

year pediatric research initiative through the Common Fund administered by the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes.” **Page H7666**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 1:43 p.m. and reconvened at 2:36 p.m. **Page H7653**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7669.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Five yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7666, H7666–67, H6667–68, H7688 and H7668–69. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### U.S. ASIA-PACIFIC STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO P.L.A. NAVAL FORCES MODERNIZATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing on U.S. Asia-Pacific Strategic Considerations Related to P.L.A. Naval Forces Modernization. Testimony was heard from Andrew Erickson, Associate Professor, U.S. Naval War College; Ronald O'Rourke, Specialist in Naval Affairs, Congressional Research Service; and public witnesses.

### PPACA IMPLEMENTATION FAILURES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “PPACA Implementation Failures: What's Next?”. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Full Committee concluded markup on the following measures: H.R. 3527, the “Poison Center Network Act of 2013”; H.R. 1098, the “Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 724, to amend the Clean Air Act to remove the requirement for dealer certification of new light-duty motor vehicles; H.R. 3683, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to strengthen the collaboration between the United States and Israel on energy development and to bolster the existing United States-Israel energy relationship by encouraging increased cooperation between the two countries; H.R. 3675, the “Federal Communications Commission Process Reform Act of 2013”; and H.R. 3674, the “Federal Spectrum Incentive Act of 2013”. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 1098; and H.R. 3675. The following bills were ordered reported, without amend-

ment: H.R. 3527; H.R. 724; H.R. 3683; and H.R. 3674.

### AFGHANISTAN 2014: YEAR OF TRANSITION

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Afghanistan 2014: Year of Transition.” Testimony was heard from James F. Dobbins, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State; Donald L. Sampler, Assistant to the Administrator, Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Michael J. Dumont, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia, Department of Defense.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a markup on H. Res. 418, Urging the Government of Burma to end the persecution of the Rohingya people and respect internationally recognized human rights for all ethnic and religious minority groups within Burma; and H. Res. 281, Expressing concern over persistent and credible reports of systematic, state-sanctioned organ harvesting from non-consenting prisoners of conscience, in the People's Republic of China, including from large numbers of Falun Gong practitioners imprisoned for their religious beliefs, and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups. The resolutions were forwarded to the Full Committee, without amendment.

### ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Establishing a Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Blackburn; Carolyn B. Maloney (NY); and a public witness.

### SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION 2014; AND TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF THE FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on Senate amendment to H.J. Res. 59, the continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2014. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a rule that provides for the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.J. Res. 59. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on the Budget or his designee that the House recede from its

amendment and concur in the Senate amendment with the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report as modified by the amendment printed in part B of that report. The rule provides 70 minutes of debate on the motion with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget and 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion and provides that the motion shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. In section 2, the rule provides that the chair of the Committee on the Budget may insert in the Congressional Record at any time during the remainder of the first session of the 113th Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of the motion specified in section 1. In section 3, the rule provides that in the engrossment of the House amendment to the Senate amendment to House Joint Resolution 59, the Clerk may conform division, title, and section numbers and conform cross-references and provisions for short titles. In section 4, the rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Armed Services may insert in the Congressional Record at any time during the remainder of the first session of the 113th Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of defense authorization measures for the fiscal year 2014. In section 5, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of December 12, 2013, or December 13, 2013, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. In section 6, the rule provides that on any legislative day of the first session of the 113th Congress after December 13, 2013: the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 7, the rule provides that on any legislative day of the second session of the 113th Congress before January 7, 2014: the Speaker may dispense with organizational and legislative business; the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved if applicable; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 8, the rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration

of the period addressed by sections 6 and 7 of the rule. In section 9, the rule provides that each day during the period addressed by section 6 and 7 of the resolution shall not constitute calendar days for the purposes of the War Powers Resolution. In section 10, the rule provides a closed rule for H.R. 3695. The rule provides 40 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part C of the report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In section 11, the rule waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported from the Rules Committee through the legislative day of December 13, 2013. Testimony was heard from Chairman Ryan (WI); and Representatives Lowey; Levin; Van Hollen; and Burgess.

#### **FACTUAL LOOK AT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CLIMATE AND WEATHER**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “A Factual Look at the Relationship Between Climate and Weather”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a markup on the following measures: H.R. 2413, the “Weather Forecasting Improvement Act of 2013”; H.R. 2431, the “National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2013”; H.R. 2981, the “Technology and Research Accelerating National Security and Future Economic Resiliency Act of 2013”; and H.R. 3625, to provide for termination liability costs for certain National Aeronautics and Space Administration projects, and for other purposes. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 2413; H.R. 2431; H.R. 2981; and H.R. 3625.

#### **SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH OPTIONS PROGRAM**

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Small Business Health Options Program: Is It Working for Small Businesses”.

Testimony was heard from Gary Cohen, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

#### COAST GUARD MISSION EXECUTION

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled “Coast Guard Mission Execution: How is the Coast Guard Meeting Its Mission Goals?”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral John P. Currier, Vice Commandant, United States Coast Guard.

#### EXAMINING THE CURRENT AND FUTURE DEMANDS ON FTA’S CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Highway and Transit held a hearing entitled “Examining the Current and Future Demands on FTA’s Capital Investment Grants”. Testimony was heard from Peter M. Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration; Gregory H. Hughes, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Utah Transit Authority; Chris Bushell, Chief Infrastructure Officer, Chicago Transit Authority; Chris Coleman, Mayor, St. Paul, Minnesota; and a public witness.

#### CONTRACTING AWAY ACCOUNTABILITY—REVERSE AUCTIONS IN FEDERAL AGENCY ACQUISITIONS

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Committee on Small Business Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce held a hearing entitled “Contracting Away Accountability—Reverse Auctions in Federal Agency Acquisitions”. Testimony was heard from Michelle Mackin, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; William Sisk, Deputy Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service, General Services Administration; Major L. Clark, III, Assistant Chief Counsel for Procurement, Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration; Jan Frye, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Acquisitions and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

### *Joint Meetings*

#### CRISES IN EAST ASIA

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission concluded a hearing to examine resolving crises in East Asia through a new system of collective security, focusing on the Helsinki process as a model, after receiving testimony from Carl Gershman, National Endowment for Democracy,

Karin J. Lee, The National Committee on North Korea, and Frank Jannuzi, Amnesty International, all of Washington, DC.

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#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine assessing the P5+1 Interim Nuclear Agreement with Iran, focusing on Administration perspectives, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine forecasting success, focusing on achieving U.S. weather readiness for the long term, 10:30 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Finance:* business meeting to consider an original bill to repeal the Sustainable Growth Rate system and to consider health care extenders, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Bathsheba Nell Crocker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs, Michael Anderson Lawson, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, Robert C. Barber, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland, Cynthia H. Akuetteh, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, and Colleen Bradley Bell, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Hungary, and all of the Department of State, 11 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph William Westphal, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mark Gilbert, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to New Zealand and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa, George James Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, John L. Estrada, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, and Luis G. Moreno, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, all of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* to hold hearings to examine accreditation as quality assurance, focusing on meeting the needs of 21st Century learning, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider S. 619, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent unjust and irrational criminal punishments, S. 1410, to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders, S. 1675, to reduce recidivism and increase public