

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1133–S1186*

**Measures Introduced:** Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2042–2049, and S. Res. 362–363. **Pages S1174–75**

**Measures Passed:**

**Black History Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 363, celebrating Black History Month. **Pages S1185–86**

**Measures Considered:**

**Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act—Agreement:** Senate began consideration of S. 1982, to improve the provision of medical services and benefits to veterans, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Page S1168**

**Pending:**

Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1168**

Reid Amendment No. 2766 (to Amendment No. 2747), to change the enactment date. **Page S1168**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Wednesday, February 26, 2014, a vote on cloture will occur at approximately 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2014. **Page S1168**

Reid motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Veterans Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 2767, to change the enactment date. **Page S1168**

Reid Amendment No. 2768 (to (the instructions of the motion to commit) Amendment No. 2767), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1168**

Reid Amendment No. 2769 (to Amendment No. 2768), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1168**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a

vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747. **Page S1168**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Thursday, February 27, 2014, during the Senate's consideration of the bill, but no later than 2 p.m., Senator Sessions, or designee, be recognized to raise a budget point of order against the bill; that if such a point of order is raised, it be in order for Senator Murray, or designee, to move to waive; that if a motion to waive is made, the vote on the motion to waive occur at 2 p.m., on Thursday, February 27, 2014; that if the motion to waive is successful, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747 (listed above); that if cloture is invoked on the amendment, all post-cloture time be yielded back, Reid Amendment No. 2766 (listed above) be withdrawn, and Senate vote on Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747; that upon disposition of Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, as amended, if amended; that if cloture is invoked on the bill, all post-cloture time be yielded back, and Senate vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended; that if the motion to waive is not successful, then the cloture motions be withdrawn; and that the filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the bill be 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 27, 2014, and the filing deadline for second-degree amendments to Reid (for Sanders) Amendment No. 2747, and to the bill be 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, February 27, 2014. **Page S1169**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 27, 2014, with the time until 2 p.m. equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees, with Senator Sessions controlling 30 minutes of the Republican time, and Senator Graham, or his designee, recognized at 1:45 p.m. **Page S1186**

**Child Care and Development Block Grant Act:** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1086, to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990. **Page S1169**

**Military Sexual Assault Bills—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, with the concurrence of the Republican Leader, Senate begin consideration of S. 1752, to reform procedures for determinations to proceed to trial by court-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice; that if a cloture motion is filed on the bill, there be two hours of debate on S. 1752, to reform procedures for determinations to proceed to trial by court-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and S. 1917, to provide for additional enhancements of the sexual assault prevention and response activities of the Armed Forces, equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture; that if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time be yielded back, and Senate vote on passage of the bill; that no amendments, points of order or motions be in order to the bill prior to the vote on passage; that if the motion to invoke cloture on S. 1752 is not agreed to, the bill be returned to the calendar; that upon the conclusion of the consideration of S. 1752, Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 1917, to provide for additional enhancements of the sexual assault prevention and response activities of the Armed Forces; that if a cloture motion is filed on the bill, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill; that if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time be yielded back and Senate vote on passage of the bill; that no amendments, points of order, or motions be in order to the bill prior to the vote on passage; that if the motion to invoke cloture on S. 1917 is not agreed to, the bill be returned to the calendar.

**Page S1185**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Robin L. Rosenberg, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

50 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy.

**Page S1186**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1172**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1172**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1172–73**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Pages S1173–74**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1175–76**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1176–77**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1171–72**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S1177–85**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1185**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S1185**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:57 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1186.)

## *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### **RISING COST OF ALZHEIMER'S IN AMERICA**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the rising cost of Alzheimer's in America, focusing on families and the economy, after receiving testimony from former Representative Dennis Moore, Lenexa, Kansas; Francis S. Collins, Director, Richard J. Hodes, Director, National Institute on Aging, and Story C. Landis, Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, all of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services; Michael D. Hurd, The RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, California; and Seth Rogen, Los Angeles, California.

