

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 25 public bills, H.R. 3605–3629, were introduced.

Pages H8317–18

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H8319–20

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 443, to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–318 Pt. 1);

H.R. 1466, to resolve the status of certain persons legally residing in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under the immigration laws of the United States (H. Rept. 112–319 Pt. 1);

H.R. 1740, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–320);

H.R. 2719, to ensure public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes (H. Rept. 112–321);

H.R. 3069, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reduce predation on endangered Columbia River salmon and other nonlisted species, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–322); and

H.R. 2829, to promote transparency, accountability, and reform within the United Nations system, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–323).

Page H8317

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller (MI) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H8265

Recess: The House recessed at 9:50 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Page H8271

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a recorded vote of 312 ayes to 94 noes with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 905.

Pages H8265, H8273–74

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated yesterday, December 7th:

Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2011: H.R. 1254, amended, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to place synthetic drugs in Schedule I, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ recorded vote of 317 ayes to 98 noes, Roll No. 904.

Pages H8272–73

Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011: The House passed H.R. 1633, to establish a temporary prohibition against revising any national ambient air quality standard applicable to coarse particulate matter and to limit Federal regulation of nuisance dust in areas in which such dust is regulated under State, tribal, or local law, by a recorded vote of 268 ayes to 150 noes, Roll No. 912.

Pages H8274–96

Rejected the DeGette motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 166 ayes to 252 noes, Roll No. 911.

Pages H8294–96

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule.

Page H9282

Agreed to:

Crawford amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that directs the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator to consult with the Secretary of Agriculture when modifying National Ambient Air Quality Standards with respect to "nuisance dust" under exceptions provided in Sec. 132(b) of the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011;

Pages H8284–85

Flake amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that adds sense of Congress language regarding an approach to excluding so-called "exceptional events" (like massive dust storms that are not controllable or preventable) from determinations of whether an area is in compliance with the coarse particulate matter standard; and

Page H8287

Schock amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that requires the EPA to take agriculture jobs and the economic impact on the agriculture industry into account before they issue any new regulations relating to agriculture. If a proposed regulation is found to cause the loss of more than 100 agriculturally related jobs or a decrease in more than \$1,000,000 in agriculturally related economic activity then EPA has to give notice to the State's Congressional Delegation, Governor, and Legislature, and also hold a public hearing in the impacted State.

Pages H8287–89

Rejected:

Rush amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that sought to clarify that nothing in the bill precludes the EPA Administrator from enforcing National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)

for PM2.5 and would delete section 3, which allows the EPA to regulate “nuisance dust” in areas where states and localities do not do so if it substantially hurts public health and if the benefits of applying standards would outweigh the costs (by a recorded vote of 150 ayes to 255 noes, Roll No. 906);

Pages H8282–83, H8290–91

Christensen amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that sought to allow the EPA the authority under the Clean Air Act to step in and take action to reduce dangerous particle pollution if state, local, or tribal laws are not sufficient to protect public health (by a recorded vote of 159 ayes to 250 noes, Roll No. 907); **Pages H8283–84, H8291–92**

Markey amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that sought to ensure that particulate matter containing arsenic and other heavy metals that are hazardous to human health is not nuisance dust and remains subject to the Clean Air Act (by a recorded vote of 165 ayes to 249 noes, Roll No. 908);

Pages H8285–86, H8292

Waxman amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that sought to require that particulate pollution produced from mining activities is not defined as “nuisance dust” and thus remains subject to the Clean Air Act (by a recorded vote of 158 ayes to 257 noes, Roll No. 909); and

Pages H8286–87, H8292–93

Al Green amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 112–317) that sought to require EPA to provide a report of the increase or decrease in the number of jobs as a result of enactment of the bill (by a recorded vote of 170 ayes to 247 noes, Roll No. 910).

Pages H8289–90, H8293–94

H. Res. 487, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 249 ayes to 161 noes, Roll No. 903, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 241 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 902.

Pages H8267–71, H8271–72

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, December 12th for morning hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business. **Page H8299**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H8266–67 and H8296.

Senate Referrals: S. 1958 was referred to the Committee on Financial Services. **Page H8316**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and 10 recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8271–72, H8272, H8273, H8273–74, H8291, H8291–92, H8292,

H8293, H8293–94, H8295–96, and H8296. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MF GLOBAL BANKRUPTCY

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing on the Examination of MF Global bankruptcy. Testimony was heard from Jill Sommers, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunities held a markup of the following: H.R. 3559, the “Insurance Data Protection Act”; H.R. 2446, the “RESPA Home Warranty Clarification Act of 2011”; and H.R. 3298, the “Homes for Heroes Act of 2011”. The following were forwarded, without amendments: H.R. 3559; H.R. 2446; and H.R. 3298.

GLOBAL INTERNET FREEDOM

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights held a hearing entitled “Promoting Global Internet Freedom.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a markup of the following: the H.R. 3563, “Integrated Public Alert Warning System Modernization Act of 2011”; H.R. 1411, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure continuation of the Metropolitan Medical Response System Program, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1129, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to prohibit requiring the use of a specified percentage of a grant under the Urban Area Security Initiative and State Homeland Security Grant Program for specific purposes, and for other purposes. The following were reported, as amended: H.R. 3563; H.R. 1411; and H.R. 1129.

PASSENGER SCREENING TECHNOLOGY AT U.S. AIRPORTS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled “A Review of Passenger Screening Technology at U.S. Airports.” Testimony was heard from John S. Pistole, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration; Caryn Wagner, Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland