Wednesday, February 11, 2015

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 295, Amy and Vicky Child Pornography Victim Restitution Improvement Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S907–S946

Measures Introduced: Twenty-four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 446–469. **Page S926**

Measures Passed:

Amy and Vicky Child Pornography Victim Restitution Improvement Act: By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 55), Senate passed S. 295, to amend section 2259 of title 18, United States Code, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S916–20**

Adopted:

Hatch Amendment No. 250, of a perfecting nature. **Page S919**

Measures Considered:

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 240, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. **Pages S907–10, S920–21**

Appointments:

United States Holocaust Memorial Council: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 96–388, as amended by Public Law 97–84, and Public Law 106–292, reappointed the following Senators to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council: Senators Sanders and Franken. **Page S946**

National Council on the Arts: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105–83, the reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the National Council on the Arts: Senator Baldwin. **Page S946**

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appointed the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Senators Feinstein, Schumer, and Whitehouse. **Page S946**

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki): The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appointed the following Senators as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 114th Congress: Senators Cardin, Whitehouse, Udall, and Shaheen. **Page S946**

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appointed the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Senators Feinstein (reappointment), Brown (reappointment), Merkley (reappointment), and Peters. **Page S946**

President's Export Council: The Chair, pursuant to Executive Order 12131, as amended and extended, appointed the following Senators to the President's Export Council: Senators Klobuchar and Gillibrand. **Page S946**

Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 85–874, as amended, reappointed the following Senator to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Senator Warner. **Page S946**

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

Transmitting a legislative proposal to authorize the limited use of the United States Armed Forces

against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL); which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–5) **Page S925**

Carter Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 12, 2015, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Ashton B. Carter, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Defense; that the time until 2 p.m., be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, and that at 2 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S946**

Messages from the House: **Pages S925–26**

Measures Referred: **Page S926**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S926–27**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S927–45**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S945**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S945–46**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—55) **Page S920**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:10 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 12, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S946.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Jennifer Gimbel, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, and Estevan Lopez, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, both of the Department of the Interior; and Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick, Chief of Engineers, United States Army Corps of Engineers, both of the Department of Defense.

SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the situation in Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from James B. Cunningham, Mineville, New York, and Ryan C. Crocker, Texas A&M University George Bush School of Government and Public Service, College Station, both a former Ambassador to Afghanistan, Department of State; Admiral Eric T. Olson, USN (Ret.), former Commander, United States Special Operations Command, Department of Defense, Baltimore, Maryland; and Michael E. Leiter, former Director, United States National Counterterrorism Center, Reston, Virginia.

WORLD-WIDE NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces received a closed briefing on world-wide nuclear capabilities from Douglas S. Wade, Senior Defense Intelligence Analyst for Korea and North East Asia, Dionisio Aquino de Leon III, Senior Defense Intelligence Analyst for Russia and Eurasia, Daniel K. Taylor, Acting Senior Defense Intelligence Analyst for China, Kent A. Breedlove, Senior Defense Intelligence Analyst for South Asia, Richard A. Williams, Senior Intelligence Officer for Levant Branch, and Roy E. Boone, Acting Senior Defense Intelligence Analyst for Weapons of Mass Destruction and Nuclear, all of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

MILITARY COMPENSATION AND RETIREMENT MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the retirement and compensation proposals of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, after receiving testimony from Alphonso Maldon, Jr., Chairman, and former Senator Larry L. Pressler, Dov S. Zakheim, Michael R. Higgins, General Peter W. Chiarelli, USA (Ret.), and Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN (Ret.), each a Commissioner, all of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission; Robert L. Frank, Air Force Sergeants Association, Suitland, Maryland; Richard A. Jones, National Association for Uniformed Services, Springfield, Virginia; Deirdre Parke Holleman, The Retired Enlisted Association, Alexandria, Virginia; and Alexander Nicholson, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Washington, DC.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY TRUST FUND INSOLVENCY

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Social Security disability trust fund insolvency, after receiving testimony from Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting Commissioner, Social Security

Administration; Mark G. Duggan, Stanford University, Stanford, California; Philip R. de Jong, University of Amsterdam, The Hague, Netherlands; and Kate Lang, National Senior Citizens Law Center, Washington, DC.

INTERNET OF THINGS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Internet of things, after receiving testimony from Mike Abbott, Kleiner Perkins Caufield and Byers, Menlo Park, California; Doug Davis, Intel Corporation, Chandler, Arizona; Lance Donny, OnFarm, Fresno, California; Adam D. Thierer, George Mason University Mercatus Center, Arlington, Virginia; and Justin Brookman, Center for Democracy and Technology, Washington, DC.

