

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5681–S5728*

**Measures Introduced:** Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3321–3331, and S. Res. 559. **Pages S5721–22**

**Measures Passed:**

*National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 559, designating the week of September 12, 2016, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”.

**Page S5727**

**Measures Considered:**

**Water Resources Development Act—Agreement:** Senate continued consideration of S. 2848, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S5694–S5718**

Adopted:

McConnell (for Inhofe) Amendment No. 4979, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5707**

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

By 85 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 139), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to McConnell (for Inhofe) Amendment No. 4979. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment was in violation of the Senate PAYGO rule, was not sustained, and thus the point of order fell. **Pages S5706–07**

By 94 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 140), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S5707**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill, as amended, post-cloture, at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 15, 2016; that the time fol-

lowing Leader remarks until 11:30 a.m., be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, all post-cloture time with respect to the bill, as amended, expire at 11:30 a.m. **Pages S5727–28**

**Appointments:**

*Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board:* The Chair announced, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 107–12, the reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: Trevor Whipple of Vermont. **Page S5727**

**Messages from the President:** Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order terminating the national emergency originally declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, with respect to Cote d’Ivoire, and revoking Executive Order 13396; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–54) **Pages S5720–21**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the President’s intent to end the suspension of Burma as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program, and to designate Burma as a least-developed beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP program; which was referred to the Committee on Finance. (PM–55) **Page S5721**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S5721**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Pages S5687, S5721**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Page S5721**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S5721**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5722–23**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S5723–25**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S5718–20**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S5725–26**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

Pages S5726–27

**Privileges of the Floor:**

Page S5727

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—140)

Pages S5706–07

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:33 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 15, 2016. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5727–28.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### NUCLEAR POWER

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine the future of nuclear power, after receiving testimony from Senator Whitehouse; former Senator Judd Gregg, Nuclear Matters; Ernest J. Moniz, Secretary of Energy; and Jay Faison, ClearPath Foundation, Washington, D.C.

### CBO OVERSIGHT

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Congressional Budget Office, including the CBO's work since May 2015 and plans for the future, after receiving testimony from Keith Hall, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

### GLOBAL EFFORTS TO END CHILD MARRIAGE

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine protecting girls, focusing on global efforts to end child marriage, after receiving testimony from Anne C. Richard, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration, and Catherine M. Russell, Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, both of the Department of State; Lakshmi Sundaram, Girls Not Brides: The Global Partnership to End Child Marriage, London, United Kingdom; and Suzanne Petroni, International Center for Research on Women, Washington, D.C.

### NATO ACCESSION OF MONTENEGRO

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine North Atlantic Treaty Organization expansion, focusing on the accession of Montenegro, after receiving testimony from Hoyt Yee, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and

Eurasian Affairs; and Michael R. Carpenter, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2796, to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians, with an amendment.

### INDIAN AFFAIRS LEGISLATION

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2636, to amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to require mandatory approval of applications for land to be taken into trust if the land is wholly within a reservation, S. 3216, to repeal the Act entitled "An Act to confer jurisdiction on the State of Iowa over offenses committed by or against Indians on the Sac and Fox Indian Reservation", S. 3222, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and S. 3300, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Hualapai Tribe and certain allottees in the State of Arizona, to authorize construction of a water project relating to those water rights claims, after receiving testimony from Lawrence S. Roberts, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Damon Clarke, Hualapai Tribe, Peach Springs, Arizona; Lavern Jefferson, Sac and Fox of the Mississippi in Iowa, Tama; W. Ron Allen, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, D.C.; and Paul Lumley, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Portland, Oregon.

### INTERNET OVERSIGHT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts concluded a hearing to examine protecting Internet freedom, focusing on the implications of ending United States oversight of the Internet, after receiving testimony from Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration; Goran Marby, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, Los Angeles, California; Berin M. Szoka, Tech Freedom, Jonathan Zuck, ACT The App Association, J. Beckwith Burr, Neustar, Inc., Steve DelBianco, NetChoice, and Paul Rosenzweig, Red Branch Consulting, PLLC, all of Washington, D.C.; Dawn Grove, Karsten Manufacturing Corporation, Phoenix, Arizona; and John C. Horton, LegitScript, Portland, Oregon.

## FUTURE OF THE VA

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on examining the Commission on Care report and the VA's response, after receiving testimony from Robert A. McDonald, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Nancy M. Schlichting, Chairperson, and Thomas E. Harvey, Member, both of the Commission on Care; and Jeff Steele, The American Legion, Joy J. Ilem, Disabled American Veterans, Lauren Augustine, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Commander Rene A. Campos, USN (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America, Carlos Fuentes, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the

United States, and Rick Weidman, Vietnam Veterans of America, all of Washington, D.C.

## SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine maximizing Social Security benefits, after receiving testimony from Charles Jeszeck, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Division, Government Accountability Office; Virginia Reno, Deputy Commissioner for Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration; Bill Meyer, Social Security Solutions, Inc., Leawood, Kansas; and Sita Nataraj Slavov, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 15 public bills, H.R. 6020–6034 and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 867–869 were introduced. **Pages H5500–01**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H5501–02**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Collins (GA) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5439**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:27 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H5448**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Phillip L. Pointer, Sr., St. Mark Baptist Church, Little Rock, AR. **Page H5448**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a recorded vote of 252 ayes to 145 noes with two answering "present", Roll No. 507. **Pages H5461–62**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:21 p.m. and reconvened at 3 p.m. **Page H5463**

**Regulatory Integrity Act of 2016:** The House passed H.R. 5226, to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of information relating to pending agency regulatory actions, by a recorded vote of 250 ayes to 171 noes, Roll No. 510. **Pages H5470–79**

Rejected the Kildee motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with instructions to report the same back to

the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 509. **Pages H5476–78**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–63 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Pages H5473–74**

Agreed to:

Fleming amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–744) that adds a requirement that proposed regulations that duplicate or overlap with other existing regulations must be disclosed; **Pages H5474–75**

McKinley amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–744) that restricts employees or officers of an Executive Agency from using private email accounts when discussing a pending agency regulatory action with the public; and **Pages H5475–76**

Boustany amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–744) that requires the results of a Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) or a similar cost-benefit analysis, as well as the formula and data for the analysis to be included in the details disclosed by the agency on either regulations.gov or on the executive agency's website (by a recorded vote of 241 ayes to 154 noes, Roll No. 508). **Pages H5474, H5476**

H. Res. 863, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5351) and (H.R. 5226) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 238 ayes to 171 noes, Roll No. 506, after the previous question was ordered by a recorded vote of 232 ayes to 172 noes, Roll No. 505. **Pages H5453–61**

**VA Accountability First and Appeals Modernization Act of 2016:** The House passed H.R. 5620, to

amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the removal or demotion of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on performance or misconduct, by a yea-and-nay vote of 310 yeas to 116 nays, Roll No. 519. Consideration began yesterday, September 13th. **Pages H5463–70, H5479–86**

Rejected the Titus motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 185 yeas to 239 noes, Roll No. 518. **Pages H5484–85**

Agreed to:

Ben Ray Luján (NM) amendment (No. 14 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that directs the VA to produce a report on the number of part-time active duty military physicians in VA health facilities, the hiring process for part-time active duty military physicians, the hiring process for part-time civilian physicians in, and the steps the VA is taking to recruit active duty military physicians for part-time employment in VA health facilities; **Pages H5463–64**

O'Rourke amendment (No. 16 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that provides the VA with the authority to offer physicians conditional job offers two years earlier and increases the VA's recruiting outreach efforts to academic affiliate institutions; **Pages H5464–65**

O'Rourke amendment (No. 17 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that provides the VA with the authority to share a patient's electronic health record with VA community-based providers, while maintaining HIPPA protections; **Page H5465**

O'Rourke amendment (No. 18 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct annual surveys of veterans on experiences obtaining hospital care and medical services from medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs; **Pages H5465–66**

Miller (FL) amendment (No. 22 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that inserts the legislative text of H.R. 658 which requires a V.A. Regional Office carry out claim adjudication within 125 days with 98% accuracy; Regional Offices must submit a three step report every time it fails to meet its 125 day goal with explanation, reasoning and solutions for improvement. It will also contain a description of additional resources necessary for the office to reach its goals, from staffing to policy changes, and an action plan to enable the office to meet its goal; **Pages H5469–70**

Takano amendment (No. 15 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that extends the Department of Veterans Affairs authority for the performance of medical disability evaluations by contract physicians by one year (by a recorded vote of 426 yeas with none voting "no", Roll No. 514); **Pages H5464, H5481–82**

Takano amendment (No. 19 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that enables any person who is entitled to retired pay for nonregular (reserve) service or who, but for age, would be so entitled to be honored as a veteran; a person shall not be entitled to any benefit by reason of such recognition (by a recorded vote of 421 yeas to 1 no, Roll No. 515); **Pages H5466–67, H5482**

