

Committee Meetings

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FARM BILL INTERNATIONAL FOOD ASSISTANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing entitled “The Implementation of Farm Bill International Food Assistance and Development Programs”. Testimony was heard from Ken Isley, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture; and Trey Hicks, Director, Office of Food for Peace, U.S. Agency for International Development.

DIVERSITY IN RECRUITING AND RETENTION: INCREASING DIVERSITY IN THE MILITARY—WHAT THE MILITARY SERVICES ARE DOING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Diversity in Recruiting and Retention: Increasing Diversity in the Military—What the Military Services are Doing”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Thomas C. Seamands, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, U.S. Army; Vice Admiral John B. Nowell, Jr., Chief of Naval Personnel, U.S. Navy; Lieutenant General Brian T. Kelly, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services, U.S. Air Force; and Lieutenant General Michael A. Rocco, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps.

SECURING THE U.S. DRUG SUPPLY CHAIN: OVERSIGHT OF FDA’S FOREIGN INSPECTION PROGRAM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Securing the U.S. Drug Supply Chain: Oversight of FDA’s Foreign Inspection Program”. Testimony was heard from Mary Denigan-Macauley, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and Janet Woodcock, M.D., Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

PROPOSALS TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Proposals to Achieve Universal Health Care Coverage”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Jayapal, DeLauro, Higgins of New York, Delgado, and Malinowski; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1731, the “Cybersecurity Disclosure Act of 2019”; H.R. 2445, the “Self-Employed Mortgage Access Act of 2019”; H.R. 4545, the “Private Loan Disability Discharge Act of 2019”; H.R. 5287, the “Fair Student Loan Debt Collection Practices Act”; H.R. 5294, the “Student Borrowers Protections Act”; H.R. 5332, the “Protecting Your Credit Score Act of 2019”; H.R. 5330, the “Consumer Protections for Medical Debt Collections Act”; H.R. 5322, the “Ensuring Diversity in Community Banking Act of 2019”; H.R. 5315, the “Expanding Opportunities for Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs) Act”; a resolution electing majority members to the Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets; a resolution establishing the Task Force on Artificial Intelligence; and a resolution establishing the Task Force on Financial Technology.

HAITI ON THE BRINK: ASSESSING U.S. POLICY TOWARD A COUNTRY IN CRISIS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Haiti on the Brink: Assessing U.S. Policy Toward a Country in Crisis”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AUTHORITARIANISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS: POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS CHALLENGES IN CHINA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation held a hearing entitled “Authoritarianism with Chinese Characteristics: Political and Religious Human Rights Challenges in China”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE WAY FORWARD IN IRAQ

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism held a hearing entitled “The Way Forward in Iraq”. Testimony was heard from Joey Hood, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State.

EXAMINING THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the Need for Comprehensive National Paid Family and Medical Leave”. Testimony was heard from Representative DeLauro; Robert Asaro-Angelo, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING CARCINOGENS IN TALC AND THE BEST METHODS FOR ASBESTOS DETECTION

Committee on Oversight And Reform: Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy held a hearing entitled “Examining Carcinogens in Talc and the Best Methods for Asbestos Detection”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LOWER DRUG COSTS NOW ACT OF 2019; FARM WORKFORCE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2019; CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 3, the “Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019” [Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019]; H.R. 5038, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2019”; and the Conference report to accompany S. 1790, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020” (H. Rept. 116–333). The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3, the “Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019”, H.R. 5038, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2019”, and the Conference report to accompany S. 1790, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020” (H. Rept. 116–333). The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3, the “Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019”, under a structured rule. The rule provides four hours of general debate, with three hours equally divided among and controlled by the respective chairs and ranking minority members of the Committees on Education and Labor, Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means, and one hour equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader or their respective designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–41, modified by the amendment printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in Part B of the Rules Committee report. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand

for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in Part B of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 5038, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2019”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–42, modified by the amendment printed in Part C of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of the conference report to accompany S. 1790, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020”. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate on the conference report, divided pursuant to clause 8(d) of rule XXII. The rule provides one motion to recommit if applicable. The rule provides that the chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence may insert in the Congressional Record not later than December 13, 2019, such material as he may deem explanatory of intelligence authorization measures for the fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of December 20, 2019, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV, and that the Speaker or her designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or his designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. The rule waives the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of December 20, 2019. Section 7 of the rule provides that on any legislative day of the first session of the 116th Congress after December 12, 2019: the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. Section 8 of the rule provides that on any legislative

day of the second session of the 116th Congress before January 7, 2020: the Speaker may dispense with organizational and legislative business; the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved if applicable; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. The rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the periods addressed by sections 7 and 8. The rule provides that each day during the periods addressed by sections 7 and 8: shall not constitute calendar days for the purposes of section 7 of the War Powers Resolution; shall not constitute a legislative day for the purposes of clause 7 of rule XIII; and shall not constitute a legislative day for the purposes of clause 7 of rule XV. Testimony was heard from Chairman Lofgren, Chairman Scott of Virginia, Chairman Pallone, Chairman Neal, Chairman Smith of Washington, and Representatives Walden, Brady, Foxx, Doggett, Titus, Collins of Georgia, Newhouse, and Thornberry.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION TO ADDRESS THE CRITICAL MATERIALS CHALLENGE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Research and Innovation to Address the Critical Materials Challenge”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REVIEW OF THE SBA’S 504/CDC LOAN PROGRAM

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing entitled “Review of the SBA’s 504/CDC Loan Program”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

On Monday, December 9, 2019, *Conferees* agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of S. 1790, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold closed hearings to examine an update on the situation and United States strategy in Afghanistan, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 2204, to allow the Federal Communications Commission to carry out a pilot program under which voice service providers could block certain automated calls, S. 2363, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to establish a Telecommunications Workforce Development Advisory Council within the Federal Communications Commission, S. 2381, to require review by the Government Accountability Office of screening protocols of the Transportation Security Administration relating to breast milk and formula, S. 2638, to amend title 49, United State Code, to require small hub airports to construct areas for nursing mothers, S. 2661, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to designate 9–8–8 as the universal telephone number for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and through the Veterans Crisis Line, S. 2730, to establish and ensure an inclusive transparent Drone Advisory Committee, S. 2786, to establish a Federal advisory committee to provide policy recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on positioning the United States to take advantage of emerging opportunities for Arctic maritime transportation, S. 2802, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reauthorize and modify the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue and Response Grant Program, S. 2881, to require the Federal Communications Commission to make not less than 280 megahertz of spectrum available for terrestrial use, S. 2898, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a full annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers, S. 2909, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration, S. 2964, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to issue non-premium aviation insurance, S. 2979, to improve drug testing for transportation-related activities, and S. 2981, to reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Thomas B. Chapman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 2641, to promote United States national security and prevent the resurgence of ISIS, S. 2547, to state the policy of the United States with respect to the expansion of cooperation with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region and Europe regarding the People’s Republic of China, S. 2977, to extend the termination of sanctions with respect to Venezuela under the Venezuela Defense of