

Investigative Subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Democratic Leader, in which she designated the following Members of the House of Representatives to be available to serve on Investigative Subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics during the 113th Congress: Representatives Carney, Connolly, Hahn, Higgins, Jeffries, Keating, Perlmutter, Sewell (AL), Speier, and Titus.

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Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 113, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 803, to reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of the Nation to put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century, by a recorded vote of 226 ayes to 191 noes, Roll No. 71, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 70.

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Quorum Calls Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1413–14, H1414, and H1415. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINING LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENTS TO TITLE VII OF THE DODD-FRANK ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing on Examining Legislative Improvements to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act. Testimony was heard from Gary Gensler, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS OUTSIDE AND PUBLIC WITNESSES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing for Public and Outside Witnesses. Testimony was heard from public and outside witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—USDA FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on USDA Food and Nutrition Service. Testimony was heard from Audrey Rowe, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FY 2014 BUDGET APPLIED ENERGY FUNDING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy FY 2014 Budget Applied Energy Funding. Testimony was heard from Pete Lyons, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy; and Christopher Smith, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Department of Justice Oversight. Testimony was heard from Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice.

APPROPRIATIONS—SUPREME COURT OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Supreme Court of the United States Oversight. Testimony was heard from Anthony Kennedy, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; and Stephen Breyer, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

APPROPRIATIONS—MANAGEMENT ISSUES AT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development held a hearing on Management Issues at Department of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development. Testimony was heard from Calvin Scovel III, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; David Montoya, Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Mathew Scire, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; and Philip Herr, Managing Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office.

APPROPRIATIONS—SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN A FISCALLY CONSTRAINED ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Social Security Administration's Management Challenges in a Fiscally Constrained Environment. Testimony was heard from Carolyn Colvin, Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Immigration Enforcement Oversight. Testimony was heard from the following officials of Immigration and Custom Enforcement: Daniel H. Ragsdale, Deputy Director; Gary Mead, Executive Associate Director, Enforcement and Removal Operations; and John Morton, Director.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled “Is Base Realignment and Closure Appropriate at this Time?”. Testimony was heard from John Conger, Acting Deputy Director of Defense for Installations and Environment, Department of Defense; Kathleen Ferguson, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Installations, Environment and Logistics, Department of Defense; Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy, and the Environment), Department of Defense; and Roger Natsuhara, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy Energy, Installations and Environment, Department of Defense.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a markup on the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. The Resolution was ordered reported, as amended.

LOWER-SKILLED GUEST WORKER PROGRAMS IN TODAY’S ECONOMY

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Examining the Role of Lower-Skilled Guest Worker Programs in Today’s Economy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CHEMICAL FACILITIES ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM: A PROGRESS UPDATE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing entitled “The Chemical Facilities Anti-terrorism Standards Program: A Progress Update”. Testimony was heard from Rand Beers, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; David Wulf, Director, Infrastructure Security Compliance Division, Department of Homeland Security; Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY (FIRSTNET) AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) and Emergency Communications”. Testimony was heard from Sam Ginn, Chairman, First Responder Network Authority; Ray Lehr, Director, Statewide Communications Interoperability Program, Maryland Department of Information Technology; Chris McIntosh, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, Office of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security, Office of the Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia; David Turetsky, Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; and public witnesses.

GAO’S ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL AND THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL RESEARCH

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Who is Too Big to Fail? GAO’s Assessment of the Financial Stability Oversight Council and the Office of Financial Research”. Testimony was heard from Richard Berner, Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury; Amias Gerety, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Financial Stability Oversight Council, Department of the Treasury; and A. Nicole Clowers, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office.

U.S. ENERGY SECURITY: ENHANCING PARTNERSHIPS WITH MEXICO AND CANADA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled “U.S. Energy Security: Enhancing Partnerships with Mexico and Canada”. Testimony was heard from Representative Terry; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 115, the Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution; and hearing on Committee Resolution for Franked Mail Allowances for Certain Committees; and Disposition of Election Contest in the 28th District of Texas. H. Res. 115 was ordered reported, without amendment; Committee Resolution 113–5 was agreed to without amendment; and the disposition of the contested election in the 28th Congressional District of Texas was agreed to.

