Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1591–S1635.

Measures Introduced: Twenty-eight bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 768–795, S.J. Res. 10–11, and S. Res. 103–104. **Pages S1628–29**

Measures Reported:

S. 792, to expand sanctions imposed with respect to Iran and to impose additional sanctions with respect to Iran. **Page S1628**

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 S1596–S1625**

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 S1596–S1625**

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 S1596–S1625**

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 S1596–S1625**

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

The motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on March 17, 2015, was agreed to. **Page S1614**

The motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on March 17, 2015, was agreed to. **Page S1614**

By 57 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 74), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate upon reconsideration rejected the motion to close further debate on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill. **Page S1614**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Thursday, March 19, 2015, with the time until the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the committee-reported substitute amendment to the bill at 12 noon equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees. **Pages S1634–35**

Messages from the House: **Page S1626**

Measures Referred: **Page S1626**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S1626, S1634**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1626–28**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1629–30**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1630–33**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1633–34**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1634**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1634**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—74) **Page S1614**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:24 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1634–35.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Tom Tidwell, Chief, and Tony Dixon, Director, Strategic Planning, Budget and Accountability, both of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Missile Defense Agency, after receiving testimony from Vice Admiral J.D. Syring, USN, Director, Missile Defense Agency, Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Sean J. Stackley, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, Vice Admiral William H. Hilarides, USN, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, and Vice Admiral Joseph P. Mulloy, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Integration of Capabilities and Resources (N8), all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing 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, after receiving testimony from John M. McHugh, Secretary of the Army, Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force, General Raymond T. Odierno, USA, Chief of Staff of the Army, and General Mark A. Welsh III, USAF, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Budget: Committee began consideration of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call and will meet again on Thursday, March 19, 2015.

FCC OVERSIGHT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, after receiving testimony from Tom Wheeler, Chairman, and Mignon L. Clyburn, Michael O'Rielly, Ajit Pai, and Jessica Rosenworcel, each a Commissioner, all of the Federal Communications Commission.

TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 697, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reauthorize and modernize that Act, after receiving testimony from Senator Udall; James Jones, Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency; Brian Frosh, Maryland Attorney General, Baltimore; Richard A. Denison, Environmental Defense Fund, Lynn R. Goldman, George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health, and Kenneth Cook, Environmental Working Group, all of Washington, D.C.; Edward R.B. McCabe, March of Dimes Foundation, White Plains, New York; and Bonnie Lautenberg, New York, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

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, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

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.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 710, to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, after receiving testimony from Karen R. Diver, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Cloquet, Minnesota; Gary Cooper, Cherokee Nation Housing Authority, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the National American Indian Housing Council; and Russell Sossamon, The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Housing Authority, Hugo.

PATENT LITIGATION PRACTICES

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impact of patent litigation practices on the American economy, including H.R. 9, to amend title 35, United States Code, and the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to make improvements and technical corrections, after receiving testimony from Brad Powers, Kinze Manufacturing, Inc.,

Williamsburg, Iowa; Hans Sauer, Biotechnology Industry Association, Washington, D.C.; Steven E. Anderson, Culver Franchising System, Inc., Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin; Michael R. Crum, Iowa State University, Ames; and Krish Gupta, EMC Corporation, Hopkington, Massachusetts.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 42 public bills, H.R. 1415–1456; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 154–159, were introduced. **Pages H1767–70**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1771**

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1021, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the integrity of the Medicare program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–46, Part 1). **Page H1767**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Hardy to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1725**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:41 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Pages H1729–30**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Mark Gooden, Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church, Johnson City, Tennessee. **Page H1730**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 155, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H1730**

Secret Science Reform Act of 2015: The House passed H.R. 1030, to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or disseminating regulations or assessments based upon science that is not transparent or reproducible, by a recorded vote of 241 ayes to 175 noes, Roll No. 125. **Pages H1733–48**

Rejected the Takai 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 181 ayes to 239 noes, Roll No. 124. **Pages H1746–48**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–11 shall be considered as read. **Page H1742**

Rejected:

Edwards amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–37) that authorizes $250 million for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2019, by a recorded vote of 164 ayes to 254 noes, Roll No. 122; and **Pages H1742–43, H1744–45**

Kennedy amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–37) that allows the EPA to use all peer-reviewed scientific publications, by a recorded vote of 184 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 123. **Pages H1743–44, H1745–46**

H. Res. 138, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1029) and (H.R. 1030) was agreed to yesterday, March 17th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, March 19. **Page H1748**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1745, H1745–46, H1747–48, and H1748. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADE TO U.S. AGRICULTURE

