

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S2197–S2433*

**Measures Introduced:** Eighty-one bills and fifteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 807–887, S.J. Res. 40, S. Res. 109–121, and S. Con. Res. 12.

**Pages S2214–15, S2362–63, S2424–25**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 254, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages. (S. Rept. No. 115–23)

**Page S2214**

Special Report entitled “Report on the Activities of the Committee on Finance During the 114th Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 115–25)

S. 102, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical communications networks during times of emergency, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 115–24)

**Page S2362**

S. 91, to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources. (S. Rept. No. 115–26)

S. 302, to enhance tribal road safety. (S. Rept. No. 115–27)

**Page S2424**

#### Measures Passed:

**National Read Aloud Month:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 94, designating March 2017 as “National Read Aloud Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

**Page S2220**

**Alaska Purchase 150th Anniversary:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 111, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Purchase.

**Page S2220**

**Gold Star Wives Day:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 112, designating April 5, 2017, as “Gold Star Wives Day”.

**Page S2220**

**University of Washington Center on Human Development and Disability 50th Anniversary:**

Senate agreed to S. Res. 113, recognizing and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Center on Human Development and Disability at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington.

**Page S2220**

**National Park Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 117, designating the week of April 15, 2017, through April 23, 2017, as “National Park Week”.

**Page S2353**

**Condemning Hate Crime:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 118, condemning hate crime and any other form of racism, religious or ethnic bias, discrimination, incitement to violence, or animus targeting a minority in the United States.

**Pages S2371–72**

#### Appointments:

**National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service:** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–328, appointed the following individuals to serve as members of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service: Joseph Heck of Nevada and Steve Barney of Massachusetts.

**Page S2341**

**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 originally declared in Executive Order 13536 on April 12, 2010 with respect to Somalia; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–6)

**Page S2423**

**Gorsuch Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

**Pages S2190–S2210, S2222–48, S2257–S2352, S2353–59, S2372–81, S2383–S2417**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

**Page S2190**

By 55 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 104), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to executive session to consider the nomination. **Page S2190**

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

By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 105), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2389**

By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 106), Senate agreed to the motion to reconsider the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination. **Page S2389**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 107), Senate rejected the motion to postpone the vote on the motion to invoke cloture, upon reconsideration, on the nomination until 3 p.m., on Monday, April 24, 2017. **Page S2389**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 108), Senate rejected the motion to adjourn until 5 p.m., on Thursday, April 6, 2017. **Page S2390**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 109), Senate rejected the ruling of the Chair that under precedent set by the Senate on November 21, 2013, the cloture vote for nominations for the Supreme Court is not by majority vote. Subsequently, Senator McConnell motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair was upheld. **Page S2390**

By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 110), Senate upon reconsideration agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2390**

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, April 6, 2017. **Page S2210**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, April 5, 2017; that the debate time on the nomination during Wednesday's session of the Senate be divided as follows: following Leader remarks until 11 a.m. be equally divided, that the time from 11 a.m. until 12 noon be under the control of the Majority; that the time from 12 noon until 1 p.m. be under the control of the Minority; and that the debate time until 9 p.m., on Wednesday be divided in one hour alternating blocks. **Pages S2220–21**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, April 6, 2017; that the time until the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination be equally divided between Senators Grassley and Feinstein, or their designees. **Page S2372**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Friday, April 7, 2017; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, there be two hours for debate, equally divided in the usual form; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate. **Page S2431**

**Perdue Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following Leader remarks on Monday, April 24, 2017, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Sonny Perdue, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Agriculture; that the time until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, and that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate. **Page S2344**

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 85 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. EX. 103), Elaine C. Duke, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. **Pages S2180–90, S2255**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Sigal Mandelker, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

Heath P. Tarbert, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S2248–55**

David L. Norquist, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

Eric D. Hargan, of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Makan Delrahim, of California, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. **Pages S2431–33**

**Messages From the House:** **Pages S2214, S2360, S2423–24**

**Measures Referred:** **Pages S2214, S2360, S2424**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Pages S2360, S2371**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S2360–61**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Pages S2360–61**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S2214, S2362, S2424**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S2215–16, S2364–65, S2425–27**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S2216–20, S2365–68, S2427–30**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S2213–14, S2360, S2421–23**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Pages S2220, S2371

**Record Votes:** Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—110) Pages S2189–90, S2389–90

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, and adjourned at 7:05 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, 2017, until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, April 7, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2431.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NATIONAL WATER HAZARDS AND VULNERABILITIES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine national water hazards and vulnerabilities, focusing on improved forecasting for responses and mitigation, after receiving testimony from Louis Uccellini, Assistant Administrator, Weather Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Director, National Weather Service; Bryan Koon, Florida Division of Emergency Management Director, Tallahassee; Antonio Busalacchi, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado; and Mary Glackin, The Weather Company, IBM, Washington, D.C.

