Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1559–S1590.

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 749–767, S. Res. 102, and S. Con. Res. 10. **Page S1585**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled ''2015 Economic Report of the President''. (S. Rept. No. 114–5)

S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats. **Page S1585**

Measures Considered:

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 178, to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S1561–75, S1589–90**

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. **Pages S1561–75, S1589–90**

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. **Pages S1561–75, S1589–90**

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.

Pages S1561–75, S1589–90

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

By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 72), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill. **Pages S1563–64**

Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill. **Page S1564**

By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 73), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S1564**

Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the bill. **Page S1564**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, March 19, 2015.

Page S1575

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill. **Page S1575**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 18, 2015. **Pages S1589–90**

Messages from the House: **Page S1584**

Measures Referred: **Page S1585**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1585–87**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S1587–89

Additional Statements: **Page S1584**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1589**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1589**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1589**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—73) **Page S1564**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:33 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1589–90.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Thomas Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: MILITARY SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the military services, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General David D. Halverson, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, and Commanding General, Installation Management Command, Erin Kern, Director, Shore Readiness Division, United States Navy, David R. Clifton, Deputy Assistant Deputy Commandant, Facilities, Installations and Logistics Department, and Deputy Commander, Marine Corps Installations Command, United States Marine Corps, and Brigadier General Timothy S. Green, USAF, Air Force Director of Civil Engineers, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, all of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Library of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol, after receiving testimony from James Billington, Librarian of Congress, Robert Newlen, Chief of Staff, Mark Sweeney, Associate Librarian for Library Services, Maria Pallante, Register of Copyrights, Mary Mazanec, Director of Congressional Research Service, Elizabeth Scheffler, Acting Chief Information Officer, and Karen Keninger, Director of National Library Service Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, all of the Library of Congress; and Stephen T. Ayers, Architect of the Capitol.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee received 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 from Admiral Cecil D. Haney, USN, Commander, United States Strategic Command, Admiral Michael S. Rogers, USN, Commander, United States Cyber Command, Director, National Security Agency, and Chief, Central Security Services, and General John E. Hyten, USAF, Commander, Air Force Space Command, all of the Department of Defense.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), after receiving testimony from Melvin Carraway, Acting Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security.

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION RELATED TO THE ELECTRIC GRID

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of technological innovation related to the electric grid, after receiving testimony from Peter Littlewood, Director, Argonne National Laboratory, and Jeffrey Taft, Chief Architect for Electric Grid Transformation, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, both of the Department of Energy; Lisa Edgar, Florida Public Service Commission Commissioner, Tallahassee, on behalf of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners; Michael Howard, Electric Power Research Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Lisa M. Barton, American Electric Power, Gahanna, Ohio.

BIPARTISAN SPORTSMEN'S ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife concluded a hearing to examine S. 659, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, after receiving testimony from Jeff Crane, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Washington, D.C.; Dale Hall, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Memphis, Tennessee; and Wayne Pacelle, The Humane Society of the United States, New Haven, Connecticut.

BUILDING A COMPETITIVE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TAX SYSTEM

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine building a competitive United States international tax system, after receiving testimony from Pamela F. Olson, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Washington, D.C.; Anthony Smith, Thermo Fisher

Scientific Inc., Waltham, Massachusetts; Rosanne Altshuler, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey; and Stephen E. Shay, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS IN VENEZUELA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine the deepening political and economic crisis in Venezuela, focusing on implications for United States interests and the Western Hemisphere, after receiving testimony from Edward Alexander Lee, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs; John E. Smith, Acting Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury; Douglas Farah, IBI Consultants LLC, Takoma Park, Maryland; Santiago A. Canton, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, Washington, D.C.; and Christopher Sabatini, Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs, New York, New York.

SECURING THE SOUTHWEST BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine securing the Southwest border, focusing on perspectives from beyond the beltway, after receiving testimony from Chris Cabrera, National Border Patrol Council, Kingsville, Texas; Mark J. Dannels, Cochise County Sheriff, Bisbee, Arizona; Howard G. Buffett, The Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Decatur, Illinois; and Monica Weisberg-Stewart, Texas Border Coalition Committee on Border Security and Immigration, and Othal Brand, Jr., both of McAllen, Texas.

AMERICA'S HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine America's health information technology (IT) transformation, focusing on translating the promise of electronic health records into better care, after receiving testimony from Julia Adler-Milstein, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor; Robert Wergin, American Academy of Family Physicians, Milford, Nebraska; Peter DeVault, Epic, Madison, Wisconsin; and Angela Kennedy, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine immigration reform, focusing on the American worker, after receiving testimony from Richard L. Trumka, AFL–CIO, Ronil Hira, Howard University, and Benjamin Johnson, American Immigration Council, all of Washington, D.C.; Bjorn Billhardt, Enspire, Austin, Texas; John M. Miano, Washington Alliance of Technology Workers, Bellevue; Hal Salzman, Rutgers University E.J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy J.J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development, New Brunswick, New Jersey; and Jack B. Palmer Jr., Montgomery, Alabama.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 30 public bills, H.R. 1385–1414; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 38; and H. Res. 153, were introduced.

