Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1511–S1557

Measures Introduced: Ten bills were introduced, as follows: S. 739–748. **Page S1528**

Measures Considered:

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of S. 178, to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S1517–22**

Pending:

Portman Amendment No. 270, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking. **Page S1517**

Portman Amendment No. 271, to amend the definition of ''homeless person'' under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to include certain homeless children and youth. **Page S1517**

Vitter Amendment No. 284 (to Amendment No. 271), to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth. **Page S1517**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, with the time until the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill at 11 a.m. equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees. **Pages S1551–52**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the filing deadline for second-degree amendments to the bill be at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 17, 2015. **Pages S1551–52**

Appointments:

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, hereby notifies the Senate of an amendment to the Majority membership appointment made in the Senate on February 25, 2015, to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Senator Rubio, Co-Chair. **Page S1551**

Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group Conference: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 114th Congress: Senator Klobuchar. **Page S1551**

British-American Interparliamentary Group Conference: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, appointed the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 114th Congress: Senator Leahy. **Page S1551**

U.S.-China Interparliamentary Group Conference: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276n, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the U.S.-China Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 114th Congress: Senator Hirono. **Page S1551**

Mexico-U.S. Interparliamentary Group Conference: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h–276k, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Mexico-U.S. Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 114th Congress: Senator Kaine. **Page S1551**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. EX. 71), Carlos A. Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation. **Pages S1523, S1557**

Manson K. Brown, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce. **Pages S1522–23, S1557**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Patricia M. Loui-Schmicker, of Hawaii, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2019.

Ian C. Kelly, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to Georgia.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Page S1557

Executive Communications: **Pages S1527–28**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1528–30**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1530–32**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1526–27**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1532–51**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S1551**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1551**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1551**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—71) **Page S1523**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m., and adjourned at 6:55 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, March 17, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's record on page S1552.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEATH MASTER FILE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal improper payments and errors in the Death Master File, after receiving testimony from Sean Brune, Senior Advisor to the Deputy Commissioner, Office of Budget, Finance, Quality and Management, and Patrick P. O'Carroll, Jr., Inspector General, both of the Social Security Administration; David Mader, Controller, Office of Management and Budget; Beryl H. Davis, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, and Daniel Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, both of the Government Accountability Office; and Judy C. Rivers, Logan, Alabama.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 20 public bills, H.R. 1365–1384; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 150–151 were introduced. **Pages H1660–62**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1662–63**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 639, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to drug scheduling recommendations by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and with respect to registration of manufacturers and distributors seeking to conduct clinical testing, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–41, Part 1);

H.R. 647, to amend title XII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain trauma care programs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–42);

H.R. 648, to amend title XII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain trauma care programs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–43); and

H. Res. 132, providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress (H. Rept. 114–44). **Page H1660**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Emmer (MN) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1637**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:06 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1638**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:05 p.m. and reconvened at 3:30 p.m. **Page H1638**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Hurd wherein he resigned from the Committee on Small Business. **Page H1643**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:55 p.m. and reconvened at 4:30 p.m. **Page H1643**

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

Improving Regulatory Transparency for New Medical Therapies Act: H.R. 639, amended, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to drug scheduling recommendations by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and with respect to registration of manufacturers and distributors seeking to conduct clinical testing; **Pages H1638–41**

Access to Life-Saving Trauma Care for All Americans Act: H.R. 647, to amend title XII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain

trauma care programs, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 389 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 113;

Pages H1641–42, H1649–50

Trauma Systems and Regionalization of Emergency Care Reauthorization Act: H.R. 648, to amend title XII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain trauma care programs, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 382 yeas to 15 nays, Roll No. 114; **Pages H1642–43, H1650**

Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility Act: H.R. 876, amended, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require hospitals to provide certain notifications to individuals classified by such hospitals under observation status rather than admitted as inpatients of such hospitals, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 395 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 115; and

Pages H1644–46, H1650–51

Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Improvement Act of 2015: H.R. 284, amended, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require State licensure and bid surety bonds for entities submitting bids under the Medicare durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) competitive acquisition program.