### **MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULT, POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER, AND SUICIDE**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the relationships between military sexual assault, posttraumatic stress disorder and suicide, and on Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs medical treatment and management of victims of sexual trauma, after receiving testimony from Karen S. Guice, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Jacqueline Garrick, Director, Suicide Prevention Office, Nathan W. Galbreath, Senior Executive Advisor, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Lance Corporal Jeremiah J. Arbogast, USMC (Ret.), and Jessica Kenyon, former Private First Class, USA, all of the Department of Defense; and Susan J. McCutcheon, National Mental Health Director, Family Services, Women's Mental Health and Military Sexual Trauma, and Margret E. Bell, Director for Education and Training, National Military Sexual Trauma Support Team, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine Department of Defense information technology acquisition processes, business transformation, and management practices in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program, including H.R. 1232, to amend titles 40, 41, and 44, United States Code, to eliminate duplication and waste in information technology acquisition and management, after receiving testimony from Katrina G. McFarland, Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Kevin J. Scheid, Acting Deputy Chief Management Officer, and Teresa M. Takai, Chief Information Officer, all of the Department of Defense; and David A. Powner, Director, Information Technology and Management Issues, Government Accountability Office.

## RETIREMENT SAVINGS FOR LOW-INCOME WORKERS

*Committee on Finance:* Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions and Family Policy concluded a hearing to examine retirement savings for low-income workers, after receiving testimony from J. Mark Iwry, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Retirement and Health Policy; Diane Oakley, National Institute on Retirement Security, Washington, D.C.; Stephen P. Utkus, Vanguard, Malvern, Pennsylvania; and Judy A. Miller, American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries, Arlington, Virginia.

## TREATIES

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and the Swiss Confederation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Washington on October 2, 1996, signed on September 23, 2009, at Washington, as corrected by an exchange of notes effected November 16, 2010 and a related agreement effected by an exchange of notes on September 23, 2009 (Treaty Doc. 112-1), Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed on May 20, 2009, at Luxembourg (the “proposed Protocol”) and a related agreement effected by the exchange of notes also signed on May 20, 2009 (Treaty Doc. 111-8), Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Re-

public of Hungary for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on February 4, 2010, at Budapest (the “proposed Convention”) and a related agreement effected by an exchange of notes on February 4, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 111-7), Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Chile for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed in Washington on February 4, 2010, with a Protocol signed the same day, as corrected by exchanges of notes effected February 25, 2011, and February 10 and 21, 2012, and a related agreement effected by exchange of notes (the “related Agreement”) on February 4, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112-8), and Protocol Amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, done at Paris on May 27, 2010 (the “proposed Protocol”), which was signed by the United States on May 27, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112-5), after receiving testimony from Robert Stack, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Tax Affairs; Thomas A. Barthold, Chief of Staff, Joint Committee on Taxation; William Reinsch, National Foreign Trade Council, Inc., and Nancy L. McLernon, Organization for International Investment, both of Washington, D.C.; and Paul B. Nolan, McCormick and Company, Inc., Sparks, Maryland.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine prospects for peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Great Lakes Region, after receiving testimony from former Senator Russell D. Feingold, U.S. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Roger Meece, former U.S. Ambassador and former United Nations Special Representative to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Seattle, Washington, both of the Department of State; Raymond Gilpin, National Defense University Africa Center for Strategic Studies, Washington, D.C.; and Ben Affleck, Eastern Congo Initiative, Los Angeles, California.