Takano amendment (No. 20 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that allows the Secretary of the VA to furnish rehabilitative equipment to Veterans entitled to prosthetic appliances, and modify non-rehabilitative equipment owned by the Veteran to meet that purpose, if the Veteran elects. Rehabilitative equipment includes recreational sports equipment that provides an adaptation or accommodation for the Veteran (by a recorded vote of 421 yeas with none voting "no", Roll No. 516); and **Pages H5467, H5482–83**

Duffy amendment (No. 21 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that allows the VA to also use hearing aid specialists, who are more available, and are qualified to fit, program, adjust, and repair hearing aids (by a recorded vote of 423 yeas to 1 no, Roll No. 517). **Pages H5467–69, H5483–84**

Rejected:

Walz amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that was debated on September 13th that sought to strike sections 2 through 8 and section 10 (by a recorded vote of 173 yeas to 250 noes, Roll No. 511); **Pages H5479–80**

Takano amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that was debated on September 13th that sought to replace Section 3 with a new provision allowing the Secretary to suspend without pay any VA employee whose performance or misconduct threatens public health or safety, including the health and safety of veterans; and may remove a suspended employee after such investigation and review as the Secretary considers necessary, if the Secretary determines removal is in the interests of public health and safety (by a recorded vote of 184 yeas to 240 noes, Roll No. 512); and **Page H5480**

Kuster amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 114–742) that was debated on September 13th that sought to replace Section 7 with S. 2921 Section 113, which contains an improved process to expedite the removal or demotion of a member of the Senior Executive Service (by a recorded vote 183 yeas to 236 noes, Roll No. 513). **Pages H5480–81**

H. Res. 859, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5620) was agreed to yesterday, September 13th.

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, September 15th. **Page H5486**

**Presidential Messages:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that he had issued an Executive Order that terminates the national emergency with respect to Côte d'Ivoire declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, and revokes that Executive Order—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–163). **Page H5462**

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the suspension of preferential treatment for Burma as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program, and designated Burma as a least-developed beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP program—referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–164). **Page H5463**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H5453.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and fourteen recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5460–61, H5461, H5462, H5476, H5478, H5478–79, H5479–80, H5480, H5480–81, H5481–82, H5482, H5482–83, H5483–84, H5485, and H5485–86. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH CUBA

*Committee on Agriculture:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 470, the “Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest Land Adjustment Act of 2015”; H.R. 845, the “National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act”; and H.R. 5883, the “Technical and Clarifying Amendments to the Packers and Stockyards Act of 2016”; and a hearing entitled “American Agricultural Trade with Cuba”. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 845 and H.R. 5883. H.R. 470 was ordered reported, without amendment. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### NEXT GENERATION AIR SPACE CONTROL—ENSURING AIR FORCE COMPLIANCE BY JANUARY 1, 2020

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing entitled “Next Generation Air Space Control—Ensuring Air Force Compliance by January 1, 2020”. Testimony was heard from Major General Michael E.

Fortney, Vice Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command; Major General Timothy Fay, USAF, Director of Strategic Plans, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Requirements; Brigadier General Jon Thomas, USAF, Director of Strategic Plans, Requirements and Programs, Headquarters Air Mobility Command; and Brigadier General David Nahom, USAF, Deputy Director, Plans and Programs, Headquarters Air Combat Command.

### GROWING RISKS TO THE BUDGET AND THE ECONOMY

*Committee on the Budget:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Growing Risks to the Budget and the Economy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5963, the “Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act of 2016”. H.R. 5963 was ordered reported, as amended.

### THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ON SHAKY GROUND: OUTLOOK AND OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, held a joint hearing entitled “The Affordable Care Act on Shaky Ground: Outlook and Oversight”. Testimony was heard from Seto J. Bagdoyan, Director, Forensic Audits and Investigative Service, Government Accountability Office; Gloria L. Jarmon, Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services, Office of Audit Services, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and Andy Slavitt, Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

### DISRUPTER SERIES: ADVANCED ROBOTICS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Disrupter Series: Advanced Robotics”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5931, the “Prohibiting Future Ransom Payments to Iran Act”. H.R. 5931 was ordered reported, as amended.

