

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1607–S1647

Measures Introduced: Twenty-seven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 536–562, S.J. Res. 34, and S. Res. 82. **Pages S1638–39**

Measures Passed:

Federal Land Policy and Management Act Rule: By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 82), Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of the Interior relating to Bureau of Land Management regulations that establish the procedures used to prepare, revise, or amend land use plans pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. **Pages S1609–25**

Modern Slavery: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 68, raising awareness of modern slavery, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1647**

Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory 75th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 82, congratulating the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Laboratory. **Page S1647**

Measures Considered:

Department of Education Rule–Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.J. Res. 58, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to teacher preparation issues, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. **Pages S1625–33**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. **Pages S1625, S1647**

Small Business Capital Formation Enhancement Act Referral–Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be discharged from further consideration of S. 416, to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities

and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation, and the bill be referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. **Page S1623**

Verma Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Seema Verma, of Indiana, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services. **Page S1625**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, March 9, 2017. **Page S1625**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1625**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor.

Ajit Varadaraj Pai, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2016. **Page S1647**

Messages from the House: **Page S1635**

Measures Referred: **Pages S1635–36**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1636–38**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1638**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1639–41**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1641–47**

Additional Statements:

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1647**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1647**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—82) **Page S1625**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:16 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the

remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1647.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

RUSSIA'S POLICIES AND INTENTIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine a broader understanding of Russia's policies and intentions toward specific countries in Europe, after receiving testimony from Pavlo Klimkin, Ukraine Minister of Foreign Affairs; Piotr Wilczek, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the United States; Andris Teikmanis, Ambassador of Latvia to the United States; David Bakradze, Ambassador of Georgia to the United States; Rolandas Krisciunas, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States; and Eerik Marmei, Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the United States.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Lt. Gen. Herbert R. McMaster Jr., USA, for reappointment to be Lieutenant General.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Rod J. Rosenstein, of Maryland, to be Deputy Attorney General, who was introduced by Senators Cardin and Van Hollen, and Rachel L. Brand, of Iowa, to be Associate Attorney General, who was introduced by Senators Grassley and Ernst, both of the Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

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: 46 public bills, H.R. 1374–1419; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 173, 176–177 were introduced. **Pages H1592–94**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1595–96**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 375, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the "Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse" (H. Rept. 115–23);

H.R. 1174, to provide a lactation room in public buildings (H. Rept. 115–24);

H.R. 985, to amend the procedures used in Federal court class actions and multidistrict litigation proceedings to assure fairer, more efficient outcomes for claimants and defendants, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–25);

H. Res. 174, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1301) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–26); and

H. Res. 175, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 725) to amend title 28, United States

Code, to prevent fraudulent joinder (H. Rept. 115–27). **Page H1592**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Simpson to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1539**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:48 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1544**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Gary Studniewski, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1544**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:13 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m. **Page H1545**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Naming the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic: H.R. 1362, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 411 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 127; **Pages H1545–47, H1571**

Designating the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in

Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; H.R. 375, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; **Pages H1547–50, H1574**

Fairness For Breastfeeding Mothers Act of 2017: H.R. 1174, amended, to provide a lactation room in public buildings; and **Pages H1550–53**

National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017: S. 442, to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. **Pages H1553–70**

Question of Privilege: Representative Eshoo rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted a resolution. The Chair ruled that the resolution did not present a question of the privileges of the House. Subsequently, Representative Eshoo appealed the ruling of the chair and Representative McCarthy moved to table the appeal. Agreed to the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair by a recorded vote of 227 ayes to 186 noes with 1 answering “present”, Roll No. 128. **Pages H1571–74**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H1571.

Quorum Calls Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1571, H1573–74. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INNOCENT PARTY PROTECTION ACT; DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Committee On Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 725, the “Innocent Party Protection Act”; H.R. 1301, the “Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017”. The committee granted, by voice vote, a closed rule for H.R. 1301. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. 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 provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional Record not later than Wednesday, March 8,

2017, such material as he may deem explanatory of H.R. 1301. The Committee granted, by voice vote, a structured rule for H.R. 725. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. 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 instruction. Testimony was heard from Chairman Frelinghuysen, and Representatives Visclosky, King of Iowa, and Cohen.