TSA'S EFFORTS TO ADVANCE RISK-BASED SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled “TSA’s Efforts to Advance Risk-Based Security”. Testimony was heard from John S. Pistole, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1067, to enact title 36, United States Code, “Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, and Organizations”, as positive law; H.R. 1068, to enact title 54, United States Code, “National Park System”, as positive law; H.R. 258, the “Stolen Valor Act of 2013”; and, H.R. 1073, the “Nuclear Terrorism Conventions Implementation and Safety of Maritime Navigation Act of 2013”. The following bills were ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 1067; H.R. 1068; H.R. 1073; and H.R. 258.

ABUSIVE PATENT LITIGATION: THE IMPACT ON AMERICAN INNOVATION AND JOBS, AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Abusive Patent Litigation: The Impact on American Innovation and Jobs, and Potential Solutions”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SEPARATION OF NUCLEAR FAMILIES UNDER U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security held a hearing entitled “The Separation of Nuclear Families under U.S. Immigration Law”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses. The Subcommittee adopted favorably the following items: Rules of Procedure and Statement of Policy for Private Immigration Bills; Rules of Procedure for Private Claims Bills; and Statement of Policy on Federal Charters.

AMERICA'S ONSHORE ENERGY RESOURCES: CREATING JOBS, SECURING AMERICA, AND LOWERING PRICES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “America’s Onshore Energy Resources: Creating Jobs, Securing America, and Lowering Prices”. Testimony was heard from Michael McKee, County Commissioner, Uintah County, Utah; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environment Regulation held a hearing on H.R. 588, the “Vietnam Veterans Donor Acknowledgment Act of 2013”; H.R. 716, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the city of Vancouver, Washington, and for other purposes; and H.R. 819, the “Preserving Access to Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Herrera Beutler, Jones, and Young (AK); and Herbert C. Frost, Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Warren Judge, Board of Commissioners, Dare Count, North Carolina; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 756, the “Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2013”; and H.R. 967, the “Advancing America’s Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2013”. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 756 and H.R. 967.

TOP CHALLENGES FOR SCIENCE AGENCIES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Top Challenges For Science Agencies: Reports from the Inspectors General—Part 2”. Testimony was heard from Gregory H. Friedman, Inspector General, Department of Energy, Office of Inspector General; Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Inspector General; Mary L. Kendall, Deputy Inspector General, Department of the Interior, Office of Inspector General.

REGULATING THE REGULATOR—REDUCING BURDENS ON SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing entitled “Regulating the Regulators-Reducing Burdens on Small Business”. Testimony was heard from Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration; and public witnesses.

IMPLEMENTING MAP-21: PROGRESS REPORT FROM DOT MODAL ADMINISTRATORS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled “Implementing MAP-21: Progress Report from DOT Modal Administrators”. Testimony was

heard from Victor M. Mendez, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration; Peter M. Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration; Anne S. Ferro, Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and David L. Strickland, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

LOWERING THE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled "Lowering the Rate of Unemployment for the National Guard and Reserve: Are We Making Progress?". Testimony was heard from MG Terry M. Haston, Adjutant General, Tennessee National Guard; Maj Ty Shepard, Director, California National Guard Employment Initiative; Ronald G. Young, Director, Family and Employer Program and Policy, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING PATIENT WAIT TIMES AT VA

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Waiting for Care: Examining Patient Wait Times at VA". Testimony was heard from William Schoenhard, FACHE, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

FINANCING CHALLENGES FACING THE SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee Social Security held a hearing entitled "Financing Challenges Facing the Social Security Disability Insurance Program". Testimony was heard from Joyce M. Manchester, Chief, Long-Term Analysis Unit, Health, Retirement, and Long-Term Analysis Division Congressional Budget Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a business meeting on Member Access request. This was a closed meeting.

ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held hearing entitled "Ongoing Intelligence Activities". This was a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

FEDERAL DEBT CRISIS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine solving the Federal debt crisis, after receiving testimony from former Senator Judd Gregg; Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, and Alice M. Rivlin, Brookings Institution, both of Washington, D.C.; and Simon Johnson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, Cambridge.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D175)

H.R. 307, to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response. Signed on March 13, 2013. (Public Law 113-5)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine JPMorgan Chase whale trades, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

House

Committee on Appropriations, March 15, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, hearing on Sandy Disaster Relief Recovery Oversight, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, March 15, Full Committee, hearing on the posture of the U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 15, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Unaffordable: Impact of Obamacare on Americans' Health Insurance Premiums", 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 15, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's (MedPAC) annual March Report to the Congress", 9:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth.