

factor “other than sex” exception, and prohibit retaliation against employees who share salary information. **Pages S1751–57, S1766–67**

By 1 yeas to 98 nays (Vote No. 85), Cornyn Amendment No. 357, to raise taxes and spending by enacting President Obama’s fiscal year 2016 budget. **Pages S1758–62, S1768**

Pending:

Cotton Amendment No. 481, to establish a deficit-neutral fund relating to supporting Israel. **Pages S1764–65**

Enzi (for Kirk) Amendment No. 545, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reimposing waived sanctions and imposing new sanctions against Iran for violations of the Joint Plan of Action or a comprehensive nuclear agreement. **Pages S1768–69**

Rounds/Inhofe Amendment No. 412, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for engaging in closed-door settlement agreements that ignore impacted States and counties. **Pages S1769–70**

Rubio Modified Amendment No. 423, to increase new budget authority fiscal years 2016 and 2017 and modify outlays for fiscal years 2016 through 2022 for National Defense (budget function 050). **Pages S1770–73**

Daines Amendment No. 388, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the designation of national monuments. **Pages S1773–74**

Daines Amendment No. 389, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to holding Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives accountable for failing to pass a balanced budget. **Page S1774**

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

By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 84), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive all applicable budgetary discipline pursuant to Section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, with respect to Whitehouse (for Wyden) Amendment No. 471, to create a point of order against legislation that would cut benefits, raise the retirement age, or privatize Social Security. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, was sustained, and the amendment was ruled out of order. **Pages S1762–64, S1767–68**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the concurrent resolution at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, with 18 hours of debate time remaining; that the time until 10:30 a.m., be equally divided and controlled by the two managers, or

designees; that Senate recess subject to the call of the Chair at 10:30 a.m., to allow for the Joint Meeting of Congress; and that all time during the recess count against the remaining debate time on the concurrent resolution. **Page S1832**

**Joint Meeting—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join with a like committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort His Excellency Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, into the House Chamber for the joint meeting at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. **Page S1832**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1779**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1779**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1779–80**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S1780**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1781–83**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1783–86**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1778–79**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S1786–S1830**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1830**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S1830**

**Record Votes:** Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—85) **Pages S1750–51, S1766–68**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:51 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1832.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine waters of the United States, focusing on stakeholder perspectives on the impacts of the Environmental Protection Agency’s proposed rule, after receiving testimony from Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge, Little Rock; Donald R. van der Vaart, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary, Raleigh; Susan Metzger, Kansas Department of Agriculture Assistant Secretary, Manhattan; Josh Baldi, Washington Department of Ecology Regional Director, Bellevue; Lynn Padgett, Ouray County Commissioner, Montrose, Colorado, on behalf of the National Association of Counties; T. Furman Brodie, Charles Ingram Lumber, Inc.,

Effingham, South Carolina; Jason Kinley, Gem County Mosquito Abatement District, Emmett, Idaho, on behalf of the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association; Mac McLennan, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc., Grand Forks, North Dakota; Jeff Metz, Metz Land and Cattle Co., Bayard, Nebraska; and Kent Pepler, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Denver, Colorado.

### **APPROPRIATIONS: THE JUDICIARY**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Judiciary, after receiving testimony from Julia S. Gibbons, Chair, Committee on the Budget of the Judicial Conference of the United States; and James C. Duff, Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

### **UNITED STATES MIDDLE EAST POLICY**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Middle East policy, after receiving testimony from Ray Takeyh, Council on Foreign Relations, Kenneth M. Pollack, The Brookings Institution Center for Middle East Policy, and Dafna H. Rand, Center for a New American Security, all of Washington, D.C.; and Colonel Derek J. Harvey, USA (Ret.), University of South Florida Global Initiative for Civil Society and Conflict, Riverview.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 2,360 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

### **REGULATORY REGIME FOR REGIONAL BANKS**

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the regulatory regime for regional banks, after receiving testimony from Oliver I. Ireland, Morrison and Foerster, and Mark Olson, Bipartisan Policy Center Financial Regulatory Reform Initiative's Regulatory Architecture Task Force, both of Washington, D.C.; Deron Smithy, Regions Bank, Birmingham, Alabama, on behalf of The Regional Bank Group; and Simon Johnson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, Cambridge.