### ERITREA: A NEGLECTED REGIONAL THREAT

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “Eritrea: A Neglected Regional Threat”. Testimony was

heard from Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

#### **TURKEY AFTER THE JULY COUP ATTEMPT**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats held a hearing entitled “Turkey After the July Coup Attempt”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **NORTH KOREA’S PERPETUAL PROVOCATIONS: ANOTHER DANGEROUS, ESCALATORY NUCLEAR TEST**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled “North Korea’s Perpetual Provocations: Another Dangerous, Escalatory Nuclear Test”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **SHUTTING DOWN TERRORIST PATHWAYS INTO AMERICA**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Shutting Down Terrorist Pathways into America”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Homeland Security officials: Francis X. Taylor, Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis; Leon Rodriguez, Director, Citizenship and Immigration Services; Huban Gowadia, Deputy Administrator, Transportation Security Administration; Kevin McAleenan, Deputy Commissioner, Customs and Border Protection; and Daniel D. Ragsdale, Deputy Director, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5982, the “Midnight Rules Relief Act of 2016”. H.R. 5982 was ordered reported, without amendment.

#### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURE**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on H.R. 5780, the “Utah Public Lands Initiative Act”. Testimony was heard from Rebecca Benally, Commissioner, San Juan County, Monticello, Utah; Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management; Dave Ure, Director, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, Salt Lake City, Utah; Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

#### **EXAMINING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT’S PREMIUM INCREASES**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the Affordable Care Act’s Premium Increases”. Testi-

mony was heard from Mandy Cohen, M.D., Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

#### **RADICALIZATION IN THE U.S. AND THE RISE OF TERRORISM**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on National Security; and Subcommittee on Government Operations, held a joint hearing entitled “Radicalization in the U.S. and the Rise of Terrorism”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **MEMBERS’ DAY HEARING ON PROPOSED RULES CHANGES FOR THE 115TH CONGRESS**

*Committee on Rules:* Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House held a hearing entitled “Members’ Day Hearing on Proposed Rules Changes for the 115th Congress”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Nunes, and Representatives Griffith, Bordallo, Cárdenas, Posey, and Rooney of Florida.

#### **AFFIRMING CONGRESS’ CONSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES: SUBPOENA AUTHORITY AND RECOURSE FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH LAWFULLY ISSUED SUBPOENAS**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Affirming Congress’ Constitutional Oversight Responsibilities: Subpoena Authority and Recourse for Failure to Comply with Lawfully Issued Subpoenas”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **IRS PUTS SMALL BUSINESSES THROUGH AUDIT WRINGER**

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “IRS Puts Small Businesses through Audit Wringer”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Full Committee held a markup on General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; H.R. 5011, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 300 Fannin Street in Shreveport, Louisiana, as the “Tom Stagg Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; H.R. 5147, the “Bathrooms Accessible in Every Situation (BABIES) Act”; H.R. 5873, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 511 East San Antonio Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the “R.E. Thomason Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; H.R.

5957, the “Federal Aviation Administration Veteran Transition Improvement Act of 2016”; H.R. 5977, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to provide to the appropriate committees of Congress advance notice of certain announcements, and for other purposes; H.R. 5978, the “Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Amendments Act of 2016”; S. 546, the “RESPONSE Act of 2016”; and other matters cleared for consideration. The following legislation was ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 5978, H.R. 5011, H.R. 5147, and S. 546. The following legislation was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 5957, H.R. 5977, and H.R. 5873. The General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were approved.

### AN EXAMINATION OF VA’S MISUSE OF EMPLOYEE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “An Examination of VA’s Misuse of Employee Settlement Agreements”. Testimony was heard from Leigh Bradley, General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Eric Bachman, Deputy Special Counsel for Litigation and Legal Affairs, Office of Special Counsel.

### EXPLORING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION TO CREATE EFFICIENCIES, HIGHER QUALITY, AND BETTER ACCESS FOR BENEFICIARIES IN HEALTH CARE

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Exploring the Use of Technology and Innovation to Create Efficiencies, Higher Quality, and Better Access for Beneficiaries in Health Care”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3957, the “Emergency Citrus Disease Response Act”; H.R. 5946, the “United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act”; H.R. 5719, the “Empowering Employees through Stock Ownership Act”; and H.R. 2285, the “Prevent Trafficking in Cultural Property Act”. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 3957, H.R. 5946, H.R. 5719, and H.R. 2285.

### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christopher James Brummer, of the District of Columbia, and Brian D. Quintenz, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine the long-term budgetary challenges facing the military services and innovative solutions for maintaining our military superiority, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine Afghanistan, focusing on United States policy and international commitments, 9:45 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine reviewing the civil nuclear agreement with Norway, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the state of health insurance markets, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine S. 2763, to provide the victims of Holocaust-era persecution and their heirs a fair opportunity to recover works of art confiscated or misappropriated by the Nazis, S. 3155, to amend chapter 97 of title 28, United States Code, to clarify the exception to foreign sovereign immunity set forth in section 1605(a)(3) of such title, S. 3270, to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system’s response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases, and the nominations of Lucy Haeran Koh, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, and Florence Y. Pan, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* to hold hearings to examine the Federal response and resources for Louisiana flood victims, 10:30 a.m., SR-428A.