### U.S. STRATEGIC COMMAND

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Strategic Command programs, after receiving testimony from General John E. Hyten, USAF, Commander, United States Strategic Command, Department of Defense.

### CYBER THREATS TO THE U.S.

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity received a closed briefing on cyber threats to the United States from Kate Charlet, Performing the duties of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cyber Policy, Brigadier General Mary F. O'Brien, USAF, Director of Intelligence, United States Cyber Command, and Major General Ed Wilson, Deputy Principal Cyber Advisor, Office of the Secretary, all of the Department of Defense; Samuel Liles, Director, Cyber Analysis Division, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, and Neil Jenkins, Director, Enterprise Performance Management Office, National Protection and Programs Directorate, both of the Department of Homeland Security; and Tonya L. Ugoretz, Director, Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### MULTIMODAL FREIGHT POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security concluded a hearing to examine keeping goods moving, focusing on continuing to enhance multimodal freight policy and infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Derek J. Leathers, Werner Enterprises, and Lance M. Fritz, Union Pacific Corporation, both of Omaha, Nebraska; Michael L. Ducker, FedEx Freight Corporation, Memphis, Tennessee; and James Pelliccio, Port Newark Container Terminal, Newark, New Jersey, on behalf of the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors.

### CYBERSECURITY THREATS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine efforts to protect United States energy delivery systems from cybersecurity threats, after receiving testimony from Patricia Hoffman, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, and Andrew A. Bochman, Senior Cyber and Energy Strategist, National and Homeland Security, Idaho National Laboratory, both of the Department of Energy; Colonel Gent Welsh, Commander, 194th Wing, Washington Air National Guard, Camp Murray; Gerry W. Cauley, North American Electric Reliability Corporation, and Dave McCurdy, American Gas Association, both of Washington, D.C.; and Duane D. Highley, Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation, Littlerock, on behalf of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

### THE EU AS A PARTNER AGAINST RUSSIAN AGGRESSION

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the European Union as a partner against Russian aggression, focusing on sanctions, security, democratic institutions, and the way forward, after receiving testimony from David O'Sullivan, European Union Delegation to the United States of America, and Kurt Volker, Arizona State University McCain Institute for International Leadership, both of Washington, D.C.; and Daniel B. Baer, former Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Denver, Colorado.

**SOUTHWEST BORDER FENCING**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine fencing along the southwest border, after receiving testimony from David V. Aguilar, former Acting Commissioner, and Ronald S. Colburn, former Deputy Chief, Border Patrol, both of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; and Terence M. Garrett, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Public Affairs and Security Studies Department, Brownsville.

**FDA USER FEE AGREEMENTS**

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine FDA user fee agreements, focusing on improving medical product regulations and innovation for patients, after

receiving testimony from Kay Holcombe, Biotechnology Innovation Organization, David R. Gaugh, Association for Accessible Medicines, Scott Whitaker, AvaMed, and Cynthia A. Bens, Alliance for Aging Research, all of Washington, D.C.

**INTELLIGENCE**

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

**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.

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## House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 63 public bills, H.R. 1902–1964; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 94; H. Con. Res. 47; and H. Res. 249–251, were introduced. **Pages H2750–53**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2755–56**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1667, to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy (H. Rept. 115–80). **Page H2705**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Webster (FL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2699**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:49 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2705**

**Supporting America's Innovators Act of 2017—**

**Rule for Consideration:** The House agreed to H. Res. 242, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1219) to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to expand the investor limitation for qualifying venture capital funds under an exemption from the definition of an investment company, by a recorded vote of 240 ayes to 181 noes, Roll No. 218, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 217.

