

Monday, March 20, 2017

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate met at 10:00:06 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 10:00:14 a.m., until 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee held a hearing to examine the nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch,

of Colorado, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Gardner and Bennet, and Neal Katyal, Former Acting Solicitor General, testified in his own behalf. Hearings recessed subject to the call and will meet again on Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 20 public bills, H.R. 1624–1643; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 35–36; and H. Res. 211–212 were introduced. **Page H2240**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H2241**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1353, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain additional information to be submitted to Congress regarding the strategic 5-year technology investment plan of the Transportation Security Administration (H. Rept. 115–44);

H.R. 1294, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for congressional notification regarding major acquisition program breaches, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–45);

H.R. 1249, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a multiyear acquisition strategy of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–46);

H.R. 1252, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for certain acquisition authorities for the Under Secretary of Management of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–47);

H.R. 1365, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain acquisition innovation, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–48);

H.R. 1029, to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to improve pesticide registration and other activities under the Act, to extend and modify fee authorities, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–49, Part 1);

H. Res. 209, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 372) to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers (H. Rept. 115–50);

H. Res. 210, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1101) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small businesses with respect to medical care for their employees (H. Rept. 115–51);

H.R. 1628, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017 (H. Rept. 115–52); and

H.R. 1304, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health

Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from the definition of health insurance coverage certain medical stop-loss insurance obtained by certain plan sponsors of group health plans, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–53, Part 1).

Pages H2239–40

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

Page H2187

Recess: The House recessed at 12:14 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Pages H2188–89

Recess: The House recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 3:32 p.m.

Page H2190

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

Pesticide Registration Enhancement Act of 2017: H.R. 1029, amended, to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to improve pesticide registration and other activities under the Act, to extend and modify fee authorities;

Pages H2190–H2208

100 Years of Women in Congress Act: H.R. 382, to amend the Department of Agriculture program for research and extension grants to increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to redesignate the program as the “Jeannette Rankin Women and Minorities in STEM Fields Program”;

Pages H2208–10

TSA Administrator Modernization Act of 2017: H.R. 1309, to streamline the office and term of the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration;

Pages H2210–12

Reducing DHS Acquisition Cost Growth Act: H.R. 1294, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for congressional notification regarding major acquisition program breaches, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 408 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 173;

Pages H2213–15, H2222

DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017: H.R. 1249, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a multiyear acquisition strategy of the Department of Homeland Security, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 409 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 174; and

Pages H2216–19, H2223–24

DHS Acquisition Authorities Act of 2017: H.R. 1252, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for certain acquisition authorities for the Under Secretary of Management of the Department of Homeland Security, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 407 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 175.

Pages H2219–21, H2224

Recess: The House recessed at 4:37 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H2221

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Polis announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution.

Pages H2222–23

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Transparency in Technological Acquisitions Act of 2017: H.R. 1353, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain additional information to be submitted to Congress regarding the strategic 5-year technology investment plan of the Transportation Security Administration; and

Pages H2212–13

Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2017: H.R. 1297, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews.

Pages H2215–16

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2222, H2223–24, and H2224. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMPETITIVE HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2017; SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2017

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 372, the “Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2017”; and H.R. 1101, the “Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2017”. The committee granted, by record vote of 7–3, a structured rule for H.R. 1101. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–9 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only the further amendment printed in the Rules Committee report, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which 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 amendment printed in the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The Committee granted, by voice vote, a closed rule for H.R. 372. The rule provides one hour of 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 an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–8 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Goodlatte and Representatives Walberg, Scott of Virginia, and Cicilline.

ONGOING INVESTIGATION INTO RUSSIAN ACTIVE MEASURES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing on ongoing investigation into Russian Active Measures. Testimony was heard from James Comey, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation; and Mike Rogers, Director, National Security Agency.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine U.S. policy and strategy in Europe, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security, to hold hearings to examine fighting back against scams used to defraud Americans, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine opportunities to improve and expand infrastructure important to Federal lands, recreation, water, and resources, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine FDA user fee agreements, focusing on improving medical product innovation for patients, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: to continue hearings to examine the nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado,

to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine raising grandchildren in the opioid crisis and beyond, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Nutrition, hearing entitled “The Next Farm Bill: Nutrition Distribution Programs”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture, hearing entitled “The Next Farm Bill: Livestock Producer Perspectives”, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “America’s Role in the World”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled “Social Media Policies of the Military Services”, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “Improving Federal Student Aid to Better Meet the Needs of Students”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Broadband: Deploying America’s 21st Century Infrastructure”, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Fentanyl: The Next Wave of the Opioid Crisis”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection’s Unconstitutional Design”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled “Ending the De Novo Drought: Examining the Application Process for De Novo Financial Institutions”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled “Pressuring North Korea: Evaluating Options”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, business meeting on adoption of the Subcommittee’s Rules of Procedure and Statement of Policy for Private Immigration Bills; Statement of Policy on Federal Charters; and to Request DHS Departmental Reports on the Beneficiaries of H.R. 349, H.R. 780, and H.R. 461, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining Systemic Management and Fiscal Challenges within the Department of Justice”, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “The Importance of Domestically Sourced Raw Materials for Infrastructure Projects”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “\$125 Billion in Savings Ignored: Review of DoD’s Efficiency Study”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment, hearing entitled “Examining GAO Findings on

Deficiencies at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled “National Science Foundation Part II: Future Opportunities and Challenges for Science”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 1461, the “Veterans, Employees, and Taxpayers Protection Act of 2017”, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 21

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, March 21

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will begin consideration of the nominations of Charles R. Breyer, of California, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, and Danny C. Reeves, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, with votes on confirmation of the nominations, at 12 noon.

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 372—Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of H.R. 1101—Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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