

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2815–2896.

Measures Introduced: Twenty-five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1313–1337. **Pages S2849–50**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 1269, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities. (S. Rept. No. 114–45) **Page S2849**

Measures Passed:

International Year of Soils: Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 10, supporting the designation of the year of 2015 as the “International Year of Soils” and supporting locally led soil conservation, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S2896**

McConnell (for Lee) Amendment No. 1225, to clarify the support of Congress for voluntary landowner participation in certain conservation programs. **Page S2896**

Measures Considered:

Ensuring Tax Exempt Organizations the Right to Appeal Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to 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.

Pages S2821–2830, S2834–40

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Thursday, May 14, 2015, following disposition of H.R. 644, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory, the motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider the failed cloture vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1314 be agreed to, the motion to reconsider the failed cloture vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1314 be agreed to, and that at 2 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1314, upon recon-

sideration; and that if cloture is invoked, the 30 hours of post-cloture consideration under rule XXII be deemed expired at 10 p.m. **Page S2834**

Appointments:

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Naval Academy: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Naval Academy: Senator Shaheen (Committee on Appropriations), and Senator Cardin (At Large). **Page S2896**

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Section 1295b(h) of title 46 App., United States Code, appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: Senator Peters (At Large), and Senator Schatz (Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation). **Page S2896**

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 194(a), as amended by Public Law 101–595, and further amended by Public Law 113–281, appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy: Senator Cantwell, and Senator Blumenthal.

Page S2896

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Air Force Academy: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a), appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Air Force Academy: Senator Udall (Committee on Appropriations), and Senator Hirono (Committee on Armed Services). **Page S2896**

Trade Bills—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 10 a.m., on Thursday, May 14, 2015, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 1295, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the process for making determinations with respect to whether organizations are exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(4) of such Code, and H.R. 644, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory, en bloc; that the Hatch amendments at the

desk, the text of which are S. 1267, to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and S. 1269, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, respectively, be considered and agreed to, that no further amendments be in order, and that at 12 p.m., Senate vote on H.R. 1295, as amended, followed by a vote on H.R. 644, as amended, with no intervening action or debate, and that there be a 60 affirmative vote threshold needed for passage of each bill. **Page S2896**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-16) **Page S2848**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 84 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 177), Sally Quillian Yates, of Georgia, to be Deputy Attorney General. **Pages S2830-34**

Messages from the House: **Page S2848**

Measures Referred: **Page S2848**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2848-49**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2850-51**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2851-52**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2846-48**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2852-95**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2895-96**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2896**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—177) **Page S2834**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2896.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2016 for the Bureau of Land Management, after receiving testimony from Neil G. Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee began consideration of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Thursday, May, 14, 2015.

AMERICAN INTERESTS IN THE EAST AND SOUTH CHINA SEAS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine safeguarding American interests in the East and South China Seas, after receiving testimony from Daniel Russel, Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; and David Shear, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs.

SECURING THE BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine securing the border, focusing on fencing, infrastructure, and technology force multipliers, after receiving testimony from Randolph D. Alles, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Air and Marine, Mark Borkowski, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Technology Innovation and Acquisition, and Ronald Vitiello, Deputy Chief, Office of Border Patrol, all of Customs and Border Protection, and Anh Duong, Director, Borders and Maritime Security Division, Advanced Research Projects Agency, Science and Technology Directorate, all of the Department of Homeland Security; Rebecca Gambler, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and Michael John Garcia, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 986, to require the Secretary of the Interior to take into trust 4 parcels of Federal land for the benefit of certain Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIAN CHILDREN

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Bureau of Indian Education, focusing on organizational challenges in transforming educational opportunities for Indian children, after receiving testimony from Charles Roessel, Director, Bureau of Indian Education, Department of the Interior; Melissa Emrey-Arras, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Carri Jones, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Cass Lake, Minnesota; and Tommy Lewis, Navajo Nation Department of Dine Education, Window Rock, Arizona.