PROPOSED CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS RULES

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed carbon dioxide emissions rules from new, modified, and existing power plants, after receiving testimony from Janet McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency.

BUSINESS MEETING

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

An original bill relating to access and administration of the U.S. Tax Court;

An original bill to remove alcohol bonding requirements for certain taxpayers;

An original bill relating to modifications to alternative tax for certain small insurance companies;

An original bill to modify the excise tax on cider;

An original bill to truncate the collection period for taxpayers hospitalized for combat zone injuries;

An original bill to provide special rules concerning charitable contributions to, and public charity status of, agricultural research organizations;

An original bill to provide an exception to the private foundation excess business holdings rules for certain philanthropic business holdings;

An original bill to clarify a special rules for certain governmental plans;

An original bill to modify the treatment of income received under student work-learning-service programs;

An original bill for a waste-heat-to-power investment tax credit;

An original bill to allow enrolled agents who meet certain requirements to use specified designations;

An original bill relating to real estate investment trusts (REITs), regulated investment companies (RICs) and the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act (FIRPTA);

An original bill to exclude from gross income certain compensation received by public safety officers and their dependents;

An original bill to convert the tax on liquefied natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas to an energy equivalent basis;

An original bill to require the Internal Revenue Service to notify exempt organizations before revoking exempt status for failing to file information returns;

An original bill to exclude from gross income certain clean coal power grants; and

An original bill to create a military spouse job continuity credit.

ENDING MODERN DAY SLAVERY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ending modern day slavery, focusing on the role of United States leadership, after receiving testimony from Sarah Sewall, Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights.

GAO 2015 LIST OF HIGH-RISK GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) 2015 list of high-risk government programs, including solutions to high-risk problems which offer the potential to save billions of dollars, improve service to the public, and strengthen government performance and accountability, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Cynthia Bascetta, Managing Director, and Deborah Draper, Director, both of Health Care, Phillip Herr, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Dave Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, J. Chris Mihm, Managing Director, and James White, Director, both of Strategic Issues, Dave Powner, Director, and Gregory Wilshusen, Director, both of Information Technology, all of the Government Accountability Office.

NLRB NEW ELECTION RULE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) new election rule, focusing on employers and employees, after receiving testimony from Charles I. Cohen, Morgan, Lewis and Bockius LLP, and Elizabeth Milito, NFIB Small Business Legal Center, both of Washington, DC; Mark A. Carter, Dinsmore and Shohl LLP,

Charleston, West Virginia, on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and Caren P. Sencer, Weinberg, Roger and Rosenfeld, Alameda, California.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 47 public bills, H.R. 860–906; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 31; and H. Res. 104–107, were introduced. **Pages H980–82**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H984**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Jolly to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H921**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H926**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 263 yeas to 156 nays with one answering "present", Roll No. 73. **Pages H926, H946–47**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Awarding a Congressional Gold Medal to the Foot Soldiers who participated in Bloody Sunday, Turnaround Tuesday, or the final Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March: H.R. 431, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Foot Soldiers who participated in Bloody Sunday, Turnaround Tuesday, or the final Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March in March of 1965, which served as a catalyst for the Voting Rights Act of 1965, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 420 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 76. **Pages H930–37, H960–61**

Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act: The House passed S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline, by a yea-and-nay vote of 270 yeas to 152 nays, Roll No. 75. **Pages H947–60**

Rejected the Capps motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 181 ayes to 241 noes, Roll No. 74. **Pages H958–60**

H. Res. 100, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 248 ayes to 177 noes, Roll No. 72, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 242 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 71. **Pages H937–46**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he authorized the use of military force with respect to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–9). **Page H926**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H945, H945–46, H946–47, H959–60, H960, and H960–61. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

STATE OF THE RURAL ECONOMY

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing to review the state of the rural economy. Testimony was heard from Tom Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Indian Health Service budget. Testimony was heard from Yvette Roubideaux, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for American Indians and Alaska Natives; and Robert McSwain, Acting Director, Indian Health Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Commodity Futures Trading Commission budget. Testimony was heard from Timothy Massad, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

APPROPRIATIONS—ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CIVIL WORKS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Army Corps of Engineers, Civil Works budget. Testimony was heard from Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary,

Army for Civil Works; and Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick, Commanding General and Chief of Engineers, Army Corps of Engineers.

FUNDING TO PREVENT, PREPARE FOR, AND RESPOND TO THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE OUTBREAK

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on oversight of funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak. Testimony was heard from Steve Browning, Special Coordinator for Ebola, Department of State; Dirk Dijkerman, Executive Coordinator, Ebola Task Force, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Jeremy M. Konyndyk, Director, Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development.

