

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

CONVICING THE GUILTY AND EXONERATING THE INNOCENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent, including S. 250, to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, after receiving testimony from Craig Watkins, Dallas County District Attorney, Dallas, Texas; Joshua Marquis, Clatsop County District Attorney, Astoria, Oregon; and Thomas Haynesworth, Richmond, Virginia.

VERIZON AND CABLE DEALS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights con-

cluded a hearing to examine Verizon and cable deals, after receiving testimony from Randal S. Milch, Verizon Communications Inc., and Tim Wu, Columbia Law School, both of New York, New York; David L. Cohen, Comcast Corporation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Charles F. Rule, Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft LLP, Steven K. Berry, RCA, and Joel Kelsey, Free Press, all of Washington, D.C.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), Non Commissioned Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans of America, Wounded Warrior Project, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, and The Retired Enlisted Association, after receiving testimony from Tom Tarantino, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and Dawn Halfaker, Wounded Warrior Project, both of Washington, D.C.; William R. Hutton, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Springfield, Virginia; David Fletcher, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, H. Gene Overstreet, Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States, and Arthur Cooper, Retired Enlisted Association, all of Alexandria, Virginia; and John Rowan, Vietnam Veterans of America, Silver Spring, Maryland.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 9, 14, 4228–4238; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 593 were introduced. **Pages H1496–97**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1497–98**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 4119, to reduce the trafficking of drugs and to prevent human smuggling across the Southwest Border by deterring the construction and use of border tunnels (H. Rept. 112–418, Pt. 1). **Page H1496**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Ellmers to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1429**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1437**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Carl Hickerson, Springfield Baptist Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1437**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 308 yeas to 101 nays with 3 answering "present", Roll No. 121. **Pages H1438, H1452–53**

Permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony: The House agreed to discharge and agree to H. Con. Res. 108, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page H1442**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, March 22nd. **Page H1442**

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

United States Marshals Service 225th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 886, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 409 yeas to 2 nays with 2 voting "present", Roll No. 120. **Pages H1442–43, H1452**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:48 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m. **Page H1450**

Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 5, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 22nd. **Pages H1443–50, H1450–52, H1453–90**

H. Res. 591, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 233 yeas to 182 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 119, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 231 yeas to 179 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 118.

Pages H1443–50, H1450–52

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeas-and-nays votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1450–51, H1451–52, H1452, H1452–53. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DUPLICATIVE FEDERAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing entitled "To Identify Duplicative Federal Rural Development Programs". Testimony was heard from Dallas P. Tonsager, Under Secretary, Rural Development, Department of Agriculture; and William B. Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office.

APPROPRIATIONS—NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Projects held a hearing on the FY 2013 Budget for Department of State, Near Eastern Affairs. This was a closed hearing.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Testimony was heard from Charles F. Bolden, Jr., Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Veterans Employment and Training Programs. Testimony was heard from Lt. Col Ismael Ortiz USMC (Ret.), Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Catherine E. Woteki, Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; Edward Knipping, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service; Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Acting Administrator, National Institute of Food and Agriculture; Mary Bohman, Administrator, Economic Research Service; Cynthia Clark, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Central Command and the International Security Assistance Force. This was a closed hearing.