

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., of Florida, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Senate confirmed the nomination of James Richard Perry, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1545–S1587

Measures Introduced: Thirty-nine bills and eleven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 489–527, S.J. Res. 26–31, S. Res. 78–80, and S. Con. Res. 7–8. **Pages S1576–78**

Measures Passed:

Read Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 79, designating March 2, 2017, as “Read Across America Day”. **Page S1585**

World Wildlife Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 80, designating March 3, 2017, as “World Wildlife Day”. **Page S1585**

Measures Considered:

Federal Acquisition Regulation Rule—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.J. Res. 37, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration relating to the Federal Acquisition Regulation. **Pages S1564–71**

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

By 51 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 80), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. **Page S1563**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 2 p.m., on Monday, March 6, 2017, Senate resume consideration of the joint resolution; that the time until 6 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form; and that all debate time on the joint resolution expire at 6 p.m. **Page S1585**

Appointments:

Senate National Security Working Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, appointed the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 115th Congress: Senators Risch (Republican Administrative Co-Chairman), Cochran (Republican Co-Chairman), Graham (Republican Co-Chairman), Rubio (Republican Co-Chairman), Corker, McCain, Blunt, Inhofe, and Sasse. **Page S1585**

British-American Interparliamentary Group Conference: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, appointed the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group Conference during the 115th Congress: Senator Cochran. **Page S1585**

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appointed the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Senators Feinstein, Whitehouse, and Heitkamp. **Page S1585**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 58 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 77), Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., of Florida, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. **Pages S1548, S1587**

By 62 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 79), James Richard Perry, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy. **Pages S1563, S1587**

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

By 62 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 78), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1548**

Messages from the House: **Page S1576**

Measures Referred: **Page S1576**

Executive Communications: **Page S1576**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1576**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1578–79**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1579–85

Additional Statements: **Pages S1575–76**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1585**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—80) **Pages S1548, S1563**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1587.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CYBER STRATEGY AND POLICY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine cyber strategy and policy, after receiving testimony from Craig I. Fields, Chairman, and James N. Miller, Member, and former Under Secretary for Policy, both of the Defense Science Board, Department of Defense; General Keith B. Alexander, USA (Ret.), IronNet Cybersecurity; and Matthew C. Waxman, Columbia University Law School.

VALUE OF SPECTRUM TO U.S. ECONOMY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet concluded a hearing to examine the value of spectrum to the United States economy, after receiving testimony from Scott Bergmann, CTIA, Dave Heiner, Microsoft Corporation, and Tom Stroup, Satellite Industry Association, all of Washington, D.C.; Roger Entner, Recon Analytics LLC, Dedham, Massachusetts; and Pat LaPlatney, Raycom Media, Montgomery, Alabama, on behalf of the National Association of Broadcasters.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Seema Verma, of Indiana, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

VENEZUELA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Venezuela, focusing on options for United States policy, after receiving testimony from David Smilde, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana; Shannon K. O'Neil, Council on Foreign Relations Civil Society, Markets, and Democracy Program, New York, New York; and Mark Feierstein, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, D.C.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 63 public bills, H.R. 1299–1361; and 7 resolutions, H. Res. 164–170 were introduced. **Pages H1526–32**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1532–33**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Regulatory Integrity Act of 2017: The House passed H.R. 1004, to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of information relating to pending agency regulatory ac-

tions, by a recorded vote of 246 yeas to 176 noes, Roll No. 126. **Pages H1469–84**

Rejected the Jayapal 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 amendments, by a recorded vote of 189 yeas to 232 noes, Roll No. 125.

Pages H1481–83

Agreed to:

Farenthold (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–21) that requires the Executive agency to display a list of any regulatory actions that duplicate or

overlap with agency regulatory action (by a recorded vote of 263 ayes to 145 noes, Roll No. 123).

Pages H1476–77, H1480–81

Rejected:

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–21) that sought to clarify the terms “propaganda”, “publicity”, and “advocacy”, within the rule’s prohibited communications, to mean any information, statements or claims that are unsupported by science or empirical data (by a recorded vote of 180 ayes to 234 noes, Roll No. 122); and

Pages H1474–76, H1479–80

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 3 printed in part A of H. Rept. 115–21) that sought to exempt from the rule’s prohibited communications any communication that is protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America (by a recorded vote of 189 ayes to 232 noes, Roll No. 124).

Pages H1477–79, H1481

H. Res. 156, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1004) and (H.R. 1009) was agreed to yesterday, March 1st.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 6th. **Pages H1488, H1526**

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Communication: Read a letter from Chairman Shuster wherein he transmitted copies of eight resolutions to authorize leases included in the Department of Veterans Affairs’ Construction, Long Range Capital Plan. The resolutions were adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on February 28, 2017. **Pages H1490–H1524**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1479–80, H1480–81, H1481, H1482–83 and H1483. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERVIEW OF MILITARY REVIEW BOARD AGENCIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Overview of Military Review Board Agencies”. Testimony was heard from Francine Blackmon, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Review Boards); Robert Woods, Assistant General Counsel for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; and Mark S. Teskey, Director, Air Force Review Boards Agency.

MEMBERS’ DAY

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Members’ Day”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Beatty, Visclosky, Hartzler, Walker, Turner, Posey, Wilson of South Carolina, Kildee, Franks of Arizona, Connolly, McGovern, and Cicilline.

EXAMINING FDA’S GENERIC DRUG AND BIOSIMILAR USER FEE PROGRAMS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Examining FDA’s Generic Drug and Biosimilar User Fee Programs”. Testimony was heard from Janet Woodcock, M.D., Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE JUDGMENT FUND

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Judgment Fund”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRANSPARENCY AT TSA

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Transparency at TSA”. Testimony was heard from Huban A. Gowadia, Acting Administrator, Transportation Security Administration; John Roth, Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; Carolyn Lerner, Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel.

LEARNING FROM HISTORY: IDEAS TO STRENGTHEN AND MODERNIZE THE HUBZONE PROGRAM

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce held a hearing entitled “Learning from History: Ideas to Strengthen and Modernize the HUBZone Program”. Testimony was heard from William Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; Hannibal “Mike” Ware, Acting Inspector General, Small Business Administration; and public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a business meeting on the committee’s views and estimates. The committee adopted its views and estimates. This meeting was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY,
MARCH 6, 2017**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, March 6

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

4 p.m., Monday, March 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of H.J. Res. 37, Federal Acquisition Regulation Rule, and vote on passage of the joint resolution at approximately 6 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: House will meet in a Pro Forma session at 4 p.m.

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