THE FY16 BUDGET REQUEST: A VIEW FROM OUTSIDE EXPERTS: ''ALTERNATIVE BUDGETS AND STRATEGIC CHOICES''

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The FY16 Budget Request: A View from Outside Experts: 'Alternative Budgets and Strategic Choices' ''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MILITARY COMPENSATION AND RETIREMENT MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled ''Final Recommendations from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission''. Testimony was heard from Alphonso Maldon, Jr., Chairman, Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission; Stephen E. Buyer, Commissioner, Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission; Michael R. Higgins, Commissioner, Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission; General Peter W. Chiarelli, USA (Retired), Commissioner, Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission; and Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN (Retired), Commissioner, Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5, the ''Student Success Act''. H.R. 5 was ordered reported, as amended.

FEDERAL EFFORTS ON MENTAL HEALTH: WHY GREATER HHS LEADERSHIP IS NEEDED

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''Federal Efforts on Mental Health: Why Greater HHS Leadership Is Needed''. Testimony was heard from Linda T. Kohn, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and Richard G. Frank, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services.

EXAMINING ICD–10 IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled ''Examining ICD–10 Implementation''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2016 Department of Energy Budget''. Testimony was heard from Ernest J. Moniz, Secretary, Department of Energy.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 734, the ''Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act of 2015''; H.R. 639, the ''Improving Regulatory Transparency for New Medical Therapies Act''; H.R. 471, the ''Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2015''; H.R. 647, the ''Access to Life-Saving Trauma Care for All Americans Act''; H.R. 648, the ''Trauma Systems and Regionalization of Emergency Care Reauthorization Act''; and H.R. 212, the ''Drinking Water Protection Act''.

THE FUTURE OF HOUSING IN AMERICA: OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Future of Housing in America: Oversight of the Federal Housing Administration''. Testimony was heard from Julian Castro, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

STATE SPONSOR OF TERROR: THE GLOBAL THREAT OF IRAN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled ''State Sponsor of Terror: The Global Threat of Iran''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COUNTERING VIOLENT ISLAMIST EXTREMISM: THE URGENT THREAT OF FOREIGN FIGHTERS AND HOMEGROWN TERROR

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Countering Violent Islamist Extremism: The Urgent Threat of Foreign Fighters and Homegrown Terror''. Testimony was heard from Francis X. Taylor, Under Secretary, Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security; Nicholas J. Rasmussen, Director, National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and Michael B. Steinbach, Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

COMMITTEE FUNDING FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing on committee funding for the 114th Congress. Testimony was heard from Chairman Bishop of Utah, Chairman Royce, Chairman Upton, Chairman Chaffetz, Chairman Thornberry, Chairman McCaul, Chairman Hensarling, Chairman Dent, and Representatives Grijalva, Engel, Pallone, Cummings, Smith of Washington, Thompson of Mississippi, Maxine Waters of California, and Linda T. Sánchez of California.

FEDERAL ASSET FORFEITURE: USES AND REFORMS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''Federal Asset Forfeiture: Uses and Reforms''. Testimony was heard from Kenneth A. Blanco, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Keith Henderson, Prosecuting Attorney, Floyd County, Indiana; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE HEARING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security held a hearing on a bill to improve immigration law enforcement within the interior of the United States, and for other purposes; a bill to modify the treatment of unaccompanied alien children who are in Federal custody by reason of their immigration status, and for other purposes; and a bill to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to provide for the expedited removal of unaccompanied alien children who are not victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons and who do not have a fear of returning to their country of nationality or last habitual residence, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Sam S. Page, Sheriff, Rockingham County, North Carolina; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT PLAN FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS; GAO'S HIGH RISK REPORT: 25 YEARS OF PROBLEMATIC PRACTICES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a markup on the committee's oversight plan for the 114th Congress and a hearing entitled ''GAO's High Risk Report: 25 Years of Problematic Practices''. The committee's oversight plan for the 114th Congress was adopted. Testimony was heard from John J. MacWilliams, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Department of Energy; Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Robert M. Lightfoot, Jr., Associate Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Shantanu Agrawal, M.D., Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Alan F. Estevez, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense; and John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION BILL: LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR U.S. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION PART I

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill: Laying the Foundation for U.S. Economic Growth and Job Creation Part I''. Testimony was heard from Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation.