Pages H1646–47

Recess: The House recessed at 5:02 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act: H.R. 1191, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. **Page H1647**

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and agree to S. Con. Res. 7, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders.

Pages H1651–52

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individuals on the part of the House to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for a term of six years: Upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader: Dr. George T. French of Fairfield, AL; Dr. Kathleen Sullivan Alioto of New York, NY; and Mr. Ralph A. Wolff of Oakland, CA. **Page H1660**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1638.

Senate Referral: S. Con. Res. 7 was held at the desk. **Page H1638**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1649–50, H1650 and H1650–51. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Office of Management and Budget budget. Testimony was heard from Shaun Donovan, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

THE POWER OF LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY—IMPROVING THE VA BY IMPROVING TRANSPARENCY

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The Power of Legislative Inquiry—Improving the VA by Improving Transparency". Testimony was heard from Leigh A. Bradley, General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs; Maureen T. Regan, Counselor to the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the military services, 2:30 p.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Library of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol, 3 p.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: to receive a closed briefing on cyber, space and strategic competition with China and Russia in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's

proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the state of technological innovation related to the electric grid, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine S. 659, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine building a competitive United States international tax system, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues, to hold hearings to examine the deepening political and economic crisis in Venezuela, focusing on implications for United States interests and the Western Hemisphere, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine America's health information technology (IT) transformation, focusing on translating the promise of electronic health records into better care, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine securing the Southwest border, focusing on perspectives from beyond the beltway, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine immigration reform, focusing on the American worker, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing to review the definition of ''waters of the United States'' proposed rule and its impact on rural America, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on Fish and Wildlife Service budget, 9 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Agriculture Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services budget, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on National Guard and Reserve budget, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, hearing on Department of Energy, Applied Energy Programs budget, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Secret Service budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Department of Labor budget, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on Federal Aviation Administration budget, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on National Science Foundation budget, 10:30 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on General Services Administration budget, 11 a.m., HT–2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, hearing on Department of Energy, Office of Science budget, 1 p.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on National Park Service budget, 1 p.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing on U.S. Agency for International Development budget, 2:30 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Military Departments'', 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled ''Assuring Assured Access to Space'', 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, hearing entitled ''Strengthening America's Higher Education System'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled ''EPA's Proposed 111(d) Rule for Existing Power Plants: Legal and Cost Issues'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Annual Testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System'', 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The FY 2016 Budget Request: Assessing U.S. Foreign Assistance Effectiveness'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled ''National Security Benefits of Trade Agreements with Asia and Europe'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, hearing entitled ''Combating Terrorist Travel: Does the Visa Waiver Program Keep Our Nation Safe?'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, hearing on H.R. 758, the ''Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled ''Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the National Park Service in the President's FY 2016 Budget Proposal'', 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement and the Office of Natural Resources Revenue in the President's FY 2016 Budget Proposals'', 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''FCC: Process and Transparency'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security; and Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules, joint hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Costs of the President's Executive Actions on Immigration'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on S.J. Res. 8, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to representation case procedures; and H. Res. 132, providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress, 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Reality Check: The Impact and Achievability of EPA's Proposed Ozone Standards'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled ''Contracting and the Industrial Base II: Bundling, Goaling, and the Office of Hearings and Appeals'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill: Laying the Foundation for U.S. Economic Growth and Job Creation Part II'', 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled ''A Review of Higher Education Opportunities for the Newest Generation of Veterans'', 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing entitled ''Expanding Opportunity by Funding What Works: Using Evidence to Help Low-Income Individuals and Families Get Ahead'', 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities'', 1 p.m., HVC–304. This hearing will be closed.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 17 through March 20, 2015

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at approximately 10 a.m., Senate will continue consideration of S. 178, Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill. If cloture is not invoked, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: March 17, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., SD–192.

