

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on the Independent Budget, after receiving testimony from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary, Robert A. Petzel, Under Secretary for Health, Michael Walcoff, Acting Under Secretary for Benefits, Steve L. Muro, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Roger W. Baker, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, and W. Todd Grams, Acting Assistant Secretary for Management, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Carl Blake, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Joseph A. Violante, Disabled American Veterans, Raymond C. Kelley, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Tim Tetz, The American Legion, all of Washington, D.C.; Christina M. Roof, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland; and Maryann D. Hooker, Delaware VA Medical Cen-

ter, Wilmington, on behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFL-CIO).

## ENDING ELDER ABUSE

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine ending elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation, including challenges state Adult Protective Services programs face in identifying, investigating, and resolving elder abuse cases, after receiving testimony from Kay E. Brown, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Kathleen M. Quinn, National Adult Protective Services Association, and Marie-Therese Connolly, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, both of Washington, D.C.; Mark Lachs, New York Presbyterian Health Care System, New York, New York; Bonnie Brandl, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Late Life, Superior, Colorado; and Mickey Rooney, Los Angeles, California.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 24 public bills, H.R. 867–890; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 136–139 were introduced. **Pages H1523–24**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H1525**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 525, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health (H. Rept. 112–22);

H.R. 528, to require the submission of a report to the Congress on parasitic disease among poor Americans (H. Rept. 112–23); and

H.R. 570, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists and allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–24). **Page H1523**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Yoder to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1457**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:32 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1462**

**Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act of 2011—Rule for Consideration:** The House agreed to H. Res. 129, the rule providing for consid-

eration of H.R. 4, to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations, by a ye-and-nay vote of 252 yeas to 175 nays, Roll No. 157, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 243 yeas to 185 nays, Roll No. 156. **Pages H1465–73, H1480–81**

**Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2011:** The House passed H.R. 662, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, by a recorded vote of 421 yeas to 4 noes, Roll No. 160. **Pages H1473–80, H1482–94**

Rejected the Polis motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 181 yeas to 246 noes with 2 voting "present", Roll No. 159. **Pages H1491–93**

Agreed to:

Mica amendment (printed in H. Rept. 112–20) that makes three technical changes to correct drafting errors in the bill (by a ye-and-nay vote of 422 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 158). **Pages H1490–91**

H. Res. 128, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a ye-and-nay vote of

256 yeas to 169 nays, Roll No. 155, after the previous question was ordered without objection.

**Pages H1473–80**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

**Page H1481**

**Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Communication:** Read a letter from Chairman Mica wherein he transmitted a copy of a resolution, related to the General Services Administration's FY 2011 Capital Investment and Leasing Program, adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on February 16, 2011. **Pages H1481–82**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the continuation beyond March 6, 2011 of the national emergency with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Rept. 112–12). **Page H1501**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1462.

**Senate Referral:** S. 388 was held at the desk.

**Page H1462**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1479, H1480, H1480–81, H1490–91, H1493, H1493–94. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

### **COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on Patent and Trademark Office FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from David Kappos, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

### **DEFENSE**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense, held a hearing on Department of Defense Budget Review. Testimony was heard from Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense; ADM Michael Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Robert Hale, Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller.

### **ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on Department of Energy, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation and Naval Reactors FY 2012 Budget Requests. Testimony was heard from Thomas D'Agostino, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Anne Harrington, Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation; and ADM Kirkland H. Donald, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors.

### **FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government Appropriations held a hearing on the Election Assistance Commission. Testimony was heard from Curtis Crider, Inspector General, Election Assistance Commission.

### **HOMELAND SECURITY**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security Appropriations held a hearing on Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

### **INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on Major Management Challenges at the EPA. Testimony was heard from David C. Trimble, Acting Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; and Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General, EPA.

### **MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from GEN James N. Mattis, Commander, Central Command, USMC.

### **FY 2012 BUDGET—ARMY**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Held a hearing on the FY 2012 national defense authorization budget request from the Department of the Army. Testimony was