BUSINESS MEETING; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a business meeting to designate Rep. Jerry McNerney and Rep. Tim Walz to subcommittees and a hearing entitled ''U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2016''. Representative Jerry McNerney and Representative Tim Walz were designated to subcommittees. Testimony was heard from Robert A. McDonald, Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING; IRS'S USE OF CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE LAWS TO SEIZE THE BANK ACCOUNTS OF LAW ABIDING SMALL BUSINESSES, AND THE SETTLEMENT TACTICS EMPLOYED BY THE AGENCY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held an organizational meeting for the 114th Congress and a hearing on the IRS's use of civil asset forfeiture laws to seize the bank accounts of law abiding small businesses, and the settlement tactics employed by the agency. The subcommittee successfully organized. Testimony was heard from John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; and public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING; CHALLENGES FACING LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN TODAY'S ECONOMY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held an organizational meeting for the 114th Congress and a hearing on challenges facing low-income individuals and families in today's economy. The subcommittee successfully organized. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the situation in Afghanistan; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup S. 165, to extend and enhance prohibitions and limitations with respect to the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to resume hearings to examine regulatory relief for community banks and credit unions, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Energy; to be immediately followed by an organizational business meeting to consider committee rules of procedure and subcommittee assignments for the 114th Congress, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be Attorney General, Daniel Henry Marti, of Virginia, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, Michelle K. Lee, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alfred H. Bennett, George C. Hanks, Jr., and Jose Rolando Olvera, Jr., each to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Jill N. Parrish, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, and Nancy B. Firestone, of Virginia, Thomas L. Halkowski, of Pennsylvania, Patricia M. McCarthy, of Maryland, Jeri Kaylene Somers, of Virginia, and Armando Omar Bonilla, of the District of Columbia, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: business meeting to markup an original resolution authorizing the expenditures by committees of the Senate for March 1, 2015 through February 28, 2017, 9:45 a.m., SR–301.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the Budget Views and Estimates Letter of the Committee on Agriculture for the agencies and programs under jurisdiction of the Committee for FY 2016 and other organizational matters, 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Full Committee, hearing to review the 2015 Agenda for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, hearing on Bureau of Reclamation budget, 10:30 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Update on Detainee Transfers from GTMO'', 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn. This hearing will close.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled ''How Emerging Technology Affects Student Privacy'', 11:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 734, the ''Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act of 2015''; H.R. 639, the ''Improving Regulatory Transparency for New Medical Therapies Act''; H.R. 471, the ''Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2015''; H.R. 647, the ''Access to Life-Saving Trauma Care for All Americans Act''; H.R. 648, the ''Trauma Systems and Regionalization of Emergency Care Reauthorization Act''; and H.R. 212, the ''Drinking Water Protection Act'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Ethics, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress, 10 a.m., 1015 Longworth.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, meeting to adopt the committee's views and estimates on the budget for fiscal year 2016, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Growing Strategic Threat of ISIS'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled ''Azerbaijan: U.S. Energy, Security, and Human Rights Interests'', 1 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa; Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, joint hearing entitled ''The Syrian Humanitarian Crisis: Four Years Later and No End in Sight'', 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, hearing entitled ''Emerging Threats and Technologies to Protect the Homeland'', 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, meeting to adopt the committee's oversight plan for the 114th Congress, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing entitled ''Consumers Shortchanged? Oversight of the Justice Department's Mortgage Lending Settlements'', 10:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled ''Examining Recent Supreme Court Cases in the Patent Arena'', 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''U.S. Secret Service: Identifying Steps to Restore the Protective Agency'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security; and Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules, joint hearing entitled, ''The President's Executive Actions on Immigration and Their Impact on Federal and State Elections'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Environment; and Subcommittee on Oversight, joint hearing entitled ''Bridging the Gap: America's Weather Satellites and Weather Forecasting'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Oversight, joint hearing entitled ''Can Americans Trust the Privacy and Security of their Information on HealthCare.gov?'', 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress; hearing entitled ''Contracting and the Industrial Base'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 749, the ''Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act of 2015''; the committee's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Views and Estimates; General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; and possible other matters cleared for consideration, 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 280, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recoup bonuses and awards paid to employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 294, the ''Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act''; H.R. 216, the ''Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Planning Reform Act of 2015''; and H.R. 189, the ''Servicemember Foreclosure Protections Extension Act of 2015'', 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled ''A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request for the Department of Labor's Veteran Employment and Training Service'', 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on the committee's Views and Estimates on the Fiscal Year 2016 Federal Budget; H.R. 529, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans; H.R. 622, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction of State and local general sales taxes; H.R. 880, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify and make permanent the research credit, 9:30 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, business meeting to consider member access requests and views and estimates, 9 a.m., HVC–304. This meeting will be closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, February 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Ashton B. Carter, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Defense, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, February 12

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 644—Fighting Hunger Incentive Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule).

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