Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in a Joint Meeting to receive His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2491–S2542

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1126–1138, and S. Res. 154–155. **Pages S2429–30**

Measures Considered:

Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 1191, 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, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2494–S2413**

Rejected:

By 45 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 168), Corker (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 1147 (to Amendment No. 1140), to require a certification that Iran has not directly supported or carried out an act of terrorism against the United States or a United States person anywhere in the world. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S2511–13**

Pending:

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2494**

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1179 (to Amendment No. 1140), to require submission of all Persian text included in the agreement. **Page S2494**

Blunt Amendment No. 1155 (to Amendment No. 1140), to extend the requirement for annual Department of Defense reports on the military power of Iran. **Page S2494**

Vitter Modified Amendment No. 1186 (to Amendment No. 1179), to require an assessment of inadequacies in the international monitoring and verification system as they relate to a nuclear agreement with Iran. **Pages S2505–11**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 30, 2015. **Page S2541**

Messages from the House: **Page S2525**

Measures Referred: **Page S2525**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2525–29**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2530–32**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2532–40**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2521–25**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S2540**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2540–41**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2541**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—168) **Page S2512**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:23 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2541.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Guard and Reserve, after receiving testimony from General Frank J. Grass, Chief of the National Guard, Lieutenant General

Stanley E. Clarke III, Director of the Air National Guard, Major General Timothy J. Kadavy, Director of the Army National Guard, Lieutenant General Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief of the Army Reserve, Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun, Chief of the Navy Reserve, Lieutenant General James Jackson, Chief of the Air Force Reserve, and Lieutenant General Richard P. Mills, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve, all of the Department of Defense.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Housing and Urban Development's efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness, after receiving testimony from Jennifer Ho, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Cyndi Lauper, True Colors Fund, New York, New York; Deborah Shore, Sasha Bruce Youthwork, Washington, D.C.; and Brittany Dixon, Auburn, Maine.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Jeh Johnson, Secretary of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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 Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded open and closed hearings to examine military space programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Deborah Lee James, Executive Agent for Space, Secretary of the Air Force, General John E. Hyten, Commander, Air Force Space Command, both of the Department of Defense; and Cristina T. Chaplain, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine opportunities for private investment in public infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Calvin E. Hollis, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Countywide Planning and Development Managing Executive Officer, Pasadena, California; Colleen Campbell, Infrastructure Ontario Board of Directors Member, Montreal, Canada; and Jane F. Garvey, Meridian Infrastructure Fund, North America, New York, New York.

FIVE YEARS AFTER DEEPWATER HORIZON

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine five years after Deepwater Horizon, focusing on improvements and challenges in prevention and response, after receiving testimony from Charles Williams II, Center for Offshore Safety, Houston, Texas; Nancy E. Kinner, University of New Hampshire, Durham; Christopher M. Reddy, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts; and Samantha B. Joye, University of Georgia, Athens.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 653, to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act;

S. 611, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize technical assistance to small public water systems;

S. 612, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse";

S. 261, to designate the United States courthouse located at 200 NW 4th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse;

S. 1034, to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "Charles Clark United States Courthouse"; and

The nomination of Mark Scarano, of New Hampshire, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Northern Border Regional Commission.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 335, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Jeh C. Johnson, Secretary of Homeland Security.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 152, to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian land in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts.

TRIBAL LABOR SOVEREIGNTY ACT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 248, to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act, after receiving testimony from Richard F. Griffin, Jr., General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board; Robert J. Welch, Jr., Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, Alpine, California; E. Paul Torres, Pueblo of Isleta, Isleta, New Mexico; Keith B. Anderson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, Prior Lake, Minnesota; and Richard Guest, Native American Rights Fund, Washington, D.C.

KING VS. BURWELL AND SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the *King vs. Burwell* Supreme Court case and congressional action that can be taken to protect small businesses and their employees, after receiving testimony from Michael F. Cannon, Cato Institute, Linda J. Blumberg, The Urban Institute Health Policy Center, and Jeffrey H. Anderson, The 2017 Project, all of Washington, D.C.