SHAPING THE FUTURE: CONSOLIDATING AND IMPROVING VA COMMUNITY CARE

Committee On Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Shaping the Future: Consolidating and Improving VA Community Care.” Testimony was heard from Senator McCain; David J. Shulkin, M.D., Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; Michael J. Missal, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Randy Williamson, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine investing in America, focusing on funding our nation’s transportation infrastructure needs, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine saving lives through medical research, 10:30 a.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to receive a closed briefing on cybersecurity from the Defense Science Board, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the global nuclear weapons environment, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine an original bill entitled, "Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act", 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Elaine C. Duke, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian affairs priorities for the Trump Administration, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Members' Day", 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing entitled "Members' Day", 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing for public witnesses, 10 a.m., 2358-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on quality of life in the military, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Military Assessment of Nuclear Deterrence Requirements", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled "The Current State of U.S. Army Readiness", 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "An Independent Fleet Assessment of the U.S. Navy", 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1304, the "Self-Insurance Protection Act"; H.R. 1101, the "Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2017"; and H.R. 1313, the "Preserving Employee Wellness Programs Act", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on a committee print of Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Repeal and Replacement of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; and H. Res. 154, of inquiry requesting the President of the United States and directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to transmit certain information to the House of Representatives relating to plans to repeal or replace the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the health-related measures of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, March 8, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 876, the "Aviation Employee Screening and Security Enhancement Act of 2017"; H.R. 1238, the "Securing our Agriculture and Food Act"; H.R. 1249, the "DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017"; H.R. 1252, the "DHS Acquisition Authorities Act of 2017"; H.R. 1258, the "HSA Technical Corrections Act"; H.R. 1282, the "DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2017"; H.R. 1294, the "Reducing DHS Acquisition Cost Growth Act"; H.R. 1297, the "Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2017"; H.R. 1302, the "Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel Exercise Act of 2017"; H.R. 1309, the "TSA Administrator Modernization Act of 2017"; H.R. 1353, the "Transparency in Technological Acquisitions Act of 2017"; the "Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act of 2017"; a bill to be introduced prior to consideration by Chairman McCaul; the "Homeland Security for Children Act"; and the "Department of Homeland Security Acquisition Innovation Act", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, markup on a committee funding resolution, 10:45 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Department of Homeland Security's Proposed Regulations Reforming the Investor Visa Program", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1293, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees; the "Official Time Reform Act of 2017"; H.R. 653, the "Federal Intern Protection Act of 2017"; H.R. 680, the "Eliminating Pornography from Agencies Act"; H. Res. 38, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that offices attached to the seat of Government should not be required to exercise their offices in the District of Columbia; the "SOAR Reauthorization Act"; H.R. 745, the "Federal Records Modernization Act of 2017"; and the "Electronic Message Preservation Act of 2017", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Government Operations; and Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules, joint hearing entitled "Examining IRS Customer Service Challenges", 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 720, the "Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2017"; H.R. 985, the "Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act of 2017", 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Space, hearing entitled "Regulating Space: Innovation, Liberty, and International Obligations", 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Small Business Cybersecurity: Federal Resources and Coordination", 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled "Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: Air Transportation in

the United States in the 21st Century”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 369, to eliminate the sunset of the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 1181, the “Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act”; H.R. 1259, the “VA Accountability First Act of 2017”; H.R. 1367, to improve the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire and retain physician and other employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the entitlement to educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Vet-

erans Affairs for members of the Armed Forces awarded the Purple Heart, 11 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Remuneration from Certain Insurers; Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Repeal of Tanning Tax; Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Repeal of Certain Consumer Taxes; Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Repeal of Net Investment Income Tax; and Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Repeal and Replace of Health-Related Tax Policy, 10:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 8

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of H.J. Res. 58, Department of Education Rule.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 1301—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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