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO COUNSEL FOR INDIGENTS CHARGED WITH MISDEMEANORS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine protecting the constitutional right to counsel for indigents charged with misdemeanors, after receiving testimony from Neil Fulton, Chief Federal Public Defender for the Districts of North and South Dakota; Mark S. Cady, Supreme Court of Iowa Chief Justice, Des Moines, on behalf of the Conference of Chief Justices; David A. Singleton, Ohio Justice and Policy Center, Cincinnati; Robert C. Boruchowitz, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington; and Erica Hashimoto, University of Georgia School of Law, Athens.

BENEFITS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine pending benefits legislation, in-

cluding S. 270, to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the definition of spouse for purposes of veterans benefits in recognition of new State definitions of spouse, S. 602, to amend title 38, United States Code, to consider certain time spent by members of reserve components of the Armed Forces while receiving medical care from the Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, S. 627, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to revoke bonuses paid to employees involved in electronic wait list manipulations, S. 681, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, S. 1203, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and an original bill entitled "Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living-Adjustment Act of 2015", after receiving testimony from Senators Ayotte and Gillibrand; David R. McLenachen, Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Disability Assistance, Veterans Benefits Administration; Anthony M. Kurta, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Personnel Policy; Teresa W. Gerton, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Policy, Veterans' Employment and Training Service; and Alphonso Maldon, Jr., Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, Jeffrey Phillips, Reserve Officers Association of the United States, and Aleks Morosky, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 30 public bills, H.R. 2285–2314; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 51; and H. Res. 261, were introduced.

Pages H2956–58

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2959–60

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 260, providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to

prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–112).

Page H2956

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Dold to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2881

Recess: The House recessed at 10:59 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H2887

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Larry Kendrick, Archer's Chapel United Methodist Church, Brownsville, Tennessee.

Pages H2887–88

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a voice vote.

Pages H2888, H2940

Unanimous Consent Agreement: Agreed by unanimous consent that the Chair may postpone further proceedings today on a motion to recommit as though under clause 8 of rule 20. **Page H2901**

USA FREEDOM Act of 2015: The House passed H.R. 2048, to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes, by a recorded vote of 338 ayes to 88 noes, Roll No. 224. **Pages H2901–23**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–111 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2901**

H. Res. 255, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1735), (H.R. 36), and (H.R. 2048), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 221, after the previous question was ordered. **Page H2892**

Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act: The House passed H.R. 36, to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children, by a recorded vote of 242 ayes to 184 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 223. **Pages H2923–39**

Rejected the Brownley (CA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 181 yeas to 246 nays, Roll No. 222. **Pages H2936–38**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–111 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2924**

H. Res. 255, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1735), (H.R. 36), and (H.R. 2048), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 221, after the previous question was ordered. **Page H2892**

Moment of silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of all law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. **Page H2939**

Unanimous consent agreement: Agreed by unanimous consent that debate under clause 1(c) of rule 15 on a motion to suspend the rules relating to H.R. 1191 be extended to one hour. **Page H2940**

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016: The House began consideration of H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and to prescribe mili-

tary personnel strengths for such fiscal year. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, May 14. **Pages H2940–48, H2955**

H. Res. 255, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1735), (H.R. 36), and (H.R. 2048), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 221, after the previous question was ordered. **Page H2892**

Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance—Reappointment: The Chair announced on behalf of the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, the joint reappointment on May 13, 2015 of Ms. Barbara L. Camens of Washington, DC, Chair, and Ms. Roberta L. Holzwarth of Rockford, Illinois, each to a two-year term on the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance. **Page H2948**

Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Representative Becerra. **Page H2948**

Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation: Representative Deutch. **Pages H2948–49**

Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Representatives Israel and Loretta Sanchez (CA). **Page H2949**

House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards: Representatives Davis (CA), Sherman, and Richmond. **Page H2949**

Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Representatives Bishop (GA) and Thompson (CA). **Page H2949**

