

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Senate continued in the session that began on Wednesday, December 11, 2013. See next volume of the Congressional Record.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

P5 + 1 INTERIM NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine assessing the P5+1 Interim Nuclear Agreement with Iran, focusing on Administration perspectives, after receiving testimony from Wendy Sherman, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs; and David S. Cohen, Under Secretary of the Treasury.

WEATHER FORECASTING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine forecasting success, focusing on achieving U.S. weather readiness for the long term, after receiving testimony from Louis W. Uccellini, Assistant Administrator for Weather Services, and Director of the National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; William B. Gail, Global Weather Corporation, Boulder, Colorado; A. Thomas Young, NOAA Satellite Independent Review Team, Onancock, Virginia; Barry Lee Myers, AccuWeather, Inc, State College, Pennsylvania; Richard J. Hirn, National Weather Service Employees Organization, Washington, D.C.; and Lee E. Ohanian, University of California Los Angeles Ettinger Family Program in Macroeconomic Research.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of

Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, who was introduced by Senator Feinstein, and Jonathan Elkind, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, both of the Department of Energy, and Rhea Sun Suh, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, and Tommy Port Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be an Assistant Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Begich, both of the Department of the Interior, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably the following business items:

An original bill to repeal the Sustainable Growth Rate system and to consider health care extenders; and

An original bill entitled, "Supporting at Risk Children Act".

ACCREDITATION AS QUALITY ASSURANCE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine accreditation as quality assurance, focusing on meeting the needs of 21st Century learning, after receiving testimony from Arthur Levine, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Princeton, New Jersey; Ralph A. Wolff, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Alameda, California; Daniel Phelan, Jackson College, Jackson, Michigan; and Laura Rasar King, Council on Education for Public Health, Silver Spring, Maryland.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.