

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup on the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2014; and Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill for FY 2014. The Committee ordered reported, without amendment, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2014. The Committee ordered reported, as amended, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill for FY 2014.

SECURITY SITUATION IN THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC—IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY AND U.S. POLICY OPTIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Security Situation in the Syrian Arab Republic—Implications for U.S. National Security and U.S. Policy Options”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee concluded markup on H.R. 1582, the “Energy Consumers Relief Act 2013”; H.R. 1900, the “Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act”; H.R. 83, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop an action plan to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States; H.R. 2094, the “School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act”; H.R. 698, the “HIV Organ Policy Equity Act”; and H.R. 2052, the “Global Investment in American Jobs Act of 2013”. The following bills were ordered reported as amended: H.R. 1582; H.R. 1900; and H.R. 2052. The following bills were ordered reported without amendment: H.R. 83; H.R. 2094; and H.R. 698.

MONETARY POLICY AND THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy”. Testimony was heard from Ben Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES ON TSA ACQUISITION REFORM

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled “Stakeholder Perspectives on TSA Acquisition Reform”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EVALUATING PRIVACY, SECURITY, AND FRAUD CONCERNS WITH OBAMACARE’S INFORMATION SHARING APPARATUS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies; and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform’s Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements held a hearing entitled “Evaluating Privacy, Security, and Fraud Concerns with ObamaCare’s Information Sharing Apparatus”. Testimony was heard from Alan R. Duncan, Assistant Inspector General for Security and Information Technology Services, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Terence V. Milholland, Chief Technology Officer, Internal Revenue Service; Danny Werfel, Principal Deputy Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; Marilyn B. Tavenner, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; Henry Chao, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Deputy Director of the Office of Information Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and John Dicken, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office.

COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP AT THE SMITHSONIAN

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Collections Stewardship at the Smithsonian”. Testimony was heard from G. Wayne Clough, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution; Scott Miller, Deputy Undersecretary for Collections and Interdisciplinary Support, Smithsonian Institution; and Scott Dahl, Inspector General, Smithsonian Institution.

OVERSIGHT OF THE ADMINISTRATION’S USE OF FISA AUTHORITIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Administration’s use of FISA Authorities”. Testimony was heard from James Cole, Department of Justice; John C. Inglis, National Security Agency; Robert S. Litt, Office of Director of National Intelligence, Stephanie Douglas, Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Security Branch; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Constitution and Civil Justice held a markup on H.R. 2655, the “Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2013”. The bill was forwarded, without amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OPERATIONS, MANAGEMENT, AND RULEMAKINGS

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Department of the Interior Operations, Management, and Rulemakings”. Testimony was heard from Sally Jewell, Secretary, Department of the Interior.

NATIONAL BLUEWAYS ORDER

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing entitled “A Washington, DC-based Bureaucratic Invention with Potential Water Conservation and Property Rights Impacts: The National Blueways Order”. Testimony was heard from Rebecca Wodder, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Department of the Interior; Robert Griffin, Judge, Independence County, Arkansas; and public witnesses.

WHY SHOULD AMERICANS HAVE TO COMPLY WITH THE LAWS OF FOREIGN NATIONS?

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs held a hearing entitled “Why should Americans have to comply with the laws of foreign nations?”. Testimony was heard from Kristina Alexander, Legislative Attorney, American Law Division, Congressional Research Service; and public witnesses.

BORDER SECURITY OVERSIGHT, PART III: EXAMINING ASYLUM REQUESTS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “Border Security Oversight, Part III: Examining Asylum Requests”. Testimony was heard from Joseph E. Langlois, Associate Director, Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations, Citizenship and Immigration Services.

A PATH FORWARD ON POSTAL REFORM

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “A Path Forward on Postal Reform”. Testimony was heard from Representative Smith (NE); Patrick Donahoe, Postmaster General and CEO, United States Postal Service; and public witnesses.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 5, the “Student Success Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a structured rule for H.R. 5. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points

of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order as original text for the purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–18 and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by its proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Kline (MN), and Representatives George Miller (CA), Salmon, Thompson (PA), Brooks (IN), Polis, Young (AK), Garrett, Scalise, Fitzpatrick, Duncan (SC), Gibson, Mullin, Jackson Lee, Cárdenas, Hanabusa, and Esty.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AND SMALL BUSINESSES: ENSURING FAIR TREATMENT

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Internal Revenue Service and Small Businesses: Ensuring Fair Treatment”. Testimony was heard from Daniel I. Werfel, Principal Deputy Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

CAUSES OF DELAYS TO THE FAA’S NEXTGEN PROGRAM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “Causes of Delays to the FAA’s NextGen Program”. Testimony was heard from Michael P. Huerta, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; and Calvin L. Scovel III, Inspector General, Department of Transportation.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing on the following: H.R. 813, the “Putting Veterans Funding First Act of 2013”; H.R. 806, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the requirement for annual reports on Comptroller General reviews of the accuracy of Department of Veterans Affairs medical budget submissions, and for other purposes; and a draft discussion bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct

the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a Future-Years Veterans Program and a quadrennial veterans review, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Chief Strategy Officer, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Robert D. Snyder, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Policy and Planning, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup on H.R. 2086, the "Pay As You Rate Act"; H.R. 2189, to establish a commission or task force to evaluate the backlog of disability claims of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and H.R. 2423, the "Disabled Veterans' Access to Medical Exams Improvement Act". The following bills were forwarded, as amended: H.R. 2086; H.R. 2189; and H.R. 2423.

DELAY OF THE EMPLOYER MANDATE PENALTIES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Obama Administration's recent decision to delay the information reporting requirements and penalties associated with the employer mandate in the Affordable Care Act until 2015. Testimony was heard from J. Mark Iwry, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Retirement and Health Policy, Department of the Treasury.

WHAT REALLY WORKS: EVALUATING CURRENT EFFORTS TO HELP FAMILIES SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN AND ESCAPE POVERTY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing entitled "What Really Works: Evaluating Current Efforts to Help Families Support their Children and Escape Poverty". Testimony was heard from Kristen Cox, Executive Director, Utah Governor's Office of Management and Budget; and public witnesses.

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

AUTHORITARIANISM IN AZERBAIJAN

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: On Tuesday, July 16, 2013, Commission received a briefing on growing authoritarianism in Azerbaijan,

focusing on current events in Azerbaijan and the prospect for a free and fair election, after receiving testimony from Thomas Melia, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; Elin Suleymanov, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United States, and Miriam Lansky, National Endowment for Democracy, both of Washington, D.C.; and Erkin Gadirli, Republican Alternative, Samad Seyidov, National Assembly of Azerbaijan, and Eldar Namavoz, National Council of Democratic Forces of Azerbaijan, all of Baku, Azerbaijan.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies and the Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of General Martin E. Dempsey, USA for reappointment to the grade of general and reappointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN for reappointment to the grade of admiral and reappointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Melvin L. Watt, of North Carolina, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Jason Furman, of New York, to be Member and Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Kara Marlene Stein, of Maryland, Michael Sean Piwowar, of Virginia, and Mary Jo White, of New York, all to be Members of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Richard T. Metsger, of Oregon, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress, 10:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the current state of clean energy finance in the United States and opportunities to facilitate greater investment in domestic clean energy technology development and deployment, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine climate change, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of F. Scott Kieff, of Illinois, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Todd M. Hughes, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Colin Stirling Bruce, to be United States