

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight concluded a hearing to examine contractors, focusing on how much they are costing the government, after receiving testimony from Jay D. Aronowitz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Force Management, Manpower and Resources, Department of Defense; Debra M. Tomchek, Executive Director, Balanced Workforce Program Management Office, Department of Homeland Security; and Charles D. Grimes III, Chief Operating Officer, U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) user fee agreements, focusing on strengthening FDA and the medical products industry for the benefit of patients, after receiving testimony from Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and Jeffrey Shuren, Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, both of the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and David E. Wheadon, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, Sara Radcliffe, Biotechnology Industry Organization, David R. Gaugh, Generic Pharmaceutical Association, David Nexon, Advanced Medical Technology Association, and Allan Coukell, Pew Health Group, all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2159, to extend the authorization of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program through fiscal year 2017, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Robin S. Rosenbaum, to be United

States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Gershwin A. Drain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and Gregory K. Davis, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, Department of Justice.

FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2219, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, after receiving testimony from Fred Wertheimer, Democracy 21, Washington, D.C.; David Keating, Center for Competitive Politics, Alexandria, Virginia; and Richard L. Hasen, University of California Irvine School of Law.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Small Business Administration, after receiving testimony from Karen G. Mills, Administrator, Peggy E. Gustafson, Inspector General, and Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Office of Advocacy, all of the Small Business Administration; William B. Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; Ridgely Evers, SCORE, Healdsburg, California; Christopher G. Hurn, Mercantile Capital Corporation, Orlando, Florida; and Anthony Wilkinson, National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 49 public bills, H.R. 4295–4343; and 13 resolutions, H.J. Res. 107; H. Con. Res. 115; and H. Res. 602–611, were introduced.

Pages H1803–05

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H1807–08

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 2309, to restore the financial solvency of the United States Postal Service and to ensure the efficient and affordable nationwide delivery of mail, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–363, Pt. 2).

Page H1803

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

Page H1743

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012: The House passed H.R. 4281, 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 ye-and-nay vote of 266 yeas to 158 nays, Roll No. 147.

Pages H1751–62

H. Res. 600, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 178 nays, Roll No. 146.

Pages H1744–51

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on March 27th:

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012: H.R. 4239, amended, 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.

Pages H1775–76

Agreed by unanimous consent that the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion that the House suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4239, as amended, be vacated to the end that the Chair put the question de novo.

Pages H1775–76

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2013 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2014 through 2022: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 112, to establish the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2013 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2014 through 2022, by a ye-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 151. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, March 28th.

Pages H1762–75, H1776–95

Rejected:

Honda amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–423) that was debated yesterday that sought to provide for deficit reduction and job creation that protects the social safety net (by a recorded vote of 78 yeas to 346 noes, Roll No. 148);

Pages H1762–63

Garrett amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–423) that sought to make reforms to several federal programs, freeze spending at \$931 billion until the federal budget is balanced, and balance the budget by 2017 (by a recorded vote of 136 yeas to 285 noes with 3 answering “present”, Roll No. 149); and

Pages H1763–75

Van Hollen amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–423) that sought to emphasize job creation, protect Medicare beneficiaries, and end additional tax breaks for special interests and the wealthiest Americans by including a number of job-creation initiatives, preserving the Medicare guarantee, and extending tax relief for the middle-class. Would also have set discretionary spending at the Budget Control Act levels and use alternative savings to replace that law’s future sequesters (by a recorded vote of 163 yeas to 262 noes, Roll No. 150).

Pages H1776–89

H. Res. 597, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution, was agreed to yesterday, March 28th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, March 30th; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 3rd; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 6th; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 10th; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 13th; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 16th.

Page H1795

Public Interest Declassification Board—Reappointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she reappointed Mr. David E. Skaggs of Longmont, Colorado to the Public Interest Declassification Board.

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Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1795.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three ye-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1751, H1761–62, H1762, H1775, H1788–89, and H1794–95. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS— SECURITY CHALLENGES IN LATIN AMERICA

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on Security Challenges in Latin America. Testimony was heard from Kevin Whitaker, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs; William R. Brownfield, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs; and Mark Feierstein, USAID Assistant Administrator for Latin American and the Caribbean Bureau.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS—DOT AND HUD MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Management Issues. Testimony was heard from Calvin L. Scovel III, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; David Montoya, Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Phillip Herr, Government Accountability Office; Mathew Scire, Government Accountability Office; and Valerie Melvin, Government Accountability Office.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS— INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Intelligence Community. This was a closed hearing.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS— PUBLIC WITNESS DAY

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Issues for Public Witnesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS— PACIFIC COMMAND/KOREA

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request Pacific Command/Korea. Testimony was heard from Admiral Samuel Locklear, PACOM Commander; and General James Thurman, U.S. Forces Korea.

U.S. NAVAL VESSEL ACQUISITION PROGRAM—NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing on oversight of U.S. Naval Vessel Acquisition Programs and Force Structure of the Department of the Navy in the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Sean Stackley, USN, Assistant Secretary of the Navy

for Research, Development, and Acquisition; Vice Admiral Terry Blake, USN, Deputy Chief Naval Operations for Integration of Capabilities and Resources (N-8); Lieutenant General Richard Mills, Deputy Commander for Combat Development and Integration; and public witnesses.

PRICE OF ENERGY SECURITY: FROM BATTLEFIELDS TO BASES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on What is the Price of Energy Security: from Battlefields to Bases. Testimony was heard from Sharon Burke, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy, Department of Defense; Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army

Installations, Energy, and the Environment; Jackalyn Pfannenstiel, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Energy, Installations and Environment; Terry Yonkers, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Installations, Environment and Logistics; and Dorothy Robyn, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment.

BALANCING PRIVACY AND INNOVATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Balancing Privacy and Innovation: Does the President’s Proposal Tip the Scale?”. Testimony was heard from Jon Leibowitz, Chairman, Federal Trade Commission; Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary for Communication and Information, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Semi-Annual Report of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau”. Testimony was heard from Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

ASSESSING CHINA’S ROLE AND INFLUENCE IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights held a hearing entitled “Assessing China’s Role and Influence in Africa”. Testimony was heard from Donald Y. Yamamoto, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; Carolyn Bartholomew, Commissioner, United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission; and public witnesses.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE DEPARTMENT HOMELAND SECURITY’S OFFICE OF HEALTH AFFAIRS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled “The Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request for the Department Homeland Security’s Office of Health Affairs”. Testimony was heard