## OFFSHORE TAX EVASION

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded a hearing to examine offshore tax evasion, focusing on the effort to collect unpaid taxes on billions in hidden offshore accounts, after receiving testimony from James M. Cole, Deputy Attorney General, and Kathryn Keneally, Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division, both of the Department of Justice; and Brady Dougan, and Rob Shafir, both of

New York, New York, and Romeo Cerutti, and Hans-Ulrich Meister, both of Zurich, Switzerland, all of Credit Suisse.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine early childhood development and education in Indian country, focusing on building a foundation for academic success, after receiving testimony from Linda K. Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, Administration for Children and Families; Danny Wells, Chickasaw Nation Division of Education, Ada, Oklahoma; Barbara Fabre, White Earth Nation Child Care/Early Childhood Program, White Earth, Minnesota, on behalf of the National

Indian Child Care Association; Jacquelyn Power, Blackwater Community School, Coolidge, Arizona, on behalf of the Family and Child Education Program; and Elizabeth Jane Costello, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina.

### COMPETITION IN THE WIRELESS MARKET

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine competition in the wireless market, after receiving testimony from Eric B. Graham, C Spire Wireless, Ridgeland, Mississippi; Roslyn Layton, Aalborg University, Denmark; Randal S. Milch, Verizon Communications Inc., New York, New York; Jonathan Spalter, Mobile Future, Berkeley, California; and Kathleen O'Brien Ham, T-Mobile USA, Inc., and Matthew F. Wood, Free Press, both of Washington, D.C.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 14 public bills, H.R. 4090–4103; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 491, were introduced. **Pages H2000–01**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2001–02**

#### Report Filed:

A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 492, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 899) to provide for additional safeguards with respect to imposing Federal mandates, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–362). **Page H2000**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Ros-Lehtinen to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1941**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:39 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1945**

**Suspension:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

**Taxpayer Transparency Act of 2014:** H.R. 3308, amended, to require a Federal agency to include language in certain educational and advertising materials indicating that such materials are produced and disseminated at taxpayer expense. **Pages H1947–50**

**Suspension—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated yesterday, February 25th:

**Private Property Rights Protection Act:** H.R. 1944, to protect private property rights, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 353 yeas to 65 nays, Roll No. 67. **Page H1960**

**Stop Targeting of Political Beliefs by the IRS Act of 2014:** The House passed H.R. 3865, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from modifying the standard for determining whether an organization is operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare for purposes of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, by a recorded vote of 243 yeas to 176 noes, Roll No. 69. **Pages H1960–71**

Rejected the Van Hollen motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 191 yeas to 230 nays, Roll No. 68. **Pages H1968–70**

Rejected the Polis amendment to the title by a recorded vote of 177 yeas to 241 noes, Roll No. 70. **Page H1970**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Page H1961**

H. Res. 487, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3865) and (H.R. 2804), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 231 yeas to 185 noes, Roll No. 66, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 224 yeas to 192 noes, Roll No. 65. **Pages H1950–60**

**All Economic Regulations are Transparent Act of 2014:** The House began consideration of H.R. 2804, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to publish information about rules on the Internet. Consideration of the measure is expected to resume tomorrow, February 27th.

**Pages H1971–95**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–38 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill.

**Page H1979**

Agreed to:

Brady (TX) amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 113–361) that requires federal agencies to identify in any Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) the achievable objective of the proposed rule and the metrics to be used. The amendment also requires federal agencies in issuing final rules to certify that the rule meets the objectives the agency identified in the NPR;

**Pages H1992–93**

Rigell amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 113–361) that expands the requirements of initial regulatory flexibility analyses to include an analysis of any impairment of the ability of small entities to have access to credit; and

**Pages H1993–95**

Tipton amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 113–361) that makes a technical correction that ensures the current requirement, under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, that each agency annually publish a list of regulations to be reviewed pursuant to its periodic review plan, remains so.

**Page H1995**

Rejected:

Johnson (GA) amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 113–361) that sought to strike the six month moratorium on finalizing rules and

**Pages H1989–90**

Murphy (FL) amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 113–361) that sought to cut titles II and IV from the bill.

**Pages H1990**

Proceedings Postponed:

Rothfus amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 113–361) that seeks to add terms to define a negative-impact on jobs and wages rule, help agencies identify a negative-impact on jobs and wages rule, and require agency heads approving a negative-impact on jobs and wages rule to submit a statement that they approved the rule knowing of its negative-impact on jobs and wages.