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s

Republic of China: Representatives Walz, Kaptur, Honda, and Lieu (CA). **Page H2949**

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Representatives Hastings (FL), Slaughter, Cohen, and Grayson. **Page H2949**

United States Capitol Preservation Commission—Minority Leader Reappointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she reappointed the Honorable Marcy Kaptur of Ohio to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission. **Page H2949**

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission—Minority Leader Reappointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she reappointed the Honorable James P. McGovern of Massachusetts as Co-Chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission. **Page H2949**

National Council on the Arts—Minority Leader Reappointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she reappointed the Honorable Betty McCollum of Minnesota to the National Council on the Arts. **Page H2949**

Recess: The House recessed at 8 p.m. and reconvened at 11 p.m. **Page H2955**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to Yemen that was declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012 is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2015—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–36). **Page H2923**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2892.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2901, H2937–38, H2938–39, and H2939. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:01 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FEDERAL COORDINATION AND RESPONSE REGARDING POLLINATOR HEALTH

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research held a hearing to review the federal coordination and response regarding pollinator health. Testimony was heard

from Robert Johansson, Acting Chief Economist, Department of Agriculture; and Jim Jones, Assistant Administrator, Office of Safety and Pollution Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency.

APPROPRIATIONS—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2016 and Revised Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2016. The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2016 was ordered reported, as amended. The Revised Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2016 was approved.

DISCUSSION DRAFTS ADDRESSING HYDROPOWER REGULATORY MODERNIZATION AND FERC PROCESS COORDINATION UNDER THE NATURAL GAS ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled “Discussion Drafts Addressing Hydropower Regulatory Modernization and FERC Process Coordination under the Natural Gas Act”. Testimony was heard from Paul R. LePage, Governor of Maine; Ann F. Miles, Director, Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and public witnesses.

STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES ON THE IANA TRANSITION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Stakeholder Perspectives on the IANA Transition”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE DODD-FRANK ACT AND REGULATORY OVERREACH

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “The Dodd-Frank Act and Regulatory Overreach”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO ENHANCE CAPITAL FORMATION AND REDUCE REGULATORY BURDENS, PART II

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Enhance Capital Formation and Reduce Regulatory Burdens, Part II”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ANCIENT COMMUNITIES UNDER ATTACK: ISIS'S WAR ON RELIGIOUS MINORITIES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Ancient Communities Under Attack: ISIS's War on Religious Minorities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a markup on H.R. 1615, the “DHS FOIA Efficiency Act of 2015”; H.R. 1626, the “DHS IT Duplication Reduction Act of 2015”; H.R. 1633, the “DHS Paid Administrative Leave Accountability Act of 2015”; H.R. 1640, the “Department of Homeland Security Headquarters Consolidation Accountability Act of 2015”; and H.R. 1646, the “Homeland Security Drone Assessment and Analysis Act”. The following bills were ordered reported to the full committee, as amended: H.R. 1615, H.R. 1626, H.R. 1633, H.R. 1640, and H.R. 1646.

STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES ON ICANN: THE .SUCKS DOMAIN AND ESSENTIAL STEPS TO GUARANTEE TRUST AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE INTERNET'S OPERATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Stakeholder Perspectives on ICANN: The .Sucks Domain and Essential Steps to Guarantee Trust and Accountability in the Internet's Operation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S CEQ RECENTLY REVISED DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR GHG EMISSIONS AND THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Obama Administration's CEQ Recently Revised Draft Guidance for GHG Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change”. Testimony was heard from Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, Council on Environmental Quality; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE; TRANSPORTATION SECURITY: ARE OUR AIRPORTS SAFE?