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing on the importance of trade to U.S. agriculture. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES PUBLIC AND OUTSIDE WITNESS DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing for public and outside witnesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held an oversight hearing on closing the achievement gap in higher education. Testimony was heard from Aaron Thompson, Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Agriculture Rural Development budget. Testimony was heard from Lisa Mensah, Under Secretary, Rural Development; Lillian Salerno, Administrator, Rural Business—Cooperative Service; Tony Hernandez, Administrator, Rural Housing Service; Jasper Schneider, Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service; and Michael Young, Budget Officer, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—UNITED STATES PACIFIC COMMAND AND UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on United States Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea budget. Testimony was heard from Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, United States Navy, Commander, United States Pacific Command; and General Curtis M. Scaparrotti, Commander, United Nations Command, Commander, Republic of Korea, United States Combined Forces Command, Commander, United States Forces Korea. This hearing was closed.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy, Environmental Management budget. Testimony was heard from David Klaus, Deputy Under Secretary, Management and Performance, Department of Energy; and Mark Whitney, Acting Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration budget. Testimony was heard from Kathryn Sullivan, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Internal Revenue Service budget. Testimony was heard from John A. Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS RELATED AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on related agencies budget. Testimony was heard from Max Cleland, Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission; Patrick K. Hallinan, Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries; Bruce E. Kasold, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; and Steven G. McManus, Chief Operating Officer, Armed Forces Retirement Home.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on Department of Treasury International Programs budget. Testimony was heard from Jack Lew, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

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

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a 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''. Testimony was heard from Ashton B. Carter, Secretary of Defense; and General Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

NAVAL COOPERATIVE STRATEGY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces; and Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, held a joint hearing entitled ''Naval Cooperative Strategy''. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Charles D. Michel, USCG, Deputy Commandant for Operations; Major General Andrew W. O'Donnell Jr., USMC, Assistant Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration, and Deputy Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command; and Rear Admiral Upper Half Kevin M. ''Kid'' Donegan, USN, Acting Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans, and Strategy (N3/N5).

SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES IN AN UNCERTAIN THREAT ENVIRONMENT: A REVIEW OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET REQUEST FOR U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a 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''. Testimony was heard from Michael D. Lumpkin, Assistant Secretary of Defense, Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict (ASD/SOLIC); and General Joseph L. Votel, Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee began a markup on the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016.

REVIEWING THE PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Reviewing the President's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Proposal for the Department of Labor''. Testimony was heard from Thomas E. Perez, Secretary, Department of Labor.

DATA SECURITY AND BREACH NOTIFICATION ACT OF 2015

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing on a discussion draft of the ''Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015''. Testimony was heard from Jessica Rich, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; Clete Johnson, Chief Counsel for Cybersecurity, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; Sara Cable, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General; and public witnesses.

IMPROVING COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUALS REGULATION ACT OF 2015

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy began a hearing on the ''Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PRESERVING CONSUMER CHOICE AND FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Preserving Consumer Choice and Financial Independence''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IRAN AND HEZBOLLAH IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, held a joint hearing entitled ''Iran and Hezbollah in the Western Hemisphere''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. ELECTION SUPPORT IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled ''U.S. Election Support in Africa''. Testimony was heard from Eric G. Postel, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Africa, U.S. Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

DOES THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2016 BUDGET REQUEST ADDRESS THE CRISES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA?

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled ''Does the President's FY 2016 Budget Request Address the Crises in the Middle East and North Africa?''. Testimony was heard from Anne W. Patterson, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State; and Paige Alexander, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for the Middle East, U.S. Agency for International Development.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM THREATS: EXPLORING SECURITY IMPLICATIONS AND MITIGATION TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a hearing entitled ''Unmanned Aerial System Threats: Exploring Security Implications and Mitigation Technologies''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a 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''. The following bill was ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 1148. The following bill was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 1153.

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

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a 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''. Testimony was heard from Joseph Pizarchik, Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior.

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

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs held a 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''. Testimony was heard from the following Department of the Interior officials: Kevin K. Washburn, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs; Esther Kia'aina, Assistant Secretary, Insular Areas; and Vincent G. Logan, Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians; and Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., Senior Adviser to the Secretary on Native Americans and Alaska Natives, Department of Health and Human Services.