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

### House

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “The Department of Energy’s Role in Advancing the National, Economic, and Energy Security of the United States”, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, markup on H. Res. 220, condemning the Government of Iran’s state-sponsored persecution of its Baha’i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights, 9:30 a.m., 2255 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, markup on H. Res. 851, expressing profound concern about the ongoing political, economic, social and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, urging the release of political prisoners, and calling for respect of constitutional and democratic processes; and H.R. 5708, the “Nicaragua Investment Conditionality Act of 2016”; and hearing entitled “Nicaragua’s Democratic Collapse”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, Full Committee, markup on the “Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2016”; the “GAO Task and Delivery Order Protest Authority Act of 2016”; the “Transportation Benefits Expansion Act”; the “Federal Agency Mail Management Act of 2016”; H.R. 2532, the “EASY Savings Act of 2015”; H.R. 3779, to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on documents sent by mail by the Federal Government, and for other purposes; H.R. 5625, the “Modernizing Government Travel Act”; H.R. 5920, the “Whistleblower Protections for Contractors Act”; H.R. 5785, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for an annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers; H.R. 5790, the “Federal Bureau of Investigation Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2016”; H.R. 5150, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3031 Veterans Road West in Staten Island, New York, as the “Leonard Montalto Post Office Building”; H.R. 5309, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 McElroy Drive in Oxford, Mississippi, as the “Army

First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building”; H.R. 5591, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 N US Highway 83 in Zapata, Texas, as the “Zapata Veterans Post Office”; H.R. 5676, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6300 N. Northwest Highway in Chicago, Illinois, as the “Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building”; H.R. 5798, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Davis Street in Evanston, Illinois, as the “Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building”; and H.R. 5889, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Chalan Kanoa VLG in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as the “Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “A Solution in Search of a Problem: EPA’s Methane Regulations”, 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “A Review of Recently Completed United States Army Corps of Engineers Chief’s Reports”, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, Full Committee, business meeting on consideration of a Committee Report entitled “Review of Unauthorized Disclosures by Former NSA Contractor Edward Snowden”, 9 a.m., HVC-304. This meeting will be closed.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 15

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will continue consideration of S. 2848, Water Resources Development Act, as amended, post-cloture, and vote on passage of the bill at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of S. 2848, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 5325, Legislative Branch Appropriations Act.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Thursday, September 15

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Consideration H.R. 5351—To prohibit the transfer of any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Consideration of a privileged resolution impeaching John Andrew Koskinen, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue.

## HOUSE

Babin, Brian, Tex., E1270  
 Bera, Ami, Calif., E1265  
 Brooks, Susan W., Ind., E1272  
 Coffman, Mike, Colo., E1268, E1272, E1275  
 Davis, Danny K., Ill., E1270, E1274  
 Duckworth, Tammy, Ill., E1276  
 Duncan, John J., Jr., Tenn., E1268  
 Farr, Sam, Calif., E1267  
 Foster, Bill, Ill., E1270  
 Graham, Gwen, Fla., E1276  
 Grijalva, Raúl M., Ariz., E1270  
 Quintana, Frank C., N.H., E1267

Guthrie, Brett, Ky., E1275  
 Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E1273  
 Jones, Walter B., N.C., E1274  
 King, Peter T., N.Y., E1265  
 Lamborn, Doug, Colo., E1274  
 Larson, John B., Conn., E1275  
 Lowenthal, Alan S., Calif., E1266  
 Luetkemeyer, Blaine, Mo., E1266  
 Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1269, E1273  
 Payne, Donald M., Jr., N.J., E1269  
 Pitts, Joseph R., Pa., E1271  
 Poe, Ted, Tex., E1275  
 Rogers, Mike, Ala., E1268

Roskam, Peter J., Ill., E1267  
 Ryan, Tim, Ohio, E1266, E1268, E1270, E1272, E1274, E1275  
 Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E1275  
 Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E1268, E1272  
 Shimkus, John, Ill., E1267  
 Shuster, Bill, Pa., E1267, E1269, E1271, E1273, E1275  
 Tiberi, Patrick J., Ohio, E1266  
 Van Hollen, Chris, Md., E1265  
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E1276  
 Young, David, Iowa, E1276, E1276, E1277, E1277, E1277, E1277, E1277, E1277, E1277  
 Zeldin, Lee M., N.Y., E1273



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