GAO HIGH RISK LIST AND THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office's High Risk List and the Veterans Health Administration, after receiving testimony from Debra A. Draper, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and John D. Daigh, Jr., Assistant Inspector General, Office of Healthcare Inspections, and Carolyn M. Clancy, Interim Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 40 public bills, H.R. 2082–2121; 1 private bill, H.R. 2122; and 8Usolutions, H. Res. 227–230, 232–235 were introduced. **Pages H2652–55**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2655–56**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 308, to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian lands in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts (H. Rept. 114–95);

Conference report on S. Con. Res. 11, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025 (H. Rept. 114–96);

Committee on Appropriations; Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2016 (H. Rept. 114–97); and

H. Res. 231, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1732) to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 11) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025; and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 43) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act of 2014. **Pages H2516–74, H2652**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Jimmy Jackson, Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, Alabama. **Page H2503**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:04 a.m. for the purpose of receiving His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. The House reconvened at 12:41 p.m., and agreed that the proceedings had during the Joint Meeting be printed in the Record. **Page H2506**

Joint Meeting To Receive His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan: The House and Senate met in a joint session to receive His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. He was escorted into the Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives McCarthy, Scalise, McMorris Rodgers, Walden, Messer, Foxx, Ryan, Frelinghuysen, Granger, Tiberi, Nunes, Salmon, Long, Pelosi, Hoyer, Becerra, Crowley, Edwards, DeLauro, Honda, Matsui, Takano, Takai, DeGette, McDermott, and Castro; and Senators McConnell, Cornyn, Hatch, Barrasso, Blunt, Wicker, Murkowski, Corker, Durbin, Murray, Cardin, and Hirono. **Pages H2503–06**

Moment of silence: The House observed a moment of silence for the victims of the earthquake in Nepal. **Page H2515**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, April 29th:

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the "Sister Ann Keefe Post Office": H.R. 651, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the "Sister Ann Keefe Post Office", by a ⅔ yea-and-nay of 423 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 177. **Pages H2515–16**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Dold wherein he resigned from the Committee on Financial Services. **Page H2574**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 229, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H2574**

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016: The House began consideration of H.R. 2029, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, April 30. **Pages H2574–H2623**

Agreed to:

Stefanik amendment that increases funds, by offset, for acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment by $30,000,000 for activities and agencies of the Department of Defense; **Pages H2586–89**

Gosar amendment that increases funds, by offset, for Departmental Administration General Administration in the Department of Veterans Affairs by $8,000,000; **Page H2592**

Titus amendment that increases funds, by offset, for the womens health center within the VHA by $500,000; **Page H2592**

Gosar amendment that redirects $2,000,000 in funding within Departmental Administration, General Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; **Pages H2592–93**

Sinema amendment that increases, by offset, funds for the General Services Administration by $50,000; **Page H2593**

Gosar amendment that reduces funds for Departmental Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs by $3,200,000 and increases Information Technology Systems by a similar amount; **Pages H2593–94**

Ruiz amendment that redirects $5 million in funding within the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account; **Page H2594**

Walberg amendment that increases funding, by offset, for General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account by $5,000,000; **Pages H2594–95**

LaMalfa amendment that makes sundry corrections to the bill; **Pages H2598–99**

Jackson Lee amendment that adds a new section to the end of the bill revising amounts provided by the bill by reducing the amount made available for Department of Veterans Affairs-Departmental Administration-Information Technology Services and by increasing the amount made available for Veterans Health Administration-Medical Services by $2,000,000; **Pages H2606–07**

Jolly amendment that prohibits the use of funds to carry out the closure or transfer of the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; **Page H2607**

Babin amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2015) that prohibits the use of funds to carry out the Appraised Value Offer program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; **Pages H2609–10**

Rothfus amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2015) that prohibits the use of funds used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay a performance award under section 5384 of title 5, United States Code; **Pages H2610–12**

