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Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:11 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 14, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3104.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense received a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Pacific Command Programs from Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, USN, Commander, United States Pacific Command, Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine current readiness of U.S. forces in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General Lloyd J. Austin III, Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army, Admiral Mark Ferguson, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, General Joseph F. Dunford, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, and General Philip M. Breedlove, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Patricia K. Falcone, of California, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, Marietta S. Robinson, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, who was introduced by Senator Levin, and William P. Doyle, of Pennsylvania, and Richard A. Lidinsky, Jr., of Maryland, both to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, who were both introduced by Senator Mikulski, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

HELIUM STEWARDSHIP ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2374, to amend the Helium Act to ensure the expedient and responsible draw-down of the Federal Helium Reserve in a manner that protects the interests of private industry, the scientific, medical, and industrial communities, commercial users, and Federal agencies, after receiving testimony from Timothy R. Spisak, Deputy Assistant Director, Minerals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Moses Chan, National Research Council of the National Academies Committee on Understanding the Impact of Selling the Helium Reserve, Park, Pennsylvania; Tom Rauch, GE Healthcare, Waukesha, Wisconsin; David Joyner, Air Liquide Helium America, Inc., Houston, Texas; and Walter L. Nelson, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Allentown, Pennsylvania.

MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENTS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Medicare physician payments, focusing on understanding the past so we can envision the future, after receiving testimony from Gail R. Wilensky, Project HOPE, Tom Scully, Alston and Bird LLP, and Mark McClellan, Brookings Institute, all of Washington, D.C.; and Bruce C. Vladeck, Nexera, Inc., New York, New York.

NATO

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, focusing on Chicago and beyond, after receiving testimony from Philip H. Gordon, Assistant Secretary of State; James Townsend, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense; and Charles A. Kupchan, Council on Foreign Relations, Ian J. Brzezinski, Atlantic Council, and Hans Binnendijk, National Defense University, all of Washington, D.C.

HELPING THE MIDDLE CLASS BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine helping the middle class balance work and family, after receiving testimony from Ann O'Leary, Center for the Next Generation, San Francisco, California; Judith L. Lichtman, National Partnership for Women and Families, Washington, D.C.; Juanita Phillips, Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation, Huntsville, Alabama, on behalf of the Society for Human Resource Management; and Kimberly Ortiz, Bronx, New York.