

## INNOVATION AND JOB CREATION—THE SBIR PROGRAM

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing on Spurring Innovation and Job Creation: The SBIR Program. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Full Committee held a markup on the following legislation: S. 307, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 217 West King Street, Martinsburg, West Virginia, as the “W. Craig Broadwater Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, ordered reported without amendment; H.R. 872, Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011, ordered reported with amendment; and H.R. 1079, Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2011, ordered reported without amendment.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee held a markup of H.R. 1034, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund. The bill was ordered reported without amendment.

## TAX CODE TREATMENT OF ABORTION-RELATED EXPENSES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing on the tax code’s treatment of abortion-related expenses and the changes to such tax treatment proposed by section 2 of H.R. 3—the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. Testimony was heard from Thomas A. Barthold, Chief of Staff, Joint Committee on Taxation.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Trade held an organizational meeting.

## *Joint Meetings*

### NORTHERN IRELAND

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission concluded a hearing to examine Northern Ireland, focusing on justice in individual cases and accountability for past abuses by security services in the region, including implementation of key provisions of the Good Friday Agreement, after receiving testimony from Michael H. Posner, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; Jane Winter, British Rights Watch, London, England; and John Finucane, John Teggart, and Ciaran McAirt, all of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Food and Drug Administration, 2 p.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the Government Printing Office (GPO), and the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Armed Services,* to hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine military construction, environmental, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-323A.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,* to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), focusing on evaluating returns on taxpayer investments, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on the Budget,* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Heather A. Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, 2 p.m., SD-608.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,* Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine investing in Federal research and development, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,* to hold hearings to examine current global investment trends in clean energy technologies and the impact of domestic policies on that investment, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works,* Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, with the Subcommittee on Green Jobs and the New Economy, to hold joint hearings to examine the “Clean Air Act” and jobs, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations,* to hold hearings to examine popular uprisings in the Middle East, focusing on the implications for U.S. policy, 10 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions,* to hold hearings to examine health insurance exchanges and ongoing state implementation of the “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,” 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs,* Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery, to hold hearings to examine recouping improperly paid Federal assistance in the aftermath of disasters, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine catastrophic preparedness, focusing on if FEMA is ready for the next big disaster, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, business meeting to consider S. 216, to increase criminal penalties for certain knowing and international violations relating to food that is misbranded or adulterated, S. 222, to limit investor and homeowner losses in foreclosures, S. 410, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, and the nominations of James Michael Cole, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, Edward Milton Chen, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, John J. McConnell, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, Goodwin Liu, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Kevin Hunter Sharp, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, Roy Bale Dalton, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Claire C. Cecchi, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence*, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

### House

*Committee on Appropriations*, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request, 10:15 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Afghanistan, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol. CLOSED HEARING

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on FY 2012 Budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on Geological Survey FY 2102 Budget Oversight Hearing, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2012 Budget Oversight, 1 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, hearing on Improper Payments, 10 a.m., 2358-B Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services*, Full Committee, hearing on Law of War Detention and the President's Executive Order Establishing Periodic Review Boards for Guantanamo Detainees, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on Military Personnel Overview, 11 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing on soldier and marine equipment for dismounted operations, 9:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Budget*, Full Committee, hearing on Fulfilling the Mission of Health Retirement Security, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

*Committee on Education and the Workforce*, Full Committee, hearing on Education Regulations: Roadblocks to Student Choice in Higher Education, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "The Implementation and Sustainability of the New, Government-Administered Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Program." 9:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, entitled "Oversight of DOE Recovery Act Spending." 1:30 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing on The American Energy Initiative: focus on oil supplies, gasoline prices, and jobs in the Gulf of Mexico, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology, hearing entitled "The Relationship of Monetary Policy and Rising Prices", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, Full Committee, hearing on The Global Nuclear Revival and U.S. Nonproliferation Policy, 9:45 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing on the Colombia and Panama Free Trade Agreements: National Security and Foreign Policy Priorities, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security*, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, hearing entitled "Ensuring Effective Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for Events Impacting Health Security." 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on House Administration*, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing on Election Assistance Commission Operations and 2012 Budget Request, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 1021, to prevent the termination of the temporary office of bankruptcy judges in certain judicial districts; H.R. 096, to provide for American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas to be treated as States for certain criminal justice programs; and H. Con. Res. 13, the "Reaffirming 'In God We Trust' as the official motto of the United States and supporting and encouraging the public display of the national motto in all public buildings, public schools, and other government institutions," 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, Full Committee, hearing on Harnessing American Resources to Create Jobs and Address Rising Gasoline Prices: Domestic Resources and Economic Impacts, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, Full Committee hearing entitled "The Freedom of Information Act: Crowd-Sourcing Government Oversight." 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 658, the FAA Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011; and H.R. 970, the Federal Aviation Research and Development Reauthorization Act of 2011, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing on Federal Regulatory Overreach in the Railroad Industry: Implementing the Rail Safety Improvement Act, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on Department of Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Budget for the

Veterans Benefits Administration, National Cemetery Administration, and Related Agencies, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing on pending trade agreements with Columbia, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, Full Committee, hearing on Intelligence Authorities, 10 a.m., 304 HVC.