

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Collins (NY) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1571**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1576**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo, Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1576**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 133 nays with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 81. **Page H1590**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:43 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m. **Page H1588**

Dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth Congressional District of Texas: Agreed by unanimous consent to H. Res. 127, to dismiss the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth Congressional District of Texas. **Page H1590**

Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress: The House agreed to H. Res. 115, to provide for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 136 nays, Roll No. 82.

Pages H1581–90, S1591–97

H. Res. 122, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) and the resolution (H. Res. 115), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 80, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas 189 nays, Roll No. 79.

Pages H1588–90

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014: The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 25, to establish the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 20th.

Pages H1581–90, S1597–H1625

H. Res. 122, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) and the resolution (H. Res. 115), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 80, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas 189 nays, Roll No. 79.

Pages H1588–90

Quorum Calls Votes:—Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear

on pages H1588–90, H1589–90, H1590 and H1596–97. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy, Environmental Management. Testimony was heard from Dave Huizenga, Acting Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OFFICERS FY 2014 BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request for House of Representatives Officers. Testimony was heard from Daniel J. Strodel, Chief Administrative Officer; Karen L. Haas, Clerk; and Paul D. Irving, Sergeant at Arms.

APPROPRIATIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on General Services Administration Oversight. Testimony was heard from Dan Tangherlini, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—TOP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Top Management Challenges at the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education: Perspective from the Inspector Generals. Testimony was heard from Elliot P. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General, Office of Audit, Department of Labor; Kathleen S. Tighe, Inspector General, Department of Education; Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION BUDGET; AND YOUTH VIOLENCE RESEARCH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Science Foundation Budget; and Youth Violence Research. Testimony

was heard from Subra Suresh, Director, National Science Foundation; and a public witness.

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

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operation and Related Programs held a hearing for public and outside witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—INDIAN HEALTH OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on Indian Health Oversight. Testimony was heard from Yvette Roudibeaux, M.D., Indian Health Service; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE MILITARY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Quality of Life in the Military. Testimony was heard from Sergeant Major Raymond F. Chandler III, Sergeant Major of the Army; Master Chief Petty Officer Michael D. Stevens, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy; Sergeant Major Michael P. Barrett, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; and Chief Master Sergeant James A. Cody, Sergeant of the Air Force.

APPROPRIATIONS—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Federal Bureau of Investigation Budget. Testimony was heard from Robert S. Mueller III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

EQUIPPING, MODERNIZING, AND SUSTAINING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE COMPONENTS AS AN OPERATIONAL FORCE IN A TIME OF BUDGET UNCERTAINTY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on Equipping, Modernizing, and Sustaining the National Guard and Reserve Components as an Operational Force in a time of Budget Uncertainty. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Stanley E. Clarke III, Director, Air National Guard, USAF; Lieutenant General William E. Ingram Jr., Director, Army National Guard, USA; Lieutenant General James “JJ” Jackson, Chief, U.S. Air Force Reserve, USAF; and Lieutenant General Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief, U.S. Army Reserve and Commanding General, USAR.

NUCLEAR DETERRENT: WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A STRONG DETERRENT IN AN ERA OF DEFENSE SEQUESTER

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on the U.S. Nuclear Deterrent: What Are the Requirements for A Strong Deterrent in an Era of Defense Sequester? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND INNOVATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled “American Energy Security and Innovation: The Role of Regulators and Grid Operators in Meeting Natural Gas and Electric Coordination Challenges”. Testimony was heard from Philip D. Moeller, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Cheryl A. LaFleur, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and public witnesses.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES: HARNESSING WIRELESS INNOVATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Health Information Technologies: Harnessing Wireless Innovation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SUSTAINABLE HOUSING FINANCE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing “Sustainable Housing Finance: An Update from the Federal Housing Finance Agency on the GSE Conservatorships”. Testimony was heard from Edward J. DeMarco, Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

THE WAY FORWARD IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Middle East and North Africa; and Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled “After the Withdrawal: The Way Forward in Afghanistan and Pakistan” (Part I). Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled “Homeland Security Grants: Measuring Our Investments”. Testimony was heard from Tim Manning, Deputy Administrator, Protection and National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Anne Richards, Assistant Inspector General for Audits, Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; David

Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues; Government Accountability Office.

DHS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a hearing entitled “DHS Information Technology: How Effectively Has DHS Harnessed IT to Secure Our Borders and Uphold Immigration Laws?”. Testimony was heard from Margie Graves, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Department of Homeland Security; David Powner, Director, Information Technology Management Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Charles K. Edwards, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigation held a hearing entitled “The Electronic Communications Privacy Act, Part 1”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RELEASE OF CRIMINAL DETAINEES BY U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT: POLICY OR POLITICS?