**Pages H1990–92**

H. Res. 487, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3865) and (H.R. 2804), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 231 ayes to 185 noes, Roll No. 66, after the previous question was

ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 192 noes, Roll No. 65.

**Pages H1950–60**

**Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University: Representatives Yoder and Butterfield.

**Page H1995**

**British-American Interparliamentary Group—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Representative Roe (TN).

**Pages H1995–96**

**Discharge Petition:** Representative Bishop (NY) presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Education and the Workforce from the consideration of H.R. 1010, to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage (Discharge Petition No. 7).

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1971.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1959, H1959–60, H1960, H1969–70, H1970, and H1970–71. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### EFFORTS TO STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled "The State of Efforts to Stop Human Trafficking". Testimony was heard from Cindy McCain, Co-Chairperson, Arizona Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking; William Woolf, Detective, Fairfax County, Virginia Police Department; and public witnesses.

### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Oversight of Internal Revenue Service. Testimony was heard from John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; and Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, Internal Revenue Service.

### QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE MILITARY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Quality of Life in the

Military. Testimony was heard from Sergeant Major Raymond F. Chandler, III, Sergeant Major of the Army; Master Chief Petty Officer Michael D. Stevens, Petty Officer of the Navy; Sergeant Major Michael P. Barrett, Marine Corps; and Chief Master Sergeant James A. Cody, Sergeant of the Air Force.

#### **U.S. ASSISTANCE TO PROMOTE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN COUNTRIES WITH REPRESSIVE ENVIRONMENTS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on oversight of U.S. Assistance to Promote Freedom and Democracy in Countries with Repressive Environments. This was a closed hearing.

#### **POSTURE OF THE U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND AND U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Posture of the U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command”. Testimony General Charles H. Jacoby, Jr, USA, Commander, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command; and General John F. Kelly, USMC, Commander, U.S. Southern Command.

#### **DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on Defense Health Agency. Testimony was heard from Brenda S. Farrell, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Lieutenant General Douglas J. Robb, Director, Defense Health Agency; and Jonathan Woodson, Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Department of Defense.

#### **PROVIDING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, FLEXIBLE HEALTH PLANS THROUGH SELF-INSURANCE**

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Providing Access to Affordable, Flexible Health Plans through Self-Insurance”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **HOW CMS’ ATTACK ON THE PART D PROGRAM WILL INCREASE COSTS AND REDUCE CHOICES FOR SENIORS**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Messing with Success: How CMS’ Attack on the Part D Program Will Increase Costs and Reduce Choices for Seniors”. Testimony was heard from Jonathan Blum, Principal Deputy Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and public witnesses.

#### **ALLEGATIONS OF IMPROPER LOBBYING AND OBSTRUCTION AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Inspector General Report: Allegations of Improper Lobbying and Obstruction at the Department of Housing and Urban Development”. Testimony was heard from David Montoya, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

#### **DOD-FRANK ACT’S IMPACT ON ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled “The Dodd-Frank Act’s Impact on Asset-Backed Securities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING THREATS TO CONSERVATION AND NATIONAL SECURITY**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “International Wildlife Trafficking Threats to Conservation and National Security”. Testimony was heard from Kerri-Ann Jones, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State; Daniel M. Ashe, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior; and Robert G. Dreher, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice.

#### **U.S. POLICY TOWARD SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “U.S. Policy Toward Sudan and South Sudan”. Testimony was heard from Donald Booth, Special Envoy to Sudan and South Sudan, Department of State; and public witnesses.

#### **THE SECRETARY’S VISION FOR THE FUTURE—CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Secretary’s Vision for the Future—Challenges and Priorities”. Testimony was heard from Jeh Johnson, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

### **ENFORCING THE PRESIDENT'S CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY TO FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE LAWS**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Enforcing the President’s Constitutional Duty to Faithfully Execute the Laws”. Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Gerlach; Rice (SC); Black; DeSantis; and public witnesses.

### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURE**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law held a hearing on H.R. 2992, the “Business Activity Tax Simplification Act of 2013”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **AMERICAN ENERGY JOBS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “American Energy Jobs: Opportunities for Veterans”. Testimony was heard from Mary Pletcher, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Capital and Diversity, Department of Interior; and public witnesses.

### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURES**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation held a hearing on the following legislation: H.R. 503, the “National Desert Storm and Desert Shield War Memorial Act”; H.R. 712, to extend the authorization of the Highlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024; H.R. 1192, the “Mount Jessie Benton Fremont”; H.R. 1501, the “Prison Ship Martyrs’ Monument Preservation Act”; H.R. 1744, the “Multispecies Habitat Conservation Plan Implementation Act”; H.R. 2569, the “Upper Missisquoi and Trout Wild and Scenic Rivers Act”; H.R. 3222, the “Flushing Remonstrance Study Act”; H.R. 3366, to provide for the release of the property interests retained by the United States in certain land conveyed in 1954 by the United States, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, to the State of Oregon for the establishment of the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center of Oregon State University in Hermiston, Oregon; H.R. 3802, to extend the legislative authority of the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in honor of former President John Adams and his legacy, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Roe (TN); Frelinghuysen; Jeffries; Welch; Meng; Walden; and Lynch; and Victor Knox, Associate Director, Park and Planning, Facilities and Lands, National Park Service, Department of Interior; Michael Nedd, Assistant Director, Energy, Min-

erals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior; Aaron Baker, City Liaison Officer, Mesquite, Nevada; and public witnesses.

### **LIMITLESS SURVEILLANCE AT THE FDA: PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF FEDERAL WHISTLEBLOWERS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Limitless Surveillance at the FDA: Protecting the Rights of Federal Whistleblowers”. Testimony was heard from Senator Grassley; and Walter Harris, Chief Operating Officer and Acting Chief Information Officer, Food and Drug Administration; Jeffrey Shuren, M.D., Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration; Ruth McKee, Associate Director, Management Center, Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration; and a public witness.

### **OBAMA ADMINISTRATION CONDUCTING A SERIOUS INVESTIGATION OF IRS TARGETING**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing entitled “Is the Obama Administration Conducting a Serious Investigation of IRS Targeting?”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **UNFUNDED MANDATES INFORMATION AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2013**

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 899, the “Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2013”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a structured rule for H.R. 899. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in

the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Foxx and Cummings.

### OVERSIGHT OF PASSENGER AND FREIGHT RAIL SAFETY

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “Oversight of Passenger and Freight Rail Safety”. Testimony was heard from Joseph Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; Cynthia L. Quarterman, Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; Robert L. Sumwalt, National Transportation Safety Board; and public witnesses.

### VA ACCOUNTABILITY: ASSESSING ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO SUBCOMMITTEE OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “VA Accountability: Assessing Actions Taken in Response to Subcommittee Oversight”. Testimony was heard from Robert Petzel, M.D., Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

### PREVENTING DISABILITY SCAMS

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing entitled “Preventing Disability Scams”. Testimony was heard from Carolyn Colvin, Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration; William B. Zielinski, Deputy Commissioner of Systems and Chief Information Officer, Social Security Administration; and public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D158)

S.J. Res. 28, providing for the appointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Signed on February 21, 2014. (Public Law 113–84)

S.J. Res. 29, providing for the appointment of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Signed on February 21, 2014. (Public Law 113–85)

