

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3089–S3199

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1390–1408, and S. Con. Res. 17. **Pages S3183–84**

Measures Passed:

Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 47, to correct the enrollment of S. 178. **Page S3198**

Measures Considered:

Ensuring Tax Exempt Organizations the Right To Appeal Act—Agreement: Senate continued 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, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3092–S3175**

Pending:

Hatch Amendment No. 1221, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3092**

Hatch (for Flake) Amendment No. 1243 (to Amendment No. 1221), to strike the extension of the trade adjustment assistance program. **Page S3092**

Hatch (for Inhofe/Coons) Modified Amendment No. 1312 (to Amendment No. 1221), to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to require the development of a plan for each sub-Saharan African country for negotiating and entering into free trade agreements. **Page S3092**

Hatch (for McCain) Amendment No. 1226 (to Amendment No. 1221), to repeal a duplicative inspection and grading program. **Page S3092**

Stabenow (for Portman) Amendment No. 1299 (to Amendment No. 1221), to make it a principal negotiating objective of the United States to address currency manipulation in trade agreements. **Pages S3092, S3107–09, S3112–13**

Brown Amendment No. 1251 (to Amendment No. 1221), to require the approval of Congress before additional countries may join the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. **Page S3092**

Wyden (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 1227 (to Amendment No. 1221), to make trade agreements work for small businesses. **Page S3092**

Wyden (for Warren) Amendment No. 1327 (to Amendment No. 1221), to prohibit the application of the trade authorities procedures to an implementing bill submitted with respect to a trade agreement that includes investor-state dispute settlement. **Page S3092**

Hatch Modified Amendment No. 1411 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1299), of a perfecting nature. **Page S3092**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9 a.m., on Thursday, May 21, 2015. **Page S3199**

Messages from the House: **Pages S3182–83**

Measures Referred: **Page S3183**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S3183, S3198–99**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S3183**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3184–85**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3185–89**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3178–82**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3190–98**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3198**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:57 p.m., until 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3199.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1331, to help enhance commerce through improved seasonal forecasts, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1297, to update the Commercial Space Launch Act by amending title 51, United States Code, to promote competitiveness of the U.S. commercial space sector, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1326, to amend certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1040, to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Academy of Sciences to study the vehicle handling requirements proposed by the Commission for recreational off-highway vehicles and to prohibit the adoption of any such requirements until the completion of the study, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1359, to allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites;

S. 806, to amend section 31306 of title 49, United States Code, to recognize hair as an alternative specimen for preemployment and random controlled substances testing of commercial motor vehicle drivers and for other purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1315, to protect the right of law-abiding citizens to transport knives interstate, notwithstanding a patchwork of local and State prohibitions;

S. 1334, to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, to amend the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 to implement the Antigua Convention, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1335, to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Tokyo on February 24, 2012;

S. 1251, to implement the Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as adopted by Lisbon, Portugal on September 28, 2007;

S. 1336, to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Auckland on November 14, 2009;

H.R. 1020, to define STEM education to include computer science, and to support existing STEM education programs at the National Science Foundation;

H.R. 710, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program,

with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Daniel R. Elliott III, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Mario Cordero, of California, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, and a routine list in the Coast Guard.

IMPROVEMENTS AND INNOVATIONS IN FISHERY MANAGEMENT AND DATA COLLECTION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine improvements and innovations in fishery management and data collection, after receiving testimony from Kathryn D. Sullivan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Robert Beal, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Arlington, Virginia; Brett Fitzgerald, Snook and Game Fish Foundation, Lake Worth, Florida; and Steven A. Murawski, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.

OVERSIGHT OF EPA SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANELS AND PROCESSES

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight concluded an oversight hearing an oversight hearing to examine scientific advisory panels and processes at the Environmental Protection Agency, including S. 543, to amend the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to provide for Scientific Advisory Board member qualifications, public participation, after receiving testimony from J. Alfredo Gómez, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Scott Faber, Environmental Working Group, and Terry F. Yosie, World Environment Center, both of Washington, D.C.; Ted Hadzi-Antich, Pacific Legal Foundation, Sacramento, California; and Roger O. McClellan, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

U.S.-CUBAN RELATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States-Cuban relations, focusing on the way forward, after receiving testimony from Roberta S. Jacobson, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, and Thomas A. Shannon, Counselor, both of the Department of State.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gregory T.

Delawie, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo, Ian C. Kelly, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Nancy Bikoff Pettit, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, Azita Raji, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden, and Julieta Valls Noyes, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, all of the Department of State.

21ST CENTURY IDEAS FOR THE 20TH CENTURY FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management concluded a hearing to examine 21st century ideas for the 20th century Federal civil service, after receiving testimony from Yvonne D. Jones, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Patricia J. Niehaus, Federal Managers Association, Alexandria, Virginia; and Dan G. Blair, National Academy of Public Administration, and J. David Cox, Sr., American Federation of Government Employees, both of Washington, D.C.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on exploring institutional risk-sharing, after receiving testimony from Senator Reed; Andrew P. Kelly, American Enterprise Institute Center on Higher Education Reform, and Jennifer C. Wang, Young Invincibles, both of Washington, D.C.; Robert S. Silberman, Strayer Education, Inc., Herndon, Virginia; and Douglas A. Webber, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENTS OVERSIGHT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine addressing the needs of Native communities through Indian Water Rights Settlements, after receiving testimony from Michael L. Connor, Deputy Secretary of the Interior; Montana Assistant Attorney General Jay Weiner, Helena; Mark Macarro, Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Temecula, California; and Steven C. Moore, Native American Rights Fund, Boulder, Colorado.

THE RAPE KIT BACKLOG AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution concluded a hearing to examine taking sexual assault seriously, focusing on the rape kit backlog and human rights, after receiving testimony from Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Chicago; Skylor D. Hearn, Texas Department of Public Safety Assistant Director, Austin; Debbie Smith, Hope Exists After Rape Trauma, Williamsburg, Virginia; Scott Berkowitz, Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, Washington, D.C.; and Sarah Haacke Byrd, Joyful Heart Foundation, New York, New York.

PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION'S IMPACTS ON AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: On Tuesday, May 19, 2015, Committee concluded a hearing to examine proposed environmental regulation's impacts on America's small businesses, including an original bill entitled, "Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2015", after receiving testimony from Charles Maresca, Director of Interagency Affairs, Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration; Darcy Maulsby, Dougherty Farm, Lake City, Iowa; Randy Noel, Reve Inc., Laplace, Louisiana, on behalf of the National Association of Home Builders; Elizabeth Milito, National Federation of Independent Business Small Business Legal Center, Washington, D.C.; and Benjamin H. Bulis, American Fly Fishing Trade Association, Bozeman, Montana.

SOLUTIONS TO THE HOSPITAL OBSERVATION STAY CRISIS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine solutions to the hospital observation stay crisis, after receiving testimony from Sean Cavanaugh, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Medicare, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; Mark E. Miller, Executive Director, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; Jyotirmaya Nanda, SSM Health, St. Louis, Missouri, on behalf of the American Hospital Association; Spencer Young, HealthDataInsights, Las Vegas, Nevada; and Tori Gaetani, Beacon Health, Brewer, Maine.