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a markup on a bill to clarify the effective date of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014; and a hearing entitled “Transportation Security: Are Our Airports Safe?”. The bill to clarify the effective date of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014 was ordered reported, without amendment. Testimony was heard from John Roth,

Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; Jennifer Grover, Acting Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

THE EMP THREAT: THE STATE OF PREPAREDNESS AGAINST THE THREAT OF AN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE (EMP) EVENT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security; and Subcommittee on the Interior, held a joint hearing entitled “The EMP Threat: The State of Preparedness Against the Threat of an Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Event”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016” (Amendment Consideration). The committee granted, by a record vote of 8–3, a structured rule for further consideration of H.R. 1735. The rule provides no further general debate. The rule makes in order as original text for purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–14 and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in the report and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. Each such amendment printed in the report 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 or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. In section 3, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The

rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Chabot and Representatives Coffman, Cooper, Brooks of Alabama, Johnson of Georgia, Fleming, Walz, Nugent, Takai, Bridenstine, Russell, McGovern, Polis, Hastings, Young of Alaska, Maxine Waters of California, Rohrabacher, Jackson Lee, Lee, Fitzpatrick, Pascrell, Thompson of Pennsylvania, Langevin, Dold, Schiff, Perry, Cicilline, Rothfus, Hahn, Brat, Adams of North Carolina, Clawson of Florida, Dingell, Sanford, Hardy, and Walker.

NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION AND THE NATIONAL LABS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Nuclear Energy Innovation and the National Labs”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2262, the “Spurring Private Aerospace Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship Act of 2015”; H.R. 1508, the “Space Resource Exploration and Utilization Act of 2015”; H.R. 2261, the “Commercial Remote Sensing Act of 2015”; and H.R. 2263, the “Office of Space Commerce Act”. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 2262, H.R. 1508, and H.R. 2261. H.R. 2263 was ordered reported, without amendment.

BRIDGING THE SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL GAP: PEER-TO-PEER LENDING

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Bridging the Small Business Capital Gap: Peer-to-Peer Lending”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STAGGERS RAIL ACT: RAILROAD DEREGULATION PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “The 35th Anniversary of the Staggers Rail Act: Railroad Deregulation Past, Present, and Future”. Testimony was heard from Debra Miller, Acting Chairman, Surface Transportation Board; and public witnesses.

ASSESSING THE PROMISE AND PROGRESS OF THE CHOICE PROGRAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Assessing the Promise and Progress of the Choice Program”. Testimony was heard from

Sloan Gibson, Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine regulatory issues impacting end-users and market liquidity, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Labor Relations Board, 10 a.m., SD-124.

Committee on Armed Services: closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine S. 411, to authorize the approval of natural gas pipelines and establish deadlines and expedite permits for certain natural gas gathering lines on Federal land and Indian land, S. 485, to prohibit the use of eminent domain in carrying out certain projects, S. 1017, to amend the Federal Power Act to improve the siting of interstate electric transmission facilities, S. 1037, to expand the provisions for termination of mandatory purchase requirements under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, S. 1196, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant rights-of-ways on Federal land, S. 1201, to advance the integration of clean distributed energy into electric grids, S. 1202, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to assist States in adopting updated interconnection procedures and tariff schedules and standards for supplemental, backup, and standby power fees for projects for combined heat and power technology and waste heat to power technology, S. 1207, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to eligible partnerships to provide for the transformation of the electric grid by the year 2030, S. 1210, to provide for the timely consideration of all licenses, permits, and approvals required under Federal law with respect to oil and gas production and distribution, S. 1213, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 and the Federal Power Act to facilitate the free market for distributed energy resources, S. 1217, to establish an Interagency Rapid Response Team for Transmission, to establish an Office of Transmission Ombudsperson, S. 1219, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to provide for the safe and reliable interconnection of distributed resources and to provide for the examination of the effects of net metering, S. 1220, to improve the distribution of