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Release of Criminal Detainees by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: Policy or Politics?”. Testimony was heard from John Morton, Director, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environment Regulations held a hearing on H.R. 1126, to facilitate the completion of an appropriate national memorial to Dwight D. Eisenhower. Testimony was heard from Representative Issa; Carl W. Reddel, Executive Director, Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission; and public witnesses.

AUTHORIZATION, STANDARDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR WHETHER, HOW, AND WHEN INDIAN TRIBES SHOULD BE NEWLY RECOGNIZED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “Authorization, standards, and procedures for whether, how, and when Indian tribes should be newly recognized by the federal government: Perspective of the Department of the Interior”. Testimony was heard from Kevin Washburn, Assistant

Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY WATCHDOGS’ RECOMMENDATIONS COULD SAVE TAXPAYERS BILLIONS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “DOD and DHS: Implementing Agency Watchdogs’ Recommendations Could Save Taxpayers Billions”. Testimony was heard from Robert Hale, Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller and CFO, Department of Defense; Lynne Halb Brooks, Principal Deputy Inspector General, Department of Defense; Rafael Borrás; Under Secretary for Management, Department of Homeland Security; and Charles Edward, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

UNDERSTANDING THE ADMINISTRATION’S DECISIONS ON SPENDING CUTS AND FURLOUGHS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs and the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and the Census joint subcommittee held a hearing entitled, “Sequestration Oversight: Understanding the Administration’s Decisions on Spending Cuts and Furloughs”. Testimony was heard from David Robbins, Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission; Michael Young, USDA Budget Director, Department of Agriculture; Hari Sastry, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Resource Management, Department of Commerce.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY’S STRATEGY FOR EXPORTING LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements held a hearing entitled “The Department of Energy’s Strategy for Exporting Liquefied Natural Gas”. Testimony was heard from Chris Smith, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

REVIEW OF U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO TRACK AND MITIGATE ASTEROIDS AND METEORS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Threats from Space: A Review of U.S. Government Efforts to Track and Mitigate Asteroids and Meteors, Part 1”. Testimony was heard from John P. Holdren, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; William L. Shelton, Commander, U.S. Air Force Space Command; Charles F. Bolden, Jr.,

Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

CHALLENGES FOR SERVICE-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce; and Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint subcommittee hearing entitled "Consistently Inconsistent: Challenges for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses". Testimony was heard from William Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; A. John Shoraka, Associate Administrator, Office of Government Contracting and Business Development, Small Business Administration; Tom Leney, Executive Director, Veterans and Small Business Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs.

TAX REFORM AND TAX PROVISIONS AFFECTING STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Tax Reform and Tax Provisions Affecting State and Local Governments". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

HUNGARY

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine the trajectory of democracy in Hungary, focusing on Hungary's constitutional changes with a particular view to the independence of the judiciary, present-day Hungary's relationship to its Holocaust-era past, and the implications of Hungary's sweeping legal changes for civil society, including an independent media and religious organizations, after receiving testimony from Brent Hartley, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; Jozsef Szajer, Hungarian Member of the European Parliament, Fidesz-Hungarian Civic Union, Budapest; Kim Lane, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey; Sylvana Habdank-Kolaczowska, Freedom House, New York, New York; and Paul A. Shapiro, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine assessing the risks, impacts, and solutions for space threats, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine aviation safety, focusing on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) progress on key safety initiatives, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider S. 601, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine reforming the delivery system, focusing on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine counterterrorism policies and priorities, focusing on addressing the evolving threat, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013", and S. 330, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish safeguards and standards of quality for research and transplantation of organs infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), Time to be announced, S-216.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine Hurricane Sandy, focusing on getting the recovery right and the value of mitigation, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the future of drones in America, focusing on law enforcement and privacy considerations, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine building an immigration system worthy of American values, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine Veterans Affairs mental health care, focusing on ensuring timely access to high-quality care, 10 a.m., SR-418.

House

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee, business meeting to consider the following measures: H.R. 634, the "Business Risk Mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2013"; H.R. 677, the "Inter-Affiliate Swap Clarification Act"; H.R. 742, the "Swap Data Repository and Clearinghouse Indemnification Correction Act of 2013"; H.R. 992, the "Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act"; H.R. 1003, to improve consideration by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of the costs and benefits of its regulations and orders; H.R. 1038, the "Public Power