March 17, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the military services, 2:30 p.m., SD–124.

March 17, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Library of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol, 3 p.m., SD–138.

March 18, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD–562.

March 18, Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Forest Service, 10 a.m., SD–124.

March 18, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Missile Defense Agency, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

March 19, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 for the Veterans Benefits Administration, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

March 19, Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the United States Secret Service, 2 p.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: March 17, to receive a closed briefing on cyber, space and strategic competition with China and Russia in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

March 18, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SR–222.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the postures of the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine U.S. Strategic Command, U.S. Transportation Command, and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

March 19, Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Air Force force structure and modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 19, to hold hearings to examine the regulatory regime for regional banks, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: March 18, business meeting to mark up the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, 2:30 p.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 17, Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

March 19, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security, to hold hearings to examine the evolving cyber insurance marketplace, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 17, to hold hearings to examine the state of technological innovation related to the electric grid, 10 a.m., SD–366.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine U.S. crude oil export policy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 17, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine S. 659, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, 10 a.m., SD–406.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 697, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reauthorize and modernize that Act, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: March 17, to hold hearings to examine building a competitive United States international tax system, 10 a.m., SD–215.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Affordable Care Act at five years, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 17, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues, to hold hearings to examine the deepening political and economic crisis in Venezuela, focusing on implications for United States interests and the Western Hemisphere, 10 a.m., SD–419.

March 19, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine the United States-Africa leaders summit seven months later, focusing on progress and setbacks, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 17, to hold hearings to examine America's health information technology (IT) transformation, focusing on translating the promise of electronic health records into better care, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: March 17, to hold hearings to examine securing the Southwest border, focusing on perspectives from beyond the beltway, 10 a.m., SD–342.

March 19, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine Federal rulemaking challenges and areas of improvement within the existing regulatory process, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: March 18, business meeting to consider S. 35, to extend the Federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana, S. 438, to provide for the repair, replacement, and maintenance of certain Indian irrigation projects, S. 465, to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe, and the nomination of Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri, of Arizona, to be Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine an original bill, entitled "the Reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 2015", 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 17, to hold hearings to examine immigration reform, focusing on the American worker, 10 a.m., SD–226.

March 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the impact of patent litigation practices on the American economy, 10 a.m., SD–226.

March 19, Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts, to hold hearings to examine reining in amnesty, focusing on *Texas v. United States* and its implications, 3:30 p.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: March 19, to hold hearings to examine patent reform, focusing on protecting innovation and entrepreneurship, 10 a.m., SR–428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: March 18, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation from multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 17, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

March 19, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, March 18, Full Committee, hearing on the importance of trade to U.S. agriculture, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

March 19, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 897, the "Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2015", 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, March 18, hearing for public and outside witnesses, 9 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, oversight hearing on closing the achievement gap in higher education, 9:30 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Agriculture Rural Development budget, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on United States Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea budget, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol. This hearing will be closed.

March 18, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, hearing on Department of Energy, Environmental Management budget, 9:30 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration budget, 10:30 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

March 18, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Internal Revenue Service budget, 11 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing for public and outside witnesses, 1 p.m., B–308 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on related agencies budget, 2 p.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing on Department of Treasury International Programs budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on Bureau of Land Management budget, 9:30 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Inspector General oversight, 9:30 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

March 19, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Agriculture Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service budget, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on United States European Command budget, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol. This hearing will be closed.

March 19, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Transportation Security Administration budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Consumer Product Safety Commission budget, 11 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on Surface Transportation Programs budget, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, March 18, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The President's Proposed Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against ISIL and the Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of Defense'', 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces; and Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, hearing entitled ''Naval Cooperative Strategy'', 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, hearing entitled ''Special Operations Forces in an Uncertain Threat Environment: A Review of the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request for U.S. Special Operations Command'', 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled ''Fiscal Year 2016 Missile Defense Hearing'', 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled ''Fiscal Year 2016 Ground Force Modernization and Rotorcraft Modernization Programs'', 10:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, March 18, Full Committee, markup on the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016, 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, March 18, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Reviewing the President's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Proposal for the Department of Labor'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 18, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing on discussion draft of the ''Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing on the ''Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015'', 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing on H.R. 906, to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled ''FCC Reauthorization: Oversight of the Commission'', 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, March 18, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Preserving Consumer Choice and Financial Independence'', 10 a.m., HVC–210.