Jackson Lee amendment that prohibits the use of funds for benefits for homeless veterans and training and outreach programs maybe be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in contravention of subchapter III of chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code; **Page H2612**

Roe (TN) amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2015) that provides that not more than $4,400,000 of the funds provided may be used for the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, and the amount provided under that heading is reduced by $1,500,000; **Pages H2612–13**

Noem amendment that prohibits use of funds to end, suspend, or relocate, hospital-based services with respect to a VA health care facility that is the subject of an environmental impact statement, designated as a National Historic Landmark, or located in a highly rural area; **Page H2614**

Ratcliffe amendment (No. 5 printed in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2015) that prohibits use of funds in the bill for a new round of Base Realignment and Closures (BRAC); **Pages H2615–16**

Grayson amendment that prohibits use of funds to enter into a contract with any offeror; **Page H2616**

Hurd amendment that prohibits the use of funds in contravention of subtitle D of title VIII of the Carl Levin and Howard P. ''Buck'' McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015; **Pages H2616–17**

Roe (TN) amendment that prohibits the use of funds to pay an award or bonus to any employee of the Office of Construction and Facilities in VA, specifically in the locations of Denver, Orlando, Las Vegas and New Orleans; **Page H2617**

Stivers amendment that prohibits the use of funds to be used as salaries of orthotists and prosthetists who are not certified by a nationally accredited body; **Pages H2617–18**

Byrne amendment that prohibits the use of funds to transfer any funds from the Veterans Choice Fund; **Page H2618**

Gosar amendment that prohibits the use of funds to carry out the memorandum from the Veterans Benefit Administration known as Fast Letter 13–10, or to create or maintain any patient record-keeping system other than those currently approved by the Department; and **Pages H2618–19**

LaMalfa amendment that provides that for an additional amount for Department of Veterans Affairs-Departmental Administration-General Operating Expenses, Veterans Administration, there is hereby appropriated, and the amount otherwise provided by this Act is hereby reduced by $5,000,000. **Pages H2620–21**

Rejected:

McNerney amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for reimbursement of the General Services Administration by $177,300,000 for construction, major projects. **Pages H2591–92**

Withdrawn:

Brownley (CA) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have in the Department of Veterans Affairs- Departmental Administration- Construction, Major Projects account, struck the aggregate dollar amount and inserted $1,143,800,000 for Department of Veterans Affairs, Construction, Major Projects; **Pages H2595–98**

Boustany amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited funds from being used to pay Veterans Affairs personnel due to backlog; **Pages H2605–06**

Adams amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have provided that the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account for FY 2016 may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide discretionary competitive grants for State and local governments to establish or expand technology systems that develop a coordinated network of private, public and nonprofit services and resources to better serve veterans and their family members; **Page H2610**

Hill amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited the use of funds to carry out any new Key Renewable VA Energy Project under the Department's Green Management Programs; and **Pages H2619–20**

Farenthold amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have prohibited the use of funds to pay the salary of any VA employee who received an unsatisfactory work performance review in FY 2015. **Page H2620**

Point of Order sustained against:

Bishop (GA) amendment that sought to redirect funding for Military Construction, Army; increase funding by $154,643,000 for Veterans Health Administration, Medical Services; increase funding by $69,691,000 for medical support and compliance; increase funding by $105,132,000 for medical facilities; increase funding by $10,000,000 for Departmental Administration; increase funding by $95,000,000 for Information Technology Systems; increase funding by $582,000,000 for Construction, Major Projects; and strike Sections 233, 238, 240, and 241. Agreed to sustain the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised against the amendment, by a recorded vote of 237 ayes to 180 noes, Roll No. 178. **Pages H2583–86**

Gosar amendment that sought to increase, by offset, funds for hospital care and medical services within the VHA by $2,031,000; **Pages H2589–91**

Benishek amendment that sought to add a new section to the bill requiring a report describing the status, including the timeline for completion, of each Community-Based Outpatient Clinic to be established by the Department of Veterans Affairs, through construction or lease, that is not yet complete be submitted to Congress; **Pages H2599–H2600**

