

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Ashton B. Carter, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Defense.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S947–S1012

Measures Introduced: Sixty bills and ten resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 470–529, and S. Res. 73–82. **Pages S981–84**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 22, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. (S. Rept. No. 114–3)

S. Res. 73, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, and October 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017. **Page S981**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing Expenditures by Committees: Senate agreed to S. Res. 73, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, and October 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017. **Page S1010**

Calling for the Release of Ukrainian Fighter Pilot Nadiya Savchenko: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 52, calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

McConnell (for Cardin) Amendment No. 251, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S1010–11**

Relative to the Death of Jerry Tarkanian: Senate agreed to S. Res. 78, relative to the death of Jerry Tarkanian, former head basketball coach of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. **Page S1011**

Honoring Dean Edwards Smith: Senate agreed to S. Res. 79, honoring Dean Edwards Smith, former head coach for the men's basketball team for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. **Page S1011**

Lunar New Year: Senate agreed to S. Res. 80, recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Lunar New Year. **Page S1011**

Human Trafficking: Senate agreed to S. Res. 81, expressing the sense of the Senate that children trafficked for sex in the United States should not be treated or regarded as child prostitutes because there is no such thing as a “child prostitute”, only children who are victims or survivors of rape and sex trafficking. **Page S1011**

Commending Kathleen Alvarez Tritak: Senate agreed to S. Res. 82, commending Kathleen Alvarez Tritak on her service to the United States Senate. **Page S1011**

Measures Considered:

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act—Agreement: 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 S947–49, S967**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, February 12, 2015, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 23, 2015. **Page S968**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, February 23,

2015, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S967**

Appointments:

Senate National Security Working Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, appointed the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 114th Congress:

Senator Feinstein (Democratic Administrative Co-Chairman), Senator Mikulski (Democratic Co-Chairman), Senator Reed (Democratic Co-Chairman), Senator Menendez (Democratic Co-Chairman), Senator Durbin, Senator Nelson, Senator Cardin, Senator Casey, and Senator Heitkamp. **Page S1011**

Commission on Care: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 113–146, appointed the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Care:

Dr. Ikram Khan of Nevada, Phillip Longman of the District of Columbia, and Dr. Marshall Webster of Pennsylvania. **Page S1011**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during this adjournment of the Senate, running until February 23, 2015, the Majority Leader, and the junior Senator from Missouri, be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S1011**

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S1011**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when the Senate adjourn, it convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Monday, February 16, 2015 at 4:45 p.m., and Thursday, February 19, 2015, at 10 a.m.; and that the Senate adjourn on Thursday, February 19, 2015, until 3 p.m., on Monday, February 23, 2015. **Pages S1011–12**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 93 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 56), Ashton B. Carter, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Defense. **Pages S955–67, S1012**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Brodi L. Fontenot, of Louisiana, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury.

Deborah Willis, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2020.

Ann Elizabeth Dunkin, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Jane Toshiko Nishida, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Seth B. Carpenter, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Charles C. Adams, Jr., of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Finland.

Sarah Elizabeth Mendelson, of the District of Columbia, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

Sarah Elizabeth Mendelson, of the District of Columbia, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan.

David Michael Bennett, of North Carolina, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2018.

6 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

11 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

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Messages from the House: **Page S981**

Measures Referred: **Page S981**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S981**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S984–85**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S985–S1009**

Additional Statements: **Pages S980–81**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1009–10**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1010**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1010**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—56) **Page S967**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:34 p.m., until 4:45 p.m. on Monday, February 16, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1011–12.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the situation in Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from General John F. Campbell, USA, Commander, Resolute Support Mission, and Commander, United States Forces Afghanistan.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 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, with amendments.

REGULATORY RELIEF FOR COMMUNITY BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine regulatory relief for community banks and credit unions, including S. 423, to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement, after receiving testimony from R. Daniel Blanton, Southeastern Bank Financial Corporation and Georgia Bank and Trust, Augusta, on behalf of the American Bankers Association; Wally Murray, Greater Nevada Credit Union, Carson City, on behalf of the Credit Union National Association; John Buhmaster, First National Bank of Scotia, Scotia, New York, on behalf of the Independent Community Bankers of America; Ed Templeton, SRP Federal Credit Union, North Augusta, South Carolina, on behalf of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions; and Michael D. Calhoun, Center for Responsible Lending, Durham, North Carolina.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security: Senators Ayotte (Chair), Wicker, Blunt, Rubio, Cruz, Fischer, Moran, Sullivan, Johnson, Heller, Gardner, Cantwell, Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Schatz, Markey, Booker, Udall, Manchin, and Peters.

Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet: Senators Wicker (Chair), Blunt, Rubio, Ayotte, Cruz, Fischer, Moran, Sullivan, Johnson, Heller, Gardner, Daines, Schatz, Cantwell, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Markey, Booker, Udall, Manchin, and Peters.

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security: Senators Moran (Chair), Blunt, Cruz, Fischer, Heller, Gardner, Daines, Blumenthal, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Markey, Booker, and Udall.

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard: Senators Rubio (Chair), Wicker, Ayotte, Cruz, Sullivan, Johnson, Peters, Cantwell, Blumenthal, Markey, and Schatz.

Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness: Senators Cruz (Chair), Rubio, Moran, Sullivan, Gardner, Daines, Udall, Markey, Booker, Peters, and Schatz.

Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security: Senators Fischer (Chair), Wicker, Blunt, Ayotte, Moran, Sullivan, Johnson, Heller, Daines, Booker, Cantwell, McCaskill, Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Schatz, Markey, and Udall.

Senators Thune and Nelson are ex officio members of all subcommittees.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 114th Congress.

Also, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Energy: Senators Risch (Chair), Flake, Daines, Cassidy, Gardner, Hoeven, Alexander, Portman, Capito, Manchin, Sanders, Stabenow, Franken, Heinrich, Hirono, King, and Warren.

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining: Senators Barrasso (Chair), Capito, Risch, Lee, Daines, Cassidy, Gardner, Hoeven, Flake, Alexander, Wyden, Stabenow, Franken, Manchin, Heinrich, Hirono, and Warren.

Subcommittee on National Parks: Senators Cassidy (Chair), Portman, Barrasso, Alexander, Lee, Hoeven, Capito, Heinrich, Wyden, Sanders, Stabenow, King, and Warren.

Subcommittee on Water and Power: Senators Lee (Chair), Flake, Barrasso, Risch, Daines, Gardner, Portman, Hirono, Wyden, Sanders, Franken, Manchin, and King.

Senators Murkowski and Cantwell are ex officio members of all subcommittees.