

Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 527, to amend the Helium Act to complete the privatization of the Federal helium reserve in a competitive market fashion that ensures stability in the helium markets while protecting the interests of American taxpayers. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow. **Pages H2323–27**

H. Res. 178, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 177 nays, Roll No. 124. **Pages H2315–22**

Agreed to the Bishop (UT) amendment to the rule by voice vote, after the previous question was ordered without objection. **Page H2322**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2315.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on page H2322. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—PUBLIC WITNESS DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on American Indian and Alaska Native issues. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—USDA FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies held a hearing on USDA Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Michael Scuse, Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agriculture Services; Juan Garcia, Administrator, Farm Service Agency; Suzanne Heinen, Foreign Agriculture Service; Brandon Willis, Administrator, Risk Management Agency; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—AFRICOM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on AFRICOM. This was a closed hearing.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on the Department of Treasury Budget. Testimony

was heard from Jack Lew, Secretary, Department of Treasury.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on the Department of Health and Human Services Budget. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

APPROPRIATIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development held a hearing on the Federal Railroad Administration Budget. Testimony was heard from Joseph Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2014 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Army”. Testimony was heard from John McHugh, Secretary of the Army; and General Raymond T. Odierno, Chief of Staff, United States Army.

TRANSITIONING TO AFGHAN SECURITY LEAD: PROTECTING AFGHAN WOMEN

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Transitioning to Afghan Security Lead: Protecting Afghan Women?”. Testimony was heard from David Sedney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Afghan Policy; Office of the Secretary of Defense; and Major General Michael Shields, USA, Director of the Pakistan-Afghanistan Coordination Cell, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION—NATIONAL SECURITY SPACE ACTIVITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2014 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for National Security Space Activities”. Testimony was heard from Gil Klinger, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Space and Intelligence Office; Doug Loverro, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Space Policy; Betty Sapp, Director, National Reconnaissance Office; and General William Shelton, USAF, Commander, USAF Space Command.

SECURING OUR NATION'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG SUPPLY CHAIN

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Securing Our Nation's Prescription Drug Supply Chain". Testimony was heard from Janet Woodcock, M.D., Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration; and public witnesses.

LIFELINE FUND: MONEY WELL SPENT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled "The Lifeline Fund: Money Well Spent?". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PRIORITIES AND STRATEGY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The FY 2014 Budget Request: U.S. Foreign Assistance Priorities and Strategy". Testimony was heard from Rajiv Shah, Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a markup on H.R. 419, the "Taiwan Policy Act of 2013". The bill was forwarded, as amended.

NATURAL GAS EXPORTS: ECONOMIC AND GEOPOLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled "Natural Gas Exports: Economic and Geopolitical Opportunities". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS TO COMBAT A CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR ATTACK ON THE HOMELAND

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing entitled "Counterterrorism Efforts to Combat a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Attack on the Homeland". Testimony was heard from Richard Daddario, Deputy Commissioner, New York City Police Department; Huban Gowadia, Acting Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, Department of Homeland Security; and Scott McAllister, Deputy Under Secretary, State and Local Program Officer, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE: PROTECTING OUR NATION'S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FROM CYBER ATTACK AND ENSURING PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies held a hearing entitled "Striking the Right Balance: Protecting Our Nation's Critical Infrastructure from Cyber Attack and Ensuring Privacy and Civil Liberties". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT (ECPA), PART 2: GEOLOCATION PRIVACY AND SURVEILLANCE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations held a hearing entitled "The Electronic Communications Privacy Act, Part 2: Geolocation Privacy and Surveillance". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Constitution and Civil Justice held a hearing on H.J. Res. 40, the Victims' Rights Amendment. Testimony was heard from William G. Montgomery, Maricopa County Attorney; John Gillis, Maricopa County Attorney's Office, Victim Services Division; and public witnesses.

