

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2659–S2697

Measures Introduced: Thirty-eight bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1200–1237, and S. Res. 170–173. **Pages S2687–88**

Measures Reported:

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”.

S. 179, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW, in Chisholm, Minnesota, as the “James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building”.

S. 994, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the “Staff Sergeant Joseph D’Augustine Post Office Building”.

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Measures Passed:

Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 125, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2020, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2670–72**

Leahy (for Lee) Amendment No. 1214, to modify the authorization of appropriations. **Pages S2671–72**

WIOA Technical Amendments Act: Senate passed S. 1124, to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the Act, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

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Inhofe (for Alexander/Murray) Amendment No. 1215, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2696**

Condemning Atrocities Committed by Bashar al-Assad of Syria: Senate agreed to S. Res. 173, condemning atrocities committed by Bashar al-Assad of Syria and his regime. **Page S2696**

National Travel and Tourism Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 170, supporting the goals and

ideals of National Travel and Tourism Week and honoring the valuable contributions of travel and tourism to the United States. **Page S2697**

National Charter Schools Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 171, congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education, and supporting the ideals and goals of the 16th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 3 through May 9, 2015. **Page S2697**

National Small Business Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 172, honoring the vital role of small businesses and the passion of entrepreneurs in the United States during “National Small Business Week”, from May 4, through May 8, 2015. **Page S2697**

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: **Page S2663**

Pending:

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2663**

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1179 (to Amendment No. 1140), to require submission of all Persian text included in the agreement. **Page S2663**

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 S2663**

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. **Page S2663**

Cotton Amendment No. 1197 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1140), of a perfecting nature. **Page S2663**

Cotton (for Rubio) Amendment No. 1198 (to Amendment No. 1197), to require a certification that Iran's leaders have publically accepted Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state. **Page S2663**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 7, 2015, with the time until the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140 (listed above) equally divided in the usual form; and that the filing deadline for all second-degree amendments to Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140 and to the bill be at 10 a.m. **Page S2697**

Ensuring Tax Exempt Organizations the right to appeal act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations. **Pages S2663–70, S2672–82**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S2685–87**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2687**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2688–90**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S2690–94

Additional Statements: **Pages S2684–85**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2694–95**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S2695–96

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:28 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2697.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

GLOBAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine global health problems, after receiving testimony from Deborah L. Birx, Ambassador-at-Large, Coordinator, Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS, and Special Representative for Global Health Diplomacy, Department of State; Mark Dybul, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Geneva, Switzerland; Elton John, Elton John AIDS Foundation, New York, New York; and Pastor Rick Warren, Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, California.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Ashton B. Carter, Secretary, and General Martin E. Dempsey, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Daniel R. Elliott III, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Mario Cordero, of California, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Fish and Wildlife Service, and S. 1036, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to provide certain Western States assistance in the development of statewide conservation and management plans or the protection and recovery of sage-grouse species, S. 855, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to permit Governors of States to regulate intrastate endangered species and intrastate threatened species, S. 736, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require disclosure to States of the basis of determinations under such Act, to ensure use of information provided by State, tribal, and county governments in decision making under such Act, S. 655, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to make a final determination on the listing of the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, S. 468, to provide a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the Forest Service to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees to conserve and restore the habitat of the greater sage-grouse and the mule deer, S. 293, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to establish a procedure for approval of certain settlements, S. 292, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the Internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, S. 112, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require the Secretary of the Interior to publish and make available for public comment a draft economic analysis at the