### **CAPITAL FORMATION AND REDUCING SMALL BUSINESS BURDENS**

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment concluded a hearing to examine capital formation and reducing small business burdens, including

S. 576, to increase the threshold for disclosures required by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to compensatory benefit plans, after receiving testimony from Tom Quaadman, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Center for Capital Markets Competitiveness, Marcus M. Stanley, Americans for Financial Reform, and John C. Partigan, Nixon Peabody LLP, all of Washington, D.C.; and William H. Spell, Spell Capital Partners, LLC, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on behalf of the Small Business Investor Alliance.

### **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION**

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security concluded a hearing to examine surface transportation reauthorization, focusing on performance, not prescription, after receiving testimony from Peter M. Rogoff, Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy; David B. Nichols, Missouri Department of Transportation Director, Jefferson City, on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; John D. Graham, Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Bloomington; and Peter Sweatman, University of Michigan Transportation Research Center, Ann Arbor.

### **UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS**

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine unmanned aircraft systems, focusing on key considerations regarding safety, innovation, economic impact, and privacy, including status of test sites and international developments, after receiving testimony from Margaret Gilligan, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation; John B. Morris, Jr., Associate Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis and Development, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce; Gerald L. Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; John Villasenor, Brookings Institution, and Paul Misener, Amazon.com, both of Washington, D.C.; and Jeff VanderWerff, American Farm Bureau Federation, Sparta, Michigan.

### **THE NATION'S FOREST SYSTEM**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine management reforms to improve forest health and socioeconomic opportunities on the nation's forest system, after receiving testimony from Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary of Agriculture; Brian Brown, Alcan Forest Products,

LP, Ketchikan, Alaska; Carlton N. Owen, U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Greenville, South Carolina; Mark L. Peck, Lincoln County Montana County Commissioner, Libby; and Duane Vaagen, Vaagen Brothers Lumber Company, Colville, Washington.

### SECURING THE BORDER

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine securing the border, focusing on assessing the impact of transnational crime, after receiving testimony from Elizabeth Kempshall, Executive Director, Arizona Region of the Southwest Border High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Bryan Costigan, Montana Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation Supervisory Agent, Helena, on behalf of the National Fusion Center Association; Benny Martinez, Brooks County Chief Deputy Sheriff, Falfurrias, Texas; General Barry R. McCaffrey, USA (Ret.), former Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Seattle, Washington; and John P. Torres, former Deputy Director, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C.

### ADVANCING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR PATIENTS

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine continuing America's leadership, focusing on advancing research and development for patients, after receiving testimony from Bruce A. Sullenger, Duke University

Medical Center Duke Translational Research Institute, Durham, North Carolina; Alexis Borisy, Third Rock Ventures, Boston, Massachusetts; Michael A. Mussallem, Edwards Lifesciences, Irvine, California; and Allan Coukell, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, D.C.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Sally Quillian Yates, of Georgia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Isakson and Perdue, and Representative Lewis, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

### VETERANS CHOICE ACT

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Veterans Choice Act, focusing on exploring the distance criteria, after receiving testimony from Sloan Gibson, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and Roscoe Butler, The American Legion, Peter B. Hegseth, Concerned Veterans for America, Joseph A. Violante, DAV, Bill Rausch, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and Carlos Fuentes, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.

### INTELLIGENCE

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

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 40 public bills, H.R. 2, 1557–1595; 1 private bill, H.R. 1596; and 6 resolutions, and H. Res. 165–170, were introduced. **Pages H1898–1900**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H1901–02**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1851**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 9:01 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H1851**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:31 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1855**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dennis Fountain, Moses Lake Baptist Church, Moses Lake, Washington. **Page H1855**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 254 yeas to 156 nays with one answering "present", Roll No. 135. **Pages H1855, H1870**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Palazzo wherein he resigned from the Committees on Armed Services and Homeland Security. **Page H1855**

**Committee Elections:** The House agreed to H. Res. 165, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H1855**