

June 11, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4061.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies approved for full committee consideration an original bill entitled, "Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016".

### PASSENGER RAIL SAFETY

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine passenger rail safety, focusing on accident prevention and on-going efforts to implement train control technology, after receiving testimony from Robert C. Lauby, Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety and Chief Safety Officer, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation; Charles Mathias, Associate Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; T. Bella Dinh-Zarr, Vice Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; and DJ Stadtler, Amtrak, Washington, D.C.

### PENDING LEGISLATION

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine S. 145, to require the Director of the National Park Service to refund to States all State funds that were used to reopen and temporarily operate a unit of the National Park System during the October 2013 shutdown, S. 146, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with States and political subdivisions of States providing for the continued operation, in whole or in part, of public land, units of the National Park System, units of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and units of the National Forest System in the State during any period in which the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture is unable to maintain normal level of operations at the units due to a lapse in appropriations, S. 319, to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali, S. 329, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 403, to revise the authorized route of the North Country National Scenic Trail in northeastern Minnesota and to extend the trail into Vermont to connect with the

Appalachian National Scenic Trail, S. 521, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of President Station in Baltimore, Maryland, S. 610, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of P.S. 103 in West Baltimore, Maryland and for other purposes, S. 782, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a bison management plan for Grand Canyon National Park, S. 873, to designate the wilderness within the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska as the Jay S. Hammond Wilderness Area, and S. 1483, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, after receiving testimony from Senator Murphy; and Victor Knox, Associate Director, Park Planning, Facilities and Lands, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1140, to require the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to propose a regulation revising the definition of the term "waters of the United States", with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Anne Elizabeth Wall, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

### VERIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee received a closed briefing on verification and assessment, focusing on how to create a successful inspection regime from Joseph R. DeTrani, Intelligence and National Security Alliance, Washington, D.C., and Gary Samore, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Peter V. Neffenger, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, and David S. Shapira, of Pennsylvania, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, for a term expiring December 8, 2019, who was introduced by Senators Casey and Toomey, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

**SPENDING IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management concluded a hearing to examine spending in the Federal government, focusing on an outside perspective, after receiving testimony from Romina Boccia, The Heritage Foundation Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity, Chris Edwards, Cato Institute, Steve Ellis, Taxpayers for Common Sense, and Thomas A. Schatz, Citizens Against Government Waste, all of Washington, D.C.; and Donald F. Kettl, University of Maryland School of Public Policy, Annapolis.

**HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine health information exchange, focusing on a path towards improving the quality and value of health care for patients, after receiving testimony from Thomas H. Payne, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, on behalf of the American Medical Informatics Association; Craig D. Richardville, Carolinas HealthCare System, Charlotte, North Carolina, on behalf of the Premier Healthcare Alliance Member Technology Improvement Committee; Christine Bechtel, National Partnership for Women and Families, Olney, Maryland, on behalf of the Health IT Policy Committee Consumer Work Group; and Neal L. Patterson, Cerner Corporation, Kansas City, Missouri.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported S. 248, to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act.

**VICTIM SERVICES IN INDIAN COUNTRY OVERSIGHT**

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine addressing the need for victim services in Indian Country, after receiving testimony from Darren Cruzan, Director, Office of Justice Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Gerad Godfrey, Office of the Governor of Alaska Rural Business and Intergovernmental Affairs Senior Advisor, Anchorage; A.T.

Stafne, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation, Poplar, Montana; and Dianne Barker Harrold, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Ft. Gibson.

**FEDERAL REGULATORY SYSTEM**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Federal regulatory system to improve accountability, transparency and integrity, including S. 1178, to prohibit implementation of a proposed rule relating to the definition of the term “waters of the United States” under the Clean Water Act, or any substantially similar rule, until a Supplemental Scientific Review Panel and Ephemeral and Intermittent Streams Advisory Committee produce certain reports, after receiving testimony from William L. Kovacs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Robert Weissman, Public Citizen, Ellen Steen, American Farm Bureau Federation, and Charles J. Cooper, Cooper and Kirk, PLLC, all of Washington, D.C.; and Patrick Parenteau, Vermont Law School Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic, South Royalton, Vermont.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Luis Felipe Restrepo, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Casey and Toomey, and Travis Randall McDonough, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, and Waverly D. Crenshaw, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, who were both introduced by Senators Alexander and Corker, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

**UNWANTED CALLS**

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the proliferation of unwanted calls, after receiving testimony from Lois Greisman, Associate Director, Division of Marketing Practices, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; Joe Dandurand, Missouri Deputy Attorney General, Jefferson City; Henning Schulzrinne, Columbia University, New York, New York; and Linda Blase, Dallas, Texas.