

By 70 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. EX. 396), John Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation. **Pages S7009–10**

By 72 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 397), Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services. **Pages S7010–15**

Messages from the House: **Page S7026**

Measures Referred: **Page S7026**

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Amendments Submitted: **Page S7033**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S7033**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—397) **Pages S7009–10, S7015**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5 p.m., until 11:45 a.m. on Friday, December 13, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7034.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Committee on Armed Services: Committee received a closed briefing on national security issues in the Middle East from John C. Rood, Under Secretary for Policy, Major General Jeffrey B. Taliaferro, USAF, Vice Director for Operations, Joint Staff, and Christopher J. Almont, Defense Intelligence Officer for the Middle East, Defense Intelligence Agency, all of the Department of Defense.

COAST GUARD ARCTIC STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Security concluded a hearing to examine expanding opportunities, challenges, and threats in the Arctic, focusing on the Coast Guard Arctic Strategic Outlook, after receiving testimony from Admiral Charles W. Ray, Vice Commandant, Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; and Heather A. Conley, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Sherri Goodman, and Mike Sfraga, both of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 225, to provide for partnerships among State and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance the visitor experience at nationally significant battlefields of the American Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 258, to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains Ranger District located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 298, to establish the Springfield Race Riot National Historic Monument in the State of Illinois, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 327, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for a lifetime National Recreational Pass for any veteran with a service-connected disability, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 389, to authorize the Society of the First Infantry Division to make modifications to the First Division Monument located on Federal land in Presidential Park in the District of Columbia, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 430, to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 434, to provide for a report on the maintenance of Federal land holdings under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 490, to designate a mountain ridge in the State of Montana as "B-47 Ridge", with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 526, to withdraw certain Bureau of Land Management land from mineral development, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 641, to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Yucca House National Monument, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 774, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, with an amendment;

S. 1152, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain parcels of Federal land in Arlington, Virginia, with an amendment;

S. 1262, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest

Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, with an amendment;

S. 1890, to provide for grants for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy improvements at public school facilities;

S. 2108, to amend section 6903 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for additional population tiers;

S. 2393, to promote a 21st century energy workforce, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2399, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve State loan eligibility for projects for innovative technology, with an amendment;

S. 2660, to establish a grant program for wind energy research, development, and demonstration, with an amendment; and

H.R. 617, to authorize the Department of Energy to conduct collaborative research with the Department of Veterans Affairs in order to improve healthcare services for veterans in the United States.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2971, to amend and reauthorize the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2997, to revise and extend health workforce programs under title VII of the Public Health Service Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2683, to establish a task force to assist States in implementing hiring requirements for child care staff members to improve child safety, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2927, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence; and

The nomination of Crosby Kemper III, of Missouri, to be Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

NOMINATION

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of J. Brett Blanton, of Virginia, to be Architect of the Capitol, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 22 public bills, H.R. 5406–5427; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 79–80; and H. Res. 762–763 were introduced.

Pages H10257–58

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H10259

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1620, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Program (H. Rept. 116–338);

H.R. 2548, to modify eligibility requirements for certain hazard mitigation assistance programs, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–339, Part 1);

H.R. 4719, to amend the Federal share of the fishing safety standards grants, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–340);

H.R. 3256, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize and improve the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–341, Part 1);

H.R. 4704, to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support multidisciplinary research on the science of suicide, and to advance the knowledge and understanding of issues that may be associated with several aspects of suicide including intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to areas such as wellbeing, resilience, and vulnerability, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–342);

H.R. 5065, to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and