

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in a Joint Meeting to receive His Holiness Pope Francis of the Holy See.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S6909–S6949*

**Measures Introduced:** Ten bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2071–2080, and S. Res. 267–270. **Page S6938**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 2078, to reauthorize the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. **Page S6938**

#### Measures Passed:

**STEM Education Act:** Senate passed H.R. 1020, to define STEM education to include computer science, and to support existing STEM education programs at the National Science Foundation, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6948–49**

McConnell (for Thune) Amendment No. 2694, to make a conforming amendment. **Page S6948**

**National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 258, designating the week of September 20 through 26, 2015, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6949**

**National Estuaries Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 269, designating the week of September 19 through September 26, 2015, as “National Estuaries Week”. **Page S6949**

**Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 270, designating September 2015 as “Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month”. **Page S6949**

#### Measures Considered:

**Hire More Heroes Act:** Senate resumed consideration of H.J. Res. 61, amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health

coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto:

**Pages S6910–31**

#### Rejected:

McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2674, to change the enactment date. (Senate tabled the motion.)

**Page S6910**

McConnell Amendment No. 2672 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2669), to change the enactment date. (Senate tabled the amendment.) **Page S6910**

McConnell (for Cochran) Amendment No. 2669, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. (Senate tabled the amendment.) **Page S6910**

#### Pending:

McConnell (for Cochran) Amendment No. 2680, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. **Pages S6916–17**

McConnell Amendment No. 2681 (to Amendment No. 2680), to change the enactment date. **Page S6917**

McConnell Amendment No. 2682 (to Amendment No. 2681), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6917**

McConnell Amendment No. 2683 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2680), to change the enactment date. **Page S6917**

McConnell Amendment No. 2684 (to Amendment No. 2683), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6017**

McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2685, to change the enactment date. **Page S6917**

McConnell Amendment No. 2686 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2685), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6917**

McConnell Amendment No. 2687 (to Amendment No. 2686), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6917**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 270), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on McConnell (for Cochran) Amendment No. 2669 (listed above). **Pages S6910–16**

McConnell Amendment No. 2675 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2674), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2674 (listed above) was tabled. **Page S6910**

McConnell Amendment No. 2676 (to Amendment No. 2675), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 2675 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2674) (listed above) fell. **Page S6910**

McConnell Amendment No. 2673 (to Amendment No. 2672), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 2672 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 2669) (listed above) was tabled. **Page S6910**

McConnell Amendment No. 2670 (to Amendment No. 2669), to change the enactment date, fell when McConnell (for Cochran) Amendment No. 2669 (listed above) was tabled. **Page S6910**

McConnell Amendment No. 2671 (to Amendment No. 2670), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 2670 (to Amendment No. 2669) fell. **Page S6910**

#### House Messages:

**TSA Office of Inspection Accountability Act—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 719, to require the Transportation Security Administration to conform to existing Federal law and regulations regarding criminal investigator positions, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Page S6931**

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with McConnell (for Cochran) Amendment No. 2689, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. **Page S6931**

McConnell Amendment No. 2690 (to Amendment No. 2689), to change the enactment date. **Pages S6931–32**

McConnell motion to refer the House message on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell Amendment No. 2691, to change the enactment date. **Page S6932**

McConnell Amendment No. 2692 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2691), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6932**

McConnell Amendment No. 2693 (to Amendment No. 2692), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6932**

A motion was entered to close further debate on McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with McConnell Amendment No. 2689 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Monday, September 28, 2015. **Page S6932**

Messages from the House: **Page S6935**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6935–38**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6938–40**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6941–42**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6934–35**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6942–48**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6948**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—270) **Page S6916**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 1 p.m. and adjourned at 6:27 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Friday, September 25, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6949.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, "United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2015".

### AGENCY REGULATORY GUIDANCE

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* On Wednesday, September 23, 2015, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management concluded a hearing to examine the use of agency regulatory guidance, including how agencies could benefit from stronger internal control practices, after receiving testimony from Michelle A. Sager, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Mary Beth Maxwell, Principal