Mulvaney amendment that sought to strike title IV, which overseas Contingency Operations Department of Defense; and **Pages H2600–03**

Pocan amendment that sought to prohibit use of funds to withhold any report of an Inspector General from any member of Congress in any case where the member of Congress has requested that such report be provided. **Page H2614**

Proceedings Postponed:

Van Hollen amendment that seeks to strike the pending paragraph pertaining to the Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps; **Pages H2602–03**

Mulvaney amendment that seeks to strike the pending paragraph pertaining to the Military Construction, Air Force; **Page H2603**

Mulvaney amendment that seeks to strike the pending paragraph pertaining to the Military Construction, Defense-Wide; **Pages H2603–04**

Nadler amendment that seeks to strike section 512 from the bill pertaining to the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; **Pages H2604–05**

Blumenauer amendment that seeks to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce Veterans Health Administration directive 2011–004 with respect to the prohibition on ''VA providers for completing forms seeking recommendations or opinions regarding a Veteran's participation in a State marijuana program''; **Pages H2607–09**

Pocan amendment that seeks to prohibit the use of funds to enter into a contract with any person whose disclosures of a proceeding with a disposition listed in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System include the term ''Fair Labor Standards Act''; **Pages H2613–14**

Hice (GA) amendment that seeks to prohibit the use of funds to pay a Federal Employee for any period of time during which such employee is using official time under U.S. Code; and **Pages H2621–22**

King (IA) amendment (No. 3 printed in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2015) that seeks to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce the prevailing wage requirements under what is commonly known as the Davis-Bacon Act. **Pages H2622–23**

H. Res. 223, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2028) and (H.R. 2029) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 176, after the previous question was ordered. **Page H2515**

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016: The House began consideration of H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, April 30. **Pages H2506–15, H2623–51**

Agreed to:

Gosar amendment that increases funding for Investigations by $1,000,000 and reduces funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount; **Page H2633**

Gosar amendment that increases funds for Construction by $3,000,000 and reduces funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount; **Page H2633**

Murphy (FL) amendment that increases funds for Army Corps of Engineers Construction by $1,000,000 and reduces funding for Expenses by a similar amount; **Pages H2633–34**

Duffy amendment that increases, by offset, Army Corp of Engineers funding for Construction by $10,000,000 for the support of GLFER; **Pages H2634–35**

Huizenga (MI) amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2015) that increases funds to Operations and Maintenance by $36,306,000 and reduces funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount; **Pages H2635–37**

Gosar amendment that reduces funding for Regulatory Program by $424,000 and increases funding for the Office of Inspector General by a similar amount; **Page H2638**

Tipton amendment that increases funding for Water and Related Resources by $2,000,000 and reduces funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount; **Pages H2643–45**

Lamborn amendment that, by offset, increases funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $4,000,000; **Pages H2646–47**

Bonamici amendment that increases funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $9 million and reduces funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount; **Page H2648**

Cohen amendment that increases funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $2 million and reduces funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount; **Pages H2648–49**

Rejected:

Beyer amendment that sought to strike section 104 from the bill. Section 104 prohibits use of funds

by the Corps of Engineers to develop, adopt, implement, administer, or enforce any change to the regulations pertaining to definitions of the terms "fill material" or "discharge of fill material"; **Pages H2640–41**

Beyer amendment that sought to strike section 105 from the bill. Section 105 prohibits use of funds in the bill by the Corps of Engineers to develop, adopt, implement, administer, or enforce any change to the regulations and guidance pertaining to the definition of waters under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; **Pages H2641–42**

Castor (FL) amendment that sought to increase funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $266,161,000 and to reduce funding for Fossil Energy Research and Development by $355,000,000; **Pages H2645–46**

Withdrawn:

Crawford amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have increased funding for Mississippi River and Tributaries by $27,000,000 and reduced EERE by $96,000,000; **Pages H2635–37**