March 19, Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the SEC's Division of Enforcement'', 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, March 18, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, joint hearing entitled ''Iran and Hezbollah in the Western Hemisphere'', 10:15 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''U.S. Election Support in Africa'', 10:15 a.m., 2255 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled ''Does the President's FY 2016 Budget Request Address the Crises in the Middle East and North Africa?'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Negotiations with Iran: Blocking or Paving Tehran's Path to Nuclear Weapons?'', 8:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, March 18, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, hearing entitled ''Unmanned Aerial System Threats: Exploring Security Implications and Mitigation Technologies'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

March 19, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, hearing entitled ''Agents of Opportunity: Responding to the Threat of Chemical Terrorism'', 9:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, March 18, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1153, the ''Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act of 2015''; and H.R. 1148, the ''Michael Davis, Jr. in Honor of State and Local Law Enforcement Act'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Child Exploitation Restitution Following the *Paroline* v. *United States* Decision'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, March 18, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Effect of the President's FY 2016 Budget and Legislative Proposals for the Office of Surface Mining on Private Sector Job Creation, Domestic Energy Production, State Programs and Deficit Reduction'', 10:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

March 18, Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing entitled ''Funding Priorities for and the United States' Responsibilities concerning Indians, Alaska Natives, and Insular Areas in the President's FY 2016 Budget Request for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, Office of Insular Affairs, and Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians'', 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

March 19, Subcommittee on Federal Lands; and Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, joint hearing entitled ''Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the President's FY 2016 Budget Proposal'', 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, March 18, Subcommittee on Information Technology, hearing entitled ''Cybersecurity: The Evolving Nature of Cyber Threats Facing the Private Sector'', 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

March 18, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled ''Federal Workforce Tax Accountability'', 1 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

March 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''A Review of the Department of Homeland Security's Policies and Procedures for the Apprehension, Detention, and Release of Non-Citizens Unlawfully Present in the United States—Part II'', 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, March 18, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Tangled in Red Tape: New Challenges for Small Manufacturers'', 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

March 19, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled ''Contracting and the Industrial Base III: Reverse Auctions, Verification and the SBA's Role in Rule Making'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 18, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled ''The President's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget: Administration Priorities for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency'', 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, March 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on H.R. 571, the ''Veterans Affairs Retaliation Prevention Act of 2015''; H.R. 593, the ''Aurora VA Hospital Financing and Construction Reform Act of 2015''; H.R. 1015, the ''Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2015''; H.R. 1016, the ''Biological Implant Tracking and Veteran Safety Act of 2015''; H.R. 1017, to improve the information security of the Department of Veterans Affairs by directing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out certain actions to improve the transparency and the governance of the information security program of the Department, and for other purposes; H.R. 1128, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the information security of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1129, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs an Office of Whistleblower and Patient Protection, 8 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 18, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress; hearing on the burdens family businesses and farms face planning for and paying the estate tax, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, March 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Growing Cyber Threat and Its Impact on American Business'', 9 a.m., HVC–210.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: March 18, to hold hearings to examine the Economic Report of the President 2015, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: March 18, to hold hearings to examine Northern Ireland, focusing on Stormont, collusion, and the Finucane inquiry, including other issues of accountability for past government collusion in paramilitary crimes, 2 p.m., 2175, Rayburn Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, March 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 178, Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill. If cloture is not invoked, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, with the filing deadline for second-degree amendments to the bill at 10:30 a.m.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, March 17

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 1029—EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule).

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