

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3635–S3729

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1487–1501, and S. Res. 190–191. **Pages S3678–79**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing the Use of Emancipation Hall: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 48, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. **Page S3728**

Responding to Anti-Semitism in Europe: Senate agreed to S. Res. 87, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe and to encourage greater cooperation with the European governments, the European Union, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in preventing and responding to anti-Semitism. **Page S3728**

Relative to the Death of Joseph Robinette Biden, III: Senate agreed to S. Res. 191, relative to the death of Joseph Robinette Biden, III. **Pages S3728–29**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3642–67**

Pending:

McCain Amendment No. 1463, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S3642–57**

McCain Amendment No. 1456 (to Amendment No. 1463), to require additional information supporting long-range plans for construction of naval vessels. **Page S3657**

Reed Amendment No. 1521 (to Amendment No. 1463), to limit the availability of amounts authorized to be appropriated for overseas contingency op-

erations pending relief from the spending limits under the Budget Control Act of 2011. **Page S3657**

Portman Amendment No. 1522 (to Amendment No. 1463), to provide additional amounts for procurement and for research, development, test, and evaluation for Stryker Lethality Upgrades, and to provide an offset. **Pages S3657–59**

Reed (for Bennet) Amendment No. 1540 (to Amendment No. 1463), to require the Comptroller General of the United States to brief and submit a report to Congress on the administration and oversight by the Department of Veterans Affairs of contracts for the design and construction of major medical facility projects. **Pages S3661–66**

Cornyn Amendment No. 1486 (to Amendment No. 1463), to require reporting on energy security issues involving Europe and the Russian Federation, and to express the sense of Congress regarding ways the United States could help vulnerable allies and partners with energy security. **Pages S3659–61**

Reed (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 1494 (to Amendment No. 1463), to revise the definition of spouse for purposes of veterans benefits in recognition of new State definitions of spouse. **Page S3667**

Tillis Amendment No. 1506 (to Amendment No. 1463), to provide for the stationing of C-130 H aircraft avionics previously modified by the Avionics Modernization Program (AMP) in support of daily training and contingency requirements for Airborne and Special Operations Forces. **Pages S3666–67**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 4, 2015, that there be 30 minutes equally divided in the usual form on the following amendments, and that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on or in relation to the amendments in the order listed: Portman Amendment No. 1522 (to Amendment No. 1463) (listed above), and Reed (for Bennet) Amendment No. 1540 (to Amendment No. 1463) (listed above); and that there be no second-degree amendments in order to any of these amendments prior to the votes. **Pages S3666, S3729**

Messages from the House: **Page S3675**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S3675**

Executive Communications:	Pages S3675–77
Petitions and Memorials:	Pages S3677–78
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S3679–80
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S3680–83
Additional Statements:	Page S3675
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S3683–S3728
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Page S3728
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S3728
Adjournment:	Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:31 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2015. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S3729.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

EPA’S PROPOSED NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARD FOR GROUND-LEVEL OZONE

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine challenges and implications of EPA’s proposed national ambient air quality standard for ground-level ozone, including S. 638, to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to exceptional event demonstrations, S. 751, to improve the establishment of any lower ground-level ozone standards, and S. 640, to amend the Clean Air Act to delay the review and revision of the national ambient air quality standards for ozone, after receiving testimony from Senators Thune and Flake; Representative Olson; Kanathur Srikanth, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations; Michael McKee, Uintah County Commission Chairman, Vernal, Utah; Gary Moore, Boone County Judge/Executive, Burlington, Kentucky, on behalf of the National Association of Regional Councils; Larry Greene, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, Sacramento, California; and Gregory B. Diette, American Thoracic Society, Baltimore, Maryland.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, “Audit and Appeal Fairness, Integrity, and Reforms in Medicare Act of 2015”.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine implications of the Iran nuclear agreement for United States policy in the Middle East, after receiving testimony from James F. Jeffrey, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and Martin Indyk, Brookings Institution, both of Washington, D.C.

GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATOR POSITIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine top government investigator positions left unfilled for years, after receiving testimony from Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice; and Danielle Brian, Project on Government Oversight, and Daniel Z. Epstein, Cause of Action, both of Washington, D.C.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on ensuring college affordability, after receiving testimony from Judith Scott-Clayton, Columbia University Teachers College, New York, New York; Elizabeth Akers, Brookings Institution, and Michael Mitchell, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, both of Washington, D.C.; F. King Alexander, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; and James Kennedy, Indiana University, Bloomington.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1292, to amend the Small Business Act to treat certain qualified disaster areas as HUBZones and to extend the period for HUBZone treatment for certain base closure areas;

S. 1470, to amend the Small Business Act to provide additional assistance to small business concerns for disaster recovery, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nomination of Douglas J. Kramer, of Kansas, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

PENDING HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 297, to revive and expand the Intermediate Care Technician Pilot Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 425, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a five-year extension to the homeless veterans reintegration