

By 59 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 86), Gerald Austin McHugh, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. **Pages S1760, S1780**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 82), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1746**

By 69 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. EX. 87), Edward G. Smith, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. **Pages S1760–61, S1780**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 75 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. 83), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S1746–47**

Joseph William Westphal, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. **Pages S1761, S1780**

Messages from the House: **Page S1773**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S1742, S1773**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1773–74**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S1774–75**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1775–76**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1776–78**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1772–73**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1778**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1778**

Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—87) **Pages S1746–47, S1760–61**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:18 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 27, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1779.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Sally Jewell, Secretary, Mike Connor, Deputy Secretary, Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary for Policy,

Management and Budget, and Pam K. Haze, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition, all of the Department of the Interior.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of the Navy, after receiving testimony from Ray Mabus, Secretary, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations, General James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun, Chief of Navy Reserve, and Lieutenant General Richard P. Mills, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve, United State Marine Corps, all of the Department of the Navy, Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary (Comptroller), Jessica L. Wright, Acting Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Jonathan A. Woodson, Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Frederick E. Vollrath, Assistant Secretary for Readiness and Force Management, and Richard O. Wightman, Acting Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, all of the Department of Defense; Colonel Michael F. Hayden, USAF (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America, John R. Davis, Fleet Reserve Association, and Kathleen B. Moakler, National Military Family Association, all of Alexandria, Virginia; and Captain Marshall Hanson, USNR (Ret.), Reserve Officers Association, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Robert O. Work, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary, Michael J.

McCord, of Ohio, to be Under Secretary (Comptroller), Christine E. Wormuth, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Policy, David B. Shear, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, and Eric Rosenbach, of Pennsylvania, to be Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense, all of the Department of Defense, and 147 nominations in the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Army.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine the current readiness of United States forces in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General John F. Campbell, USA, Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army, Vice Admiral Philip Hart Cullom, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics, General John M. Paxton, Jr., USMC, Assistant Commandant, United States Marine Corps, General Larry O. Spencer, USAF, Vice Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL PRODUCTS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection concluded a hearing to examine if alternative financial products are serving consumers, including H.R. 1566, to create a Federal charter for Internet consumer credit corporations, after receiving testimony from G. Michael Flores, Bretton Woods, Inc., St. Simons Island, Georgia; Stephanie Klein, Enova, Chicago, Illinois; Nick Bourke, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, D.C.; David Rothstein, Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio; and Nathalie Martin, University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque.

PROTECTING PERSONAL CONSUMER INFORMATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine protecting personal consumer information from cyber attacks and data breaches, after receiving testimony from Edith Ramirez, Chairwoman, Federal Trade Commission; John Mulligan, Target, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Wallace D. Loh, University of Maryland, College Park; David Wagner, Entrust, Dallas, Texas; Peter J. Beshar, Marsh and McLennan Companies, New York, New York; and Ellen Richey, Visa Inc., Foster City, California.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BUDGET

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Syria after Geneva, focusing on the next steps for United States policy, after receiving testimony from Anne W. Patterson, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, and Thomas M. Countryman, Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of State; David J. Kilcullen, Caerus Associates, and Vali Nasr, Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, both of Washington, D.C.; and Jan Egeland, Norwegian Refugee Council, Oslo, Norway.

REDUCING CYBER RISKS TO OUR NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine strengthening public-private partnerships to reduce cyber risks to our nation's critical infrastructure, including observations on key factors in the Department of Homeland Security's implementation of its partnership approach, after receiving testimony from Phyllis Schneck, Deputy Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Cybersecurity, National Protection and Programs Directorate; Donna F. Dodson, Chief Cybersecurity Advisor, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, and Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Issues, both of the Government Accountability Office; Elayne M. Starkey, Delaware Department of Technology and Information Chief Security Officer, Dover; David Velazquez, Pepco Holdings, Inc., and Doug Johnson, American Bankers Association, on behalf of the Financial Services Sector Coordinating Council, both of Washington, D.C.; and Steven R. Chabinsky, CrowdStrike, Inc., Arlington, Virginia.

TRIBAL PROGRAMS BUDGET

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for Tribal Programs, after receiving testimony from Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Yvette Roubideaux, Acting Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services;

Aaron Payment, National Congress of American Indians, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; and Andrew Joseph, Jr., National Indian Health Board, Portland, Oregon.

THE SATELLITE TELEVISION EXTENSION AND LOCALISM ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reauthorization of, “The Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act”, after receiving testimony from Alison A. Minea, DISH Network L.L.C., and John Bergmayer, Public Knowledge, both of Washington, D.C.; Marci Burdick, Schurz Communications, Inc., Mishawaka, Indiana, on behalf of the National Association of Broadcasters; and Ellen Stutzman, Writers Guild of America, West, Inc., Los Angeles, California.

MEDICARE FRAUD

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine preventing Medicare fraud, focusing on the best way to protect seniors and taxpayers, after receiving testimony from Brian Martens, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Office of Inspector General, and Shantanu Agrawal, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Bettie Hughes, The Senior Alliance, Wayne, Michigan; Louis Saccoccio, National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, Washington, D.C.; and Patricia A. Gresko, Romeo, Michigan.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 4298–4314; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 525 were introduced. **Pages H2694–95**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2696–97**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2575, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 30-hour threshold for classification as a full-time employee for purposes of the employer mandate in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and replace it with 40 hours, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–386);

H. Con. Res. 88, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby (H. Rept. 113–387); and

H. Con. Res. 92, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition (H. Rept. 113–388). **Page H2694**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Black to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2647**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:16 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2655**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Jonathan Weaver, Greater Mt. Nebo AME Church, Bowie, Maryland. **Page H2655**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H2655, H2683**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:44 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H2668**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of our brave men and women in uniform who have given their lives in the service of our country in Iraq and Afghanistan, their families, and all who serve in our armed forces and their families. **Page H2670**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on March 24th:

Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 1228, amended, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Packerland Drive in Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the “Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 144.

Pages H2670–71

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 South 9th Street in De Pere, Wisconsin, as the ‘Corporal Justin D. Ross Post Office Building’.”. **Page H2671**

Ensuring Public Involvement in the Creation of National Monuments Act: The House passed H.R. 1459, to ensure that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 applies to the declaration of national monuments, by a recorded vote of 222 yeas to 201 noes, Roll No. 147. **Pages H2671–83**