EXAMINATION OF THE JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet held a hearing entitled "An Examination of the Judicial Conduct and Disability System". Testimony was heard from Anthony J. Scirica, Senior Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; David B. Sentelle, Senior Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL IMPEDIMENTS TO WATER RIGHTS, JOB CREATION AND RECREATION: A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing entitled "Federal Impediments to Water Rights, Job Creation and Recreation: A Local Perspective". Testimony was heard from Russell Boardman, Chairman, Shoshone Conservation District, Frannie, Wyoming; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 638, the “National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013”; H.R. 1300, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1384, the “Wildlife Refuge System Conservation Semipostal Stamp Act of 2013”. Testimony was heard from Representative Dingell; Jim Kurth, Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System, Fish and Wildlife Service; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE; AND U.S.-MEXICO TRANSBOUNDARY HYDROCARBON AGREEMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 1613, the “Outer Continental Shelf Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreements Authorization Act”; and legislation regarding the U.S.-Mexico Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreement and Steps Needed for Implementation. Testimony was heard from Tommy Beaudreau, Acting Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of Interior; Carlos Pascual, Special Envoy and Coordinator for International Energy Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT’S PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Government’s Procurement of Ammunition”. Testimony was heard from Nick Nayak, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security; Humberto Medina, Assistant Director, National Firearms and Tactical Training Unit, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, Patrick P. O’Carroll, Jr., Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General Social Security Administration; and a public witness.

EXAMINING THE LACK OF TRANSPARENCY AND CONSUMER DRIVEN MARKET FORCES IN U.S. HEALTH CARE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements held a hearing entitled “Examining the Lack of Transparency and Consumer Driven Market Forces in U.S. Health Care”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

POLICY RELEVANT CLIMATE ISSUES IN CONTEXT

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “Policy Relevant Climate Issues in Context”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SMALL BUSINESS STEM WORKFORCE SHORTAGE AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce held a hearing entitled “Help Wanted: The Small Business STEM Workforce Shortage and Immigration Reform”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IMPLEMENTING MAP-21

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled “Implementing MAP-21: The State and Local Perspective”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a markup of the following legislation: H.R. 357, the “GI Bill Tuition Fairness Act of 2013”; H.R. 562, the “VRAP Extension Act of 2013”; H.R. 631, the “Servicemembers’ Choice in Transition Act of 2013”; H.R. 844, the “VetSuccess Enhancement Act”; H.R. 1305, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide clarification regarding eligibility for services under the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program; H.R. 1316, to amend title 38, United States Code, to specify the responsibilities of the Directors and Assistant Directors of Veterans’ Employment and Training; H.R. 1402, the “Veterans Paralympic Act of 2013”; H.R. 1412, the “Improving Job Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2013”; and H.R. 1453, the “Work-Study for Student Veterans”. The following bills were forwarded, as amended: H.R. 357; H.R. 631; and H.R. 1316. The following bills were forwarded, without amendment: H.R. 562; H.R. 844; H.R. 1305; H.R. 1402; H.R. 1412; and H.R. 1453.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup of the following legislation: H.R. 569, the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2013”; H.R. 570, the “American Heroes COLA Act”; H.R. 671, the “Ruth Moore Act of 2013”; H.R. 894, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and H.R. 1405, to amend title 38,

United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include an appeals form in any notice of decision issued for the denial of a benefit sought. The following bills were forwarded, as amended: H.R. 671; and H.R. 1405. The following bills were forwarded, without amendment: H.R. 569; H.R. 570; and H.R. 894.

TAX REFORM AND RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Tax Reform and Residential Real Estate”. Testimony was heard from Jane Gravelle, Senior Specialist in Economic Policy, Congressional Research Service.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OPERATIONS AND THE 2013 TAX RETURN FILING SEASON

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Internal Revenue Service Operations and the 2013 Tax Return Filing Season”. Testimony was heard from Steven Miller, Acting Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

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

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on the United States Forest Service Budget, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies, hearing on the Food and Drug Administration Budget, 10:30 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “The Readiness Posture of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marine Corps”, 8 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2014 Army Modernization Programs”, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Does HIPAA Help or Hinder Patient Care and Public Safety?”, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats; and Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled “Islamist Extremism in Chechnya: A Threat to the U.S. Homeland?”, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, hearing entitled “Cutting DHS Duplication and Wasteful Spending: Implementing Private Sector Best Practices and Watchdog Recommendations”, 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation, hearing on H.R. 1169, “Naval Air Station Fallon Housing and Safety Development Act”; H.R. 1299, the “White Sands Missile Range Security Enhancement Act”; H.R. 1574, to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to rename the site a park; H.R. 1673, the “Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Security Enhancement Act”; H.R. 1676, the “Johnson Valley National Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area Establishment Act”; H.R. 1672, the “Limestone Hills Training Area Withdrawal Act”; and H.R. 1691, the “Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range Security Enhancement Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on H.R. 1548, the “Native American Energy Act”, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy; and Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “A Review of Federal Hydraulic Fracturing Research Activities”, 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled “Challenges Facing the Next Commissioner of Social Security”, 9:30 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.