Pages H1720–21

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1723**

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 152, providing for the consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 132) providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress, and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (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 (H. Rept. 114–45). **Page H1720**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Holding to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1665**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:11 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1666**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Jon Randles Victory Life Church, Lubbock, Texas. **Page H1666**

EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2015: The House passed H.R. 1029, to amend the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to provide for Scientific Advisory Board member qualifications and public participation, by a recorded vote of 236 ayes to 181 noes, Roll No. 121. **Pages H1678–94**

Rejected the Peters motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 179 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 120. **Pages H1691–93**

Pursuant to the Rule, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science, Space and Technology now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–10, shall be considered as read. **Pages H1685–86**

Agreed to:

Grayson amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept 114–37) that prohibits an EPA Science Advisory Board member from participating in any advisory action for which there is evidence that the action may involve a specific party in which the member has an interest; **Pages H1686–87**

Polis amendment (No. 3 printed in part A of H. Rept 114–37) that requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to solicit nominations for Advisory Board membership from (1) Institutions of Higher Education and (2) research institutions based in work relevant to that of the Board; and **Page H1688**

McKinley amendment (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–37) that prohibits an individual from sitting on the Board if they are currently receiving EPA contracts or grants; and then would prohibit them from being allowed to apply for, 3 years after serving as a Board member, for any EPA contracts or grants, by a recorded vote of 242 ayes to 175 noes, Roll No. 119. **Pages H1687–88, H1691**

Rejected:

Bonamici substitute amendment (No. 4 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–37) that improves the selection of members for EPA's Science Advisory Board by increasing transparency and ensuring balance among board participants; promotes public participation in the Board's review process. **Pages H1688–91**

H. Res. 138, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1029) and (H.R. 1030), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 236 ayes to 180 noes, Roll No. 117, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 181 nays, Roll No. 116. **Pages H1670–77**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Monday, March 16th.

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, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 118. **Pages H1677–78**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Schock, wherein he resigned from the Committees on Ways and Means, the Budget, and House Administration. **Page H1716**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1670.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1676–77, H1677, H1677–78, H1691, H1692–93, and H1693–94. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Committee Meetings

"WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES" PROPOSED RULE AND ITS IMPACT ON RURAL AMERICA

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry held a hearing to review the definition of "waters of the United States" proposed rule and its impact on rural America. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Fish and Wildlife Service budget. Testimony was heard from Dan Ashe, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; and Chris Nolan, Budget Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Agriculture Food, Nutrition, and

Consumer Services budget. Testimony was heard from Kevin Concannon, Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services; Audrey Rowe, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service; Angela Tagtow, Director, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion; and Donald Bice, Associate Director, Office of Budget and Program Analysis.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on National Guard and Reserve budget. Testimony was heard from General Frank J. Grass, Chief, National Guard Bureau; Lieutenant General Stanley E. ''Sid'' Clarke III, Director, Air National Guard; Major General Judd H. Lyons, Acting Director, Army National Guard; and Lieutenant General Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief, United States Army Reserve.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, APPLIED ENERGY PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy, Applied Energy Programs budget. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Energy officials: Franklin Orr, Under Secretary, Science and Energy; David Danielson, Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; John Kotek, Deputy Principal, Assistant Secretary; Christopher Smith, Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy; and Patricia Hoffman, Assistant Secretary, Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

APPROPRIATIONS—SECRET SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Secret Service budget. Testimony was heard from Joseph Clancy, Director, Secret Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Department of Labor budget. Testimony was heard from Thomas Perez, Secretary, Department of Labor.

APPROPRIATIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Federal Aviation Administration budget. Testimony was heard from Michael Huerta, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Science Foundation budget. Testimony was heard from France A. Cordova, Director, National Science Foundation.

APPROPRIATIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on General Services Administration budget. Testimony was heard from Denise Turner Roth, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, OFFICE OF SCIENCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy, Office of Science budget. Testimony was heard from Franklin Orr, Under Secretary, Science and Energy, Department of Energy; and Patricia M. Dehmer, Deputy Director, Science Programs, Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Park Service budget. Testimony was heard from Jon Jarvis, Director, National Park Service; and Bruce Sheaffer, Comptroller, National Park Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on U.S. Agency for International Development budget. Testimony was heard from Alfonso E. Lenhardt, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FROM THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Military Departments''. Testimony was heard from John M. McHugh, Secretary of the Army; General Raymond T. Odierno, USA, Chief of Staff of the Army; Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy; Admiral Michelle Howard, USN, Vice Chief of Naval Operations;

General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps; Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force; and General Mark A. Welsh III, USAF, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

ASSURING ASSURED ACCESS TO SPACE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled ''Assuring Assured Access to Space''. Testimony was heard from Katrina G. McFarland, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Department of Defense; William A. LaPlante, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Department of Defense; General John E. Hyten, USAF, Commander, Air Force Space Command; Major General Howard J. ''Mitch'' Mitchell, USAF (Retired), Chairman, USAF-Chartered RD–180 Availability Risk Mitigation Study; and public witnesses.

STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training held a hearing entitled ''Strengthening America's Higher Education System''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EPA'S PROPOSED 111(d) RULE FOR EXISTING POWER PLANTS: LEGAL AND COST ISSUES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled ''EPA's Proposed 111(d) Rule for Existing Power Plants: Legal and Cost Issues''. Testimony was heard from Art Graham, Chairman, Florida Public Service Commission; Kelly Speakes-Backman, Commissioner, Maryland Public Service Commission; Craig Butler, Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; and Donald van der Vaart, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources; and public witnesses.

THE ANNUAL TESTIMONY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY ON THE STATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Annual Testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System''. Testimony was heard from Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

THE FY 2016 BUDGET REQUEST: ASSESSING U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE EFFECTIVENESS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The FY 2016 Budget Request: Assessing U.S. Foreign Assistance Effectiveness''. Testimony was heard from Alfonso E. Lenhardt, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development; and a public witness.

NATIONAL SECURITY BENEFITS OF TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH ASIA AND EUROPE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled ''National Security Benefits of Trade Agreements with Asia and Europe''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMBATING TERRORIST TRAVEL: DOES THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM KEEP OUR NATION SAFE?

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled ''Combating Terrorist Travel: Does the Visa Waiver Program Keep Our Nation Safe?''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice held a hearing on H.R. 758, the ''Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE SPENDING PRIORITIES AND MISSIONS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE IN THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2016 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled ''Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the National Park Service in the President's FY 2016 Budget Proposal''. Testimony was heard from Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, National Park Service.

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

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a 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''. Testimony was heard from Abby Hopper, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management; Vice Admiral Brian Salerno (USCG, Retired), Director, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement; and Gregory

Gould, Director, Office of Natural Resources Revenue.

FCC: PROCESS AND TRANSPARENCY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''FCC: Process and Transparency''. Testimony was heard from Tom Wheeler, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

THE FISCAL COSTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ACTIONS ON IMMIGRATION

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security; and Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules, held a joint hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Costs of the President's Executive Actions on Immigration''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 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; HOUSE RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENSES OF CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a 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. The committee granted, by record vote of 5–4, a closed rule for H. Res. 132. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the resolution. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit without instructions. The rule also grants a closed rule for S.J. Res. 8. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one motion to commit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Miller of Michigan, Chairman Kline, and Representatives Brady of Pennsylvania and Scott of Virginia.

REALITY CHECK: THE IMPACT AND ACHIEVABILITY OF EPA'S PROPOSED OZONE STANDARDS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Reality Check: The Impact and Achievability of EPA's Proposed Ozone Standards''. Testimony was heard from Eldon Heaston, Executive Director, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District; and public witnesses.

CONTRACTING AND THE INDUSTRIAL BASE II: BUNDLING, GOALING, AND THE OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce held a hearing entitled ''Contracting and the Industrial Base II: Bundling, Goaling, and the Office of Hearings and Appeals''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

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

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 II''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEWEST GENERATION OF VETERANS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled ''A Review of Higher Education Opportunities for the Newest Generation of Veterans''. Testimony was heard from Major General Robert M. Worley II, USAF (Retired), Director, Education Service, Veterans Benefit Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY BY FUNDING WHAT WORKS: USING EVIDENCE TO HELP LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES GET AHEAD

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing entitled ''Expanding Opportunity by Funding What Works: Using

Evidence to Help Low-Income Individuals and Families Get Ahead''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities''. This hearing was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: 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.

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.

Committee on Armed Services: 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.

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.

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

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: 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 Indian Affairs: 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: to hold hearings to examine the impact of patent litigation practices on the American economy, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: 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.

House

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

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing for public and outside witnesses, 9 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

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.

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.

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.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, hearing on Department of Energy, Environmental Management budget, 10:00 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

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

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

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

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

Committee on Armed Services, 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.

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.

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.

Committee on the Budget, 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, 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, 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.

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

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

Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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.

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.

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.

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

Committee on the Judiciary, 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.

Committee on Natural Resources, 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.

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.

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

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

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

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 Ways and Means, 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., 1310 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: 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.

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

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of S. 178, Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 18

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 1030—Secret Science Reform Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule).

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