

VA Hospitals Establishing Leadership Performance Act: H.R. 5864, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish qualifications for the human resources positions within the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Pages H7141–42**

Raising a question of the privileges of the House pursuant to article I, section 7, of the United States Constitution: Agreed by unanimous consent to H. Res. 1019, raising a question of the privileges of the House pursuant to article I, section 7, of the United States Constitution. **Page H7150**

Recess: The House recessed at 8:39 p.m. and reconvened at 9:28 p.m. **Page H7150**

Senate Referral: S. 2503 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7107.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7105, H7105–06, H7106–07, H7107, and H7124–25. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing on H.R. 4219, the “Workflex in the 21st Century Act”. Testimony was heard from Gayle L. Goldin, Senator, General Assembly, Rhode Island; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING ADVERTISING AND MARKETING PRACTICES WITHIN THE SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT INDUSTRY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining Advertising and Marketing Practices within the Substance Use Treatment Industry”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.