Rice (SC) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have decreased Regulatory funding by $4,500,000 and increased funding for Operations and Maintenance by a similar amount; and **Pages H2637–38**

Perry amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have increased funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $22,300,000 and to reduced funding for Departmental Administration by a similar amount. **Page H2647**

Proceedings Postponed:

McClintock amendment that seeks to reduce funding for sundry accounts and to apply the aggregate savings of $128,920,000 to the spending reduction account; **Pages H2638–40**

Ruiz amendment that seeks to increase funding for Water and Related Resources by $5,000,000 and to reduce funding for Fossil Energy Research and Development by $2,000,000; **Pages H2642–43**

Griffith amendment that seeks to increase funding for Fossil Energy Research and Development by $5,000,000 and to reduce funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by a similar amount; **Page H2645**

Swalwell (CA) amendment that seeks to increase funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $25,500,000 and to reduce funding for Fossil Energy by $34,000,000; **Page H2647**

Byrne amendment that seeks to zero out funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and to apply the savings of $1,657,774,000 to the spending reduction account; and **Pages H2649–50**

McClintock amendment that seeks to zero out funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, reduce Nuclear Energy by $691,886,000, and zero out funding for Fossil Energy and to apply the aggregate savings of $2,954,660,000 to the spending reduction account. **Page H2650**

H. Res. 223, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2028) and (H.R. 2029) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 176, after the previous question was ordered. **Page H2515**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H2506.

Senate Referrals: S. 304 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. **Pages H2506, H2651**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2515, H2515–16 and H2585–86. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 11:29 p.m.

Committee Meetings

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM AND ACTIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry held a hearing to review the National Forest System and active forest management. Testimony was heard from Tom Tidwell, Chief, Forest Service; and public witnesses.

PUBLIC AND OUTSIDE WITNESS DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing for public and outside witnesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a markup on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, FY 2016. The bill was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1735, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016".

EXAMINING REFORMS TO MODERNIZE THE MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION SYSTEM

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled ''Examining Reforms to Modernize the Multiemployer Pension System''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 2042, the ''Ratepayer Protection Act''; and H.R. 2045, the ''Targeting Rogue and Opaque Letters (TROL) Act''. H.R. 2042 and H.R. 2045 were both ordered reported, without amendment.

THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY STANDARDS ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF U.S. INSURERS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance held a hearing entitled ''The Impact of International Regulatory Standards on the Competitiveness of U.S. Insurers''. Testimony was heard from Michael McRaith, Director, Federal Insurance Office, Department of the Treasury; Mark Van Der Weide, Deputy Director, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation, Federal Reserve Board of Governors; and a public witness.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO ENHANCE CAPITAL FORMATION AND REDUCE REGULATORY BURDENS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled ''Legislative Proposals to Enhance Capital Formation and Reduce Regulatory Burdens''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE GLOBAL MAGNITSKY HUMAN RIGHTS ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled ''The Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ISIS: DEFINING THE ENEMY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled ''ISIS: Defining the Enemy''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats held a hearing entitled ''Progress and Challenges in the Western Balkans''. Testimony was heard from Hoyt Brian Yee, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State; Susan Fritz, Acting Assistant Administrator, Europe and Eurasia Bureau; U.S. Agency for International Development; former Member Joseph J. DioGuardi; and a public witness.

TERRORISM IN AFRICA: THE IMMINENT THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing entitled ''Terrorism in Africa: The Imminent Threat to the United States''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE REGISTER'S PERSPECTIVE ON COPYRIGHT REVIEW

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Register's Perspective on Copyright Review''. Testimony was heard from Maria A. Pallante, Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S. Copyright Office.

BUSINESS MEETING; BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP: IS IT THE RIGHT POLICY FOR AMERICA?

