

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Robert Alan McDonald, of Ohio, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Senate passed H.R. 5021, Highway and Transportation Funding Act, as amended.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5005–S5074*

**Measures Introduced:** Eleven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2675–2685, and S. Res. 526–528. **Pages S5050–51**

#### Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2015”. (S. Rept. No. 113–222)

S.J. Res. 36, relating to the approval and implementation of the proposed agreement for nuclear cooperation between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–221)

S. Res. 502, concerning the suspension of exit permit issuance by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo for adopted Congolese children seeking to depart the country with their adoptive parents, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 513, honoring the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising.

S. Res. 520, condemning the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 and expressing condolences to the families of the victims.

S. Res. 522, expressing the sense of the Senate supporting the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit to be held in Washington, D.C. from August 4 through 6, 2014. **Page S5047**

#### Measures Passed:

*Highway and Transportation Funding Act:* By 79 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. 248), Senate passed H.R. 5021, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, by the order of the Senate of Wednes-

day, July 23, 2014, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S5021–39**

#### Adopted:

By 71 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 244), Wyden/Hatch Amendment No. 3582, to modify the provisions relating to revenue. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having achieved 60 affirmative votes, be agreed to.) **Pages S5021–26, S5037**

By 66 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 245), Carper Amendment No. 3583, in the nature of a substitute. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having achieved 60 affirmative votes, be agreed to.) **Pages S5031–37, S5037–38**

#### Rejected:

By 28 yeas to 69 nays (Vote No. 246), Lee Amendment No. 3584, to empower States with authority for most taxing and spending for highway programs and mass transit programs. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the amendment was not agreed to.) **Pages S5028–31, S5038**

By 47 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 247), Toomey Amendment No. 3585, to ease Federal burdens on State and local governments recovering from catastrophic events. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the amendment was not agreed to.) **Pages S5026–28, S5038–39**

*Providing for the Correction of an Enrollment:* Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 108, providing for the correction of the enrollment of H.R. 5021.

**Page S5039**

**Supporting Israel's Right to Defend Itself:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 526, supporting Israel's right to defend itself against Hamas. **Page S5039**

**Naftali Fraenkel:** Senate passed S. 2577, to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards totaling up to \$5,000,000 for information on the kidnapping and murder of Naftali Fraenkel, a dual United States-Israeli citizen, that began on June 12, 2014. **Page S5069**

**Authorizing the Use of the Capitol Grounds:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 103, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. **Page S5069**

**Authorizing the Use of Emancipation Hall:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 106, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. **Page S5069**

**Congratulating the Members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 527, congratulating the members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. for 100 years of service throughout the United States and the world, and commending Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. for exemplifying the ideals of brotherhood, scholarship, and service while upholding the motto "Culture for Service and Service for Humanity". **Page S5069**

**125th Anniversary of North Dakota's Statehood:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 528, commemorating the 125th anniversary of North Dakota's Statehood. **Pages S5069–70**

**United States Intelligence Professionals Day:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 521, designating July 26, 2014, as "United States Intelligence Professionals Day", and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5070**

**International Religious Freedom Act:** Senate passed H.R. 4028, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to include the desecration of cemeteries among the many forms of violations of the right to religious freedom. **Page S5070**

#### Measures Considered:

**Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act:** Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014. **Pages S5005–07, S5040–42**

**Bring Jobs Home Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing

that at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 30, 2014, Senate resume consideration of S. 2569, Bring Jobs Home Act, that there be one hour for debate equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on S. 2569, Bring Jobs Home Act. **Page S5070**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–52) **Pages S5045–46**

**Akuetteh, Moritsugu, and Kennedy Nominations—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Cynthia H. Akuetteh, of the District of Columbia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Erika Lizabeth Moritsugu, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Richard A. Kennedy, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority for a term expiring May 30, 2016; that there be two minutes for debate equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees prior to each vote; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed; that any roll call votes, following the first in the series, be 10 minutes in length; and that no further motions be in order to the nomination. **Page S5070**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By a unanimous vote of 97 yeas (Vote No. EX. 243), Robert Alan McDonald, of Ohio, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs. **Pages S5015-18, S5018-21, S5074**

Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. **Pages S5021, S5074**

Michael Stephen Hoza, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon. **Pages S5021, S5074**

Joan A. Polaschik, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. **Pages S5021, S5074**

**Nomination Received:** Senate received the following nomination:

David Nathan Saperstein, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom. **Page S5074**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S5046**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S5046**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Pages S5005, S5046**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Pages S5046, S5070**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Pages S5046–47**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S5047**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S5047–50**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5051–53**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S5053–67**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S5045**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S5067–68**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S5068–69**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S5069**

**Record Votes:** Six record votes were taken today. (Total—248) **Pages S5021, S5037–39**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:51 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5070.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### CLIMATE CHANGE

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the economic and budgetary consequences of climate change, focusing on the cost of inaction, and opportunities to reduce Federal fiscal exposures through greater resilience to climate change and extreme weather, after receiving testimony from Alfredo Gomez, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Mindy Lubber, Ceres, Boston, Massachusetts; Sherri W. Goodman, CNA Military Advisory Board, Arlington, Virginia; W. David Montgomery, NERA Economic Consulting, Washington,

DC; and Bjorn Lomborg, Copenhagen Consensus Center, Copenhagen, Denmark.

### RESTORE ACT AND GULF RESTORATION

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine revisiting the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies Act, focusing on progress and challenges in Gulf restoration post-*Deepwater Horizon*, after receiving testimony from Bruce H. Andrews, Deputy Secretary of Commerce; Trudy D. Fisher, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Executive Director, Jackson; Justin R. Ehrenwerth, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Mimi A. Drew, Tallahassee, Florida, both of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council; Grover C. Robinson IV, Escambia County Commissioner, Pensacola, Florida, on behalf of the Florida Gulf Coast Consortium; and Thomas E. Kelsch, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, Washington, DC.

### TRUCK SAFETY ON OUR HIGHWAYS

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine opportunities and challenges for improving truck safety on our highways, after receiving testimony from Anne S. Ferro, Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; Joan Claybrook, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, and David J. Osiecki, American Trucking Associations, both of Washington, DC; Major David Palmer, Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, Austin, Texas; and William G. Dawson, United Parcel Service, Anna, Texas, on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

### ENERGY PRODUCTION ON FEDERAL LANDS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine breaking the logjam at the Bureau of Land Management, focusing on ways to more efficiently process permits for energy production on Federal lands, and understanding the obstacles in permitting more energy projects on Federal lands, including S. 279, to promote the development of renewable energy on public land, and S. 2440, to expand and extend the program to improve permit coordination by the Bureau of Land Management, after receiving testimony from Senator Tester; Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Mark A. Christensen, Campbell County Board of Commissioners Chairman, Gillette, Wyoming, on behalf of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association; Lorinda