energy in the United States, S. 1225, to improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property, by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop a multipurpose cadastre of Federal real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories, S. 1227, to require the Secretary of Energy to develop an implementation strategy to promote the development of hybrid micro-grid systems for isolated communities, S. 1228, to require approval for the construction, connection, operation, or maintenance of oil or natural gas pipelines or electric transmission facilities at the national boundary of the United States for the import or export of oil, natural gas, or electricity to or from Canada or Mexico, S. 1231, to require congressional notification for certain Strategic Petroleum Reserve operations and to determine options available for the continued operation of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, S. 1232, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to modify provisions relating to smart grid modernization, S. 1233, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to expand the electric rate-setting authority of States, S. 1237, to amend the Natural Gas Act to limit the authority of the Secretary of Energy to approve certain proposals relating to export activities of liquefied natural gas terminals, S. 1242, to amend the Natural Gas Act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to consider regional constraints in natural gas supply and whether a proposed LNG terminal would benefit regional consumers of natural gas before approving or disapproving an application for the LNG terminal, and S. 1243, to facilitate modernizing the electric grid, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine a pathway to improving care for Medicare patients with chronic conditions, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine cybersecurity, focusing on setting the rules for responsible global cyber behavior, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, markup on a bill to reauthorize the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, markup on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2016, 10:30 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the Federal Government’s Mismanagement of Native American Schools”, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, markup on the “21st Century Cures Act”; and H.R. 1321, the “Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, markup on the “TSCA Modernization Act of 2015”, 12 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Protecting Consumers: Financial Data Security in the Age of Computer Hackers”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled “TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure: Examining the Costs and Benefits of Changes to the Real Estate Settlement Process”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Advancing U.S. Economic Interests in Asia”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing entitled “Energy Revolution in the Western Hemisphere: Opportunities and Challenges for the U.S.”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, markup on H.R. 2140, to promote freedom, human rights, and the rule of law as part of United States-Vietnam relations; and H. Res. 213, condemning the April 2015 terrorist attack at the Garissa University College in Garissa, Kenya, and reaffirming the United States support for the people and Government of Kenya, and for other purposes; hearing entitled “A Pathway to Freedom: Rescue and Refuge for Sex Trafficking Victims”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, markup on H.R. 1300, the “First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act”; H.R. 2200, the “CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2015”; and H.R. 2206, the “State Wide Interoperable Communications Enhancement Act”, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 758, the “Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act (LARA) of 2015”; H.R. 526, the “Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2015”; and H. Con. Res. 13, expressing the sense of Congress that the radical Islamic movement in Afghanistan known as the Taliban should be recognized official as a foreign terrorist organization by the United States Government, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled “Litigation and Increased Planning’s Impact on Our Nation’s Overgrown, Fire-Prone National Forests”, 9:30 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on H.R. 1644, the “Supporting Transparent Regulatory and Environmental Actions in Mining Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing entitled “Inadequate Standards for Trust Land Acquisition in the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934”, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “U.S. Secret Service: Accountability for March 4, 2015 Misconduct”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Coast Guard Major Acquisitions”, 10:30 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in VA’s Purchase Card Program”, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, markup on H.R. 675, the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2015”; H.R. 677, the “American Heroes COLA Act of 2015”; H.R. 732, the “Veterans Access to Speedy Review Act”; H.R. 1067, the “U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Reform Act”; H.R. 1331, the “Quicker Veterans Benefits Deliv-

ery Act of 2015”; H.R. 1414, the “Pay As You Rate Act”; H.R. 1569, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify that the estate of a deceased veteran may receive certain accrued benefits upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1607, the “Ruth Moore Act of 2015”, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Joint Meetings

Joint Committee on the Library: organizational business meeting to consider committee’s rules of procedure for the 114th Congress, 3:40 p.m., SC-4, Capitol.

Joint Committee on Printing: organizational business meeting to consider committee’s rules of procedure for the 114th Congress, 3:50 p.m., SC-4, Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 14

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, May 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10 a.m.), Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 1295, IRS Bureaucracy Reduction and Judicial Review Act, and H.R. 644, America Gives More Act, en bloc, and vote on passage of the bills at 12 p.m.

At approximately 2 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1314, Ensuring Tax Exempt Organizations the Right to Appeal Act, upon reconsideration.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Continue consideration of H.R. 1734—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of bills under suspension of the rules.

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