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine United States Strategic Command and United States Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Full Committee, to resume closed hearings to examine responses to questions from the open session on current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine North Pacific perspectives on Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization, 10:30 a.m., SR–253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine S. 1419, to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, S. 1771, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, S. 1800, to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets, S. 1946, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to modify the authorization of appropriations, S. 1965, to amend the East Bench Irrigation District Water Contract Extension Act to permit the Secretary of the Interior to extend the contract for certain water services, S. 2010 and H.R. 1963, bills to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, S. 2019, to reauthorize and update certain provisions of the Secure Water Act, and S. 2034, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to facilitate the transfer to non-Federal ownership of appropriate reclamation projects or facilities, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine international parental child abduction, 11:15 a.m., SD–419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, Portia Y. Wu, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, Christopher P. Lu, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor, Heather L. MacDougall, of Florida, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, Massie Ritsch, of the



District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Communications and Outreach, and any pending nominations, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine promoting college access and success for students with disabilities, 10 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine recycling electronics, focusing on a common sense solution for enhancing government efficiency and protecting our environment, 1:30 p.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider S. 1675, to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, S. 149, to provide effective criminal prosecutions for certain identity thefts, and the nominations of Steven Paul Logan, John Joseph Tuchi, Diane J. Humetewa, Rosemary Marquez, Douglas L. Rayes, and James Alan Soto, all to be a United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Robin S. Rosenbaum, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Bruce Howe Hendricks, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Mark G. Mastroianni, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, and Leslie Ragon Caldwell, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

## House

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on the Federal Investments in Neuroscience Research Oversight, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Public Health Emergency Medical Countermeasure Enterprise Oversight, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Posture of the U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Transportation Command”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “Seapower and Projection Forces Capabilities to Support the Asia Pacific Rebalance”, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and the Workforce,* Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education; and Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, joint hearing entitled “Exploring Efforts to Strengthen the Teaching Profession”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Counterfeit Drugs: Fighting Illegal Supply Chains”, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “Benefits of and Challenges to Energy Access in the 21st Century: Electricity”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, markup on the following legislation: H.R. 3548, the “Improving Trauma Care Act of 2013”; H.R. 1281, the “Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act of 2013”; H.R. 1528, the “Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act of 2013”; and H.R. 4080, the “Trauma Systems and Regionalization of Emergency Care Reauthorization Act”, 4:30 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2548, the “Electrify African Act”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, hearing on H.R. 4007, the “Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Authorization and Accountability Act of 2014”, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, hearing entitled “Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives’ Use of Storefront Operations”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Full Committee, markup on the following legislation: H.R. 1103, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Alexander Creek, Alaska, is and shall be recognized as an eligible Native village under that Act, and for other purposes; H.R. 1259, the “Coltsville National Historical Park Act”; H.R. 2015, the “Las Vegas Valley Public Land and Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument Act of 2013”; H.R. 3110, the “Huna Tlingit Traditional Gull Egg Use Act”; and H.R. 3605, the “Sandia Pueblo Settlement Technical Amendment Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs, hearing on the following legislation: H.R. 3105, the “Aquaculture Risk Reduction Act”; H.R. 3280, the “Lacey Act Clarifying Amendments Act”; H.R. 3324, the “Lacey Act Paperwork Reduction Act”; and H.R. 4032, the “North Texas Invasive Species Barrier Act”, 1:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “Obama Administration Oversight: GAO Report—Interior Hiring and Retention Challenges”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled “The Administration’s Proposed Restrictions on Political Speech: Doubling Down on IRS Targeting”, 9:30 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled “Afghanistan: Honoring the Heroes of Extortion 17”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care, and Entitlements, hearing entitled “Examining the Endangered Species Act”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,* Full Committee, hearing entitled “Mars Flyby 2021: The First Deep Space Mission for the Orion and Space Launch System?”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,* Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled

“Improving the Nation’s Highway Freight Network”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “Review of the Ef-

fectiveness of VA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

*House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Ongoing Intelligence Activities”, 10 a.m., 304–HVC.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Thursday, February 27

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Thursday, February 27

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of S. 1982, Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act, with a series of votes beginning at 2 p.m.

Also, Senate expects to consider the nomination of Michael L. Connor, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Complete consideration of H.R. 2804—All Economic Regulations Are Transparent Act of 2014.

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