**Pages H2708–15, H2720–22**

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

*Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2017:* H.R. 1667, amended, to amend title 11 of the United States Code in order to facilitate the resolution of an insolvent financial institution in bankruptcy; and **Pages H2715–20**

*Amending Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program:* S. 544, to amend Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program. **Pages H2722–26**

**Question of Privilege:** Representative Jeffries 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 Jeffries appealed the ruling of the chair and Representative Foxx moved to table the appeal. Agreed to the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 185 nays with 2 answering “present”, Roll No. 219. **Pages H2729–31**

**Self-Insurance Protection Act:** The House passed 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, by a yea-and-nay vote of 400 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 220.

**Pages H2726–29, H2731–32**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2726**

H. Res. 241, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1304) was agreed to yesterday, April 4th.

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, April 6. **Page H2732**

**House Democracy Partnership—Appointment:** Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she appointed the following Members to the House Democracy Partnership: Representative Price (NC), Ranking Member; Representatives Ellison, Davis (CA), Moore, Titus, Roybal-Allard, Connolly, Ted Lieu (CA), and Torres.

**Pages H2740–41**

**Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Representative Ted Lieu (CA).

**Page H2741**

**Discharge Petition:** Representative Eshoo presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform from the consideration of H.R. 305, to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 1).

**Page H2712**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2720–21, H2721, H2731, and H2731–32. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### AGRICULTURE AND TAX REFORM: OPPORTUNITIES FOR RURAL AMERICA

*Committee on Agriculture:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Agriculture and Tax Reform: Opportunities for Rural America". Testimony was heard from James M. Williamson, Economist, Economic Research Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

### FEDERAL RESPONSE TO THE OPIOID ABUSE CRISIS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled "Federal Response to the Opioid Abuse Crisis". Testimony was heard from Barbara Cimaglio, Deputy Commissioner, Vermont Department of Health; and public witnesses.

### CONSEQUENCES TO THE MILITARY OF A CONTINUING RESOLUTION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Consequences to the Military of a Continuing Resolution". Testimony was heard from General David L. Goldfein, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force; General Mark A. Milley, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army; General Robert B. Neller, Commandant of the Marine Corps; and Admiral John M. Richardson, Chief of Naval Operations, U.S. Navy.

### THE CURRENT STATE OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled "The Current State of the U.S. Marine Corps". Testimony was heard from the following officials from U.S. Marine Corps Headquarters: Lieutenant General Ronald L. Bailey, Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations; Lieutenant General Michael G. Dana, Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics; and William E. Taylor, Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation.

### LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on H.R. 1180, the "Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### FACILITATING THE 21ST CENTURY WIRELESS ECONOMY

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled "Facilitating the 21st Century Wireless Economy". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### THE 2016 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The 2016 Semi-Annual Reports of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection". Testimony was heard from Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

## TURKEY'S DEMOCRACY UNDER CHALLENGE

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats held a hearing entitled "Turkey's Democracy Under Challenge". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 235, directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the Department of Homeland Security's research, integration, and analysis activities relating to Russian Government interference in the elections for Federal office held in 2016. H. Res. 235 was ordered reported, without amendment.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1842, the "Strengthening Children's Safety Act of 2017"; H.R. 1862, the "Global Child Protection Act of 2017"; and H.R. 659, the "Standard Merger and Acquisition Reviews Through Equal Rules Act of 2017". H.R. 1842, H.R. 1862, and H.R. 659 were ordered reported, without amendment.

## LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 1731, the "Revitalizing the Economy of Coal Communities by Leveraging Local Activities and Investing More Act of 2017". Testimony was heard from Representative Rogers of Alabama and public witnesses.

## LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on H.R. 218, the "King Cove Road Land Exchange Act"; H.R. 497, the "Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act"; H.R. 1157, to clarify the United States interest in certain submerged lands in the area of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1728, to modify the boundaries of the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Representatives Young of Alaska; Simpson; Keating; Cook; and Aguilar; Seth T. Taylor, Selectman, Chatham, Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

## OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY'S RESPONSE TO THE BATON ROUGE FLOOD DISASTER: PART II

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Response to the Baton Rouge Flood Disaster: Part II". Testimony was heard from John Bel Edwards, Governor, Louisiana; Robert J. Fenton, Jr., