

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Kate Braestrup, Maine Warden Service, Lincolnville, Maine. **Page H127**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011: H.R. 2070, amended, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the nation on June 6, 1944, the morning of D-Day, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas to 26 nays, Roll No. 8; **Pages H131–32, H149–50**

War Memorial Protection Act: H.R. 290, to amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols; **Pages H132–34**

Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2012: H.R. 3800, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program; and **Pages H135–137**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the passage of a fiscal year 2013 Federal budget is of national importance: H. Res. 516, to express the sense of the House of Representatives that the passage of a fiscal year 2013 Federal budget is of national importance, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas to 1 nay with 1 answering “present”, Roll No. 7. **Pages H143–48, H149**

Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House agreed to the Capps motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3630 by a yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 9. **Pages H137–43, H150–51**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:06 p.m. and reconvened at 4:15 p.m. **Page H148**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Buffalo Soldiers in the National Parks Study Act: H.R. 1022, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks. **Pages H134–35**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, January 25th. **Page H151**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:58 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m. **Page H151**

State of the Union Address: President Barack Obama delivered his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 96. He was escorted into the House Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives Cantor, McCarthy (CA), Hensarling, Sessions, Price (GA), McMorris Rodgers, Carter, Pelosi, Hoyer, Larson (CT), Becerra, Clyburn, Israel, and Sutton and Senators Reid, Durbin, Schumer, Murray, Stabenow, Begich, McConnell, Kyl, Alexander, Barraso, Thune, Cornyn, and Blunt. The President’s message was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 112–76). **Pages H151–56**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on pages H127–28.

Senate Referral: S. 1134 was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, and the Budget. **Page H156**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H149, H149–50, H150. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:24 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSPECTIVES ON FINANCIAL IMPROVEMENT AND AUDIT READINESS EFFORTS

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Department of Defense Perspectives on Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness Efforts. Testimony was heard from Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller); and Elizabeth A. McGrath, Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee began mark-up of the following: H.R. 3582, the “Pro-Growth Budgeting Act of 2011”; H.R. 3578, the “Baseline Reform Act of 2011”; and H.R. 3581, the “Budget and Accounting Transparency Act of 2011.” The following were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 3582, H.R. 3578, and H.R. 3581.

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN VIETNAM

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights held a hearing entitled “Examining Ongoing Human Rights Abuses in Vietnam.” Testimony was heard from Anh

“Joseph” Cao, former Member of Congress; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 1433, the “Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2011.” The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing on the following: H.R. 919, the “Mohave Valley Land Conveyance Act of 2011”; H.R. 938, the “Frank Buckles World War I Memorial Act”; H.R. 1278, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating the John Hope Franklin Reconciliation Park and other sites in Tulsa, Oklahoma, relating to the 1921 Tulsa race riot as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes”; H.R. 2240, the “Lowell National Historical Park Land Exchange Act of 2011”; H.R. 2489, the “American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2011”; H.R. 3411, to modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior; H.R. 3440, the “Recreational Shooting Protection Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Franks of Arizona, Norton, Poe of Texas, Sullivan, Tsongas, Holt, Benishek, and Flake. Testimony was also heard from Bob Ratcliffe, Deputy Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management; Peter May, Associate Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Adam Baacke, Assistant City Manager and Director of Planning and Development, Lowell, Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

INDEFINITE CAMPING IN MCPHERSON SQUARE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and the National Archives held a hearing entitled “McPherson Square: Who Made the Decision to Allow Indefinite Camping in the Park?” Testimony was heard from Jonathan Jarvis, Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Cathy Lanier, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department, District of Columbia; Paul Quander, Jr., Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, District of Columbia; Mohammad Akhter, M.D., Director, District of Columbia Department of Health; and public witness.

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs held a hearing entitled “How Will the CFPB Function Under Richard Cordray?” Testimony was heard from Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Rules: Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process held a hearing on H.R. 114, the “Biennial Budgeting and Appropriations Act of 2011”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Young of Florida, Price of North Carolina, Whitfield, Ribble, Stivers and public witnesses.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND RETIREMENT SECURITY ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1173, the “Fiscal Responsibility and Retirement Security Act of 2011.” The Committee granted, by voice vote, a modified open rule providing one hour of general debate on the bill, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill as original text for the purpose of amendment and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments that are submitted for printing in the Congressional Record not later than the legislative day of Tuesday, January 31, 2012, or pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each such amendment may be offered only by the Member who cause it to be printed or a designee and each amendment shall be considered as read if printed. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered for amendment for a period not to exceed three hours. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Testimony was heard from Representatives Gingrey of Georgia, Pallone, Boustany, and Deutsch.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-ENERGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a

hearing entitled “A Review of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.” Testimony was heard from Arun Majumdar, Director, Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy; Gregory Friedman, Inspector General, Department of Energy; and Frank Rusco, Director, Energy and Science Issues, Government Accountability Office.

STATE OF VA DISABILITY RATINGS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Rating the Rating Schedule—the State of VA Disability Ratings in the 21st Century.” Testimony was heard from Tom Murphy, Director of Compensation Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; John Campbell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy, Department of Defense; LTG James Terry Scott USA (Ret.), Chairman, Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation; and public witnesses.

SSA DISABILITY WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on combating disability waste, fraud and abuse. Testimony was heard from the following Social Security Administration officials: Carolyn Colvin, Deputy Commissioner; Patrick P. O'Carroll, Jr., Inspector General; Thomas Brady, Special Agent, Office of the Inspector General; and Paul Neske, Detective, St. Louis County Police Department; and public witness.

Joint Meetings

TEMPORARY PAYROLL TAX CUT CONTINUATION ACT

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 3630, to extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight, to hold hearings to examine contract management at Arlington National Cemetery, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, markup on the following: H.R. 1840, to improve consideration by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of the costs and benefits of its regulations and orders; H.R. 2682, the “Business Mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2011”; H.R. 2779, to exempt inter-affiliate swaps from certain regulatory requirements put in place by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; H.R. 2586, the “Swap Execution Facility (SEF) Clarification Act”; H.R. 3336, the “Small Business Credit Availability Act”; H.R. 3527, “Protecting Main Street End-Users from Excessive Regulation”. 9 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “American Jobs Now: A Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3548, the North American Energy Access Act.” 8 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on the following: H.R. 2467, the “Bridgeport Indian Colony Land Trust, Health, and Economic Development Act of 2011”; and S. 292, the “Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act”. 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending, hearing entitled “Volt Vehicle Fire: What Did NHTSA Know and When Did They Know It?” 8 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy, hearing entitled “Retirement Readiness: Strengthening the Federal Pension System.” 8 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine Kazakhstan, focusing on the stability of their government, 2 p.m., 2200, Rayburn Building.