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security held a business meeting to adopt rules of procedure and statement of policy for private immigration bills and statement of policy on Federal charters; and a hearing entitled ''Birthright Citizenship: Is it the Right Policy for America?''. The rules of procedure and statement of policy for private immigration bills and statement of policy on Federal charters were adopted. 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. 1927, the ''Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act of 2015''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ZERO ACCOUNTABILITY: THE CONSEQUENCES OF POLITICALLY DRIVEN SCIENCE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''Zero Accountability: The Consequences of Politically Driven Science''. Testimony was heard from Clara Beckett, Commissioner, Bastrop County, Precinct 2, Bastrop, Texas; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 774, the ''Illegal, Unreported,

and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015''; H.R. 1214, the ''National Forest Small Tracts Act Amendments Act of 2015''; H.R. 1335, the ''Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act''; and H.R. 1991, the ''Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act Extension Act of 2015''.

FLYING UNDER THE RADAR: SECURING WASHINGTON D.C. AIRSPACE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Flying Under the Radar: Securing Washington D.C. Airspace''. Testimony was heard from Admiral William Gortney, Commander, NORAD/USNORTHCOM; Michael Huerta, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; Joseph Clancy, Director, Secret Service; Robert MacLean, Chief, U.S. Park Police; Kim Dine, Chief of Police, Capitol Police; Paul Irving, Sergeant at Arms, House of Representatives; and Robert G. Salesses, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Homeland Defense Integration and Defense Support of Civil Authorities, Department of Defense.

FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF U.S. TAXPAYERS' DOLLARS ABROAD: ON-BUDGET ASSISTANCE IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled ''Following the Trail of U.S. Taxpayers' Dollars Abroad: On-Budget Assistance in Afghanistan''. Testimony was heard from John Sopko, Inspector General, Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

ENCRYPTION TECHNOLOGY AND POTENTIAL U.S. POLICY RESPONSES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Information Technology held a hearing entitled ''Encryption Technology and Potential U.S. Policy Responses''. Testimony was heard from Amy Hess, Executive Assistant Director, Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; Daniel Conley, District Attorney, Suffolk County, Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

REGULATORY INTEGRITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2015; HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH NON–DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 2014; CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY S. CON. RES. 11

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1732, the ''Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015''; H.J. Res. 43, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act of 2014; and conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025. The committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a structured rule for H.R. 1732. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order as original text for the purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–13 modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the report. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In section 2, the rule provides for consideration of the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervention of any motion except one hour of debate. The rule provides that debate on the conference report is divided pursuant to clause 8(d) of rule XXII. In section 3, the rule provides that section 604(g) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act shall not apply in the case of H.J. Res. 43. Additionally, the rule grants a closed rule for H.J. Res. 43. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform or their respective designees. 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 that pursuant to section 604(h) of the Home Rule Act, a motion to recommit is not in order to the joint resolution if under consideration while the act of the D.C. Council is within the congressional review period prescribed in section 602 of such Act. Testimony was heard from Chairman Tom Price of Georgia and Representatives Gibbs, Edwards, Palmer, Yarmuth, Meadows, and Norton.

REALITY CHECK PART II: THE IMPACT OF EPA'S PROPOSED OZONE STANDARDS ON RURAL AMERICA

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled ''Reality Check Part II: The Impact of EPA's Proposed Ozone Standards on Rural America''. Testimony was heard from Jim Reese, Secretary and Commissioner of Agriculture, Oklahoma State Board of Agriculture; Cara Keslar, Monitoring Section Supervisor, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division; and public witnesses.