CYBERSECURITY: THE EVOLVING NATURE OF CYBER THREATS FACING THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Information Technology held a hearing entitled ''Cybersecurity: The Evolving Nature of Cyber Threats Facing the Private Sector''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FEDERAL WORKFORCE TAX ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled ''Federal Workforce Tax Accountability''. Testimony was heard from Brad Huther, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development; E.J. Holland, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Seto Bagdoyan, Director, Audit Services, Forensic Audits and Investigative Service, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

TANGLED IN RED TAPE: NEW CHALLENGES FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Tangled in Red Tape: New Challenges for Small Manufacturers''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET: ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES FOR THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled ''The President's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget: Administration Priorities for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency''. Testimony was heard from Ken Kopocis, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, Environmental Protection Agency; and Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency.

BURDENS FAMILY BUSINESSES AND FARMS FACE PLANNING FOR AND PAYING THE ESTATE TAX

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, held an organizational meeting for the 114th Congress and a hearing on the burdens family businesses and farms face planning for and paying the estate tax. The subcommittee successfully organized. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Economic Report of the President 2015, after receiving testimony from Jason Furman, Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers.

VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Senate Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation from multiple veterans service organizations, after receiving testimony from Lonnie L.

Wangen, North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner, Fargo, on behalf of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs; Colonel Maxwell S. Colon, USA (Ret.), Jewish War Veterans, Encinitas, California; CMSGT (Ret.) Robert L. Frank, Air Force Sergeants Association, Springfield, Virginia; USAF Senior Master Sergeant (Ret.) Larry Hyland, The Retired Enlisted Association, Palm Bay, Florida; Thomas J. Snee, Fleet Reserve Association, Burke, Virginia; Colonel Peter J. Duffy, USA (Ret.), National Guard Association of the United States, Washington, D.C.; Charles Susino, Jr., American Ex-Prisoners of War, Metuchen, New Jersey; Jeanette Early, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc., Aurora, Colorado; and Ryan Kules, Wounded Warrior Project, Severna Park, Maryland.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Northern Ireland, focusing on Stormont, collusion, and the Finucane inquiry, including other issues of accountability for past government collusion in paramilitary crimes, after receiving testimony from Anne Cadwallader, *Lethal Allies: British Collusion in Ireland*, Armagh, Northern Ireland; and Kieran McEvoy, Queen's University School of Law, and Geraldine Finucane, both of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: 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.

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: 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.

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: to hold hearings to examine the regulatory regime for regional banks, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: business meeting to continue to mark up the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, 10:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: 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: to hold hearings to examine U.S. crude oil export policy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

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

Committee on Foreign Relations: 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 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: 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 Judiciary: 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: to hold hearings to examine patent reform, focusing on protecting innovation and entrepreneurship, 10 a.m., SR–428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

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

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

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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 Energy and Commerce, 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.

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

Committee on Financial Services, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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 Veterans' Affairs, 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, the ''Veterans Information Security Improvement Act''; H.R. 1128, the ''Department of Veterans Affairs Cyber Security Protection Act''; and H.R. 1129, the ''Veterans' Whistleblower and Patient Protection Act of 2015'', 8 a.m., 334 Cannon.

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

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Thursday, March 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 178, Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. At 12 noon, 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.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, March 19

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of 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 (Subject to a Rule) and H. Res. 132—Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue.

HOUSE

Barletta, Lou, Pa., E354
Becerra, Xavier, Calif., E356, E358
Coffman, Mike, Colo., E357
Cohen, Steve, Tenn., E363
Conaway, K. Michael, Tex., E361
Conyers, John, Jr., Mich., E357
Cook, Paul, Calif., E361
Cuellar, Henry, Tex., E359
Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E354
Flores, Bill, Tex., E360
Graves, Sam, Mo., E353, E354, E356, E357, E358, E360, E363
Grayson, Alan, Fla., E363
Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E361
Hunter, Duncan, Calif., E353
Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E359
Kind, Ron, Wisc., E353
Long, Billy, Mo., E358
Luetkemeyer, Blaine, Mo., E354
Lynch, Stephen F., Mass., E355, E358
Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E358
Pascrell, Bill, Jr., N.J., E362
Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E353, E354, E355, E357, E358, E358, E360, E361, E362, E363
Poe, Ted, Tex., E355
Smith, Jason, Mo., E357
Speier, Jackie, Calif., E356, E359, E361
Walberg, Tim, Mich., E361
Webster, Daniel, Fla., E353, E357
Zeldin, Lee M., N.Y., E362

Congressional Record

The *Congressional Record* (USPS 087–390). The Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at *www.fdsys.gov*, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202–512–1800, or 866–512–1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, *contactcenter@gpo.gov*. ¶To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197–9000, or phone orders to 866–512–1800 (toll-free), 202–512–1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202–512–2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.