THE FUTURE OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY: TECHNOLOGY, SAFETY INITIATIVES, AND THE ROLE OF FEDERAL REGULATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled ''The Future of Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety: Technology, Safety Initiatives, and the Role of Federal Regulation''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FILED

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of S. Con. Res. 11, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2016 for the National Institutes of Health, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine United States European Command programs and budget in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment, to hold hearings to examine insurance capital rules and Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) process, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine S. 703, to reauthorize the weatherization and State energy programs, S. 720, to promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, S. 858, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities, S. 523, to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools, S. 600, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency retrofit pilot program, S. 723, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to provide guidance on utility energy service contracts used by Federal agencies, S. 869, to improve energy performance in Federal buildings, S. 878, to establish a State residential building energy efficiency upgrades loan pilot program, S. 886, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to provide for a smart energy and water efficiency pilot program, S. 888, to promote Federal-State partnerships for developing regional energy strategies and plans to mitigate risks in changing energy systems, S. 893, to establish an Energy Productivity Innovation Challenge (EPIC) to assist energy policy innovation in the States to promote the goal of doubling electric and thermal energy productivity by January 1, 2030, S. 939, to require the evaluation and consolidation of duplicative green building programs within the Department of Energy, S. 1029, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing a final rule amending the efficiency standards for residential non-weatherized gas furnaces or mobile home furnaces until an analysis has been completed, S. 1038, to clarify that no express or implied warranty is provided by reason of a disclosure relating to voluntary participation in the Energy Star program, S. 1039, to require certain agencies to conduct assessments of data centers and develop data center consolidation and optimization plans to achieve energy cost savings, S. 1044, to enhance consumer access to electricity information and allow for the adoption of innovative products and services to help consumers manage their energy usage, S. 1046, to accelerate the adoption of smart building technologies in the private sector and key Federal agencies, S. 1047, to require the Secretary of Energy to review rulemaking proceedings of other Federal agencies for the potential to cause an adverse effect on the cost, time, or difficulty of complying with energy efficiency regulations, guidelines, or standards, S. 1048, to remove the authority of the Secretary of Energy to amend or issue new energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, S. 1052, to require a study on the impact of State and local performance benchmarking and disclosure policies for commercial and multifamily buildings, to provide for competitive awards to utilities,

States, and units of local government, S. 1053, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to promote alternative fueled vehicle fleets and infrastructure, and S. 1063, to amend title VI of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal energy efficiency resource standard for electricity and natural gas suppliers, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Land Management's final rule on hydraulic fracturing, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 993, to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, markup on the ''United States Grains Standards Act Reauthorization Act of 2015''; and the ''Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2015'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill for FY 2016, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, hearing entitled ''Improving College Access and Completion for Low-Income and First-Generation Students'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Legislative Hearing on 21st Century Cures'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled ''Strategic Petroleum Reserve Discussion Draft and Title IV Energy Efficiency'', 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled ''FCC Reauthorization: Improving Commission Transparency'', 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled ''Regional Impact of U.S. Policy Towards Iraq and Syria'', 11 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled ''Bangladesh's Fracture: Political and Religious Extremism'', 2 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing entitled ''Migration Crisis: Oversight of the Administration's Proposed $1 Billion Request for Central America'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Allegations of Special Access and Political Influence at the Department of Homeland Security'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Transportation Security, hearing entitled ''A Review of Access Control Measures at Our Nation's Airports, Part II'', 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2048, the ''USA FREEDOM Act of 2015'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 774, the ''Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015''; H.R. 1214, the ''National Forest Small Tracts Act Amendments Act of 2015''; H.R. 1335, the ''Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act''; and H.R. 1991, the ''Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act Extension Act of 2015'' (continued), 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''EPA Mismanagement'', 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules; and the Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade of the Committee on Financial Services, joint hearing entitled ''Examining the Export-Import Bank's Mandates'', 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on the ''National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act for 2016 and 2017'', 11 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1987, the ''Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015''; H.R. 1642, to designate the building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the ''Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse''; and General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee, business meeting to consider a motion to issue a subpoena to the Department of Veterans Affairs, to produce complete MSPB and EEO files from the Regional Office in Philadelphia to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs; hearing entitled ''Examining Access and Quality of Care and Services for Women Veterans'', 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing entitled ''Next Steps for Welfare Reform: Ideas to Improve Temporary Assistance for Needy Families to Help More Families Find Work and Escape Poverty'', 3 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 1191, Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, April 30

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 2029—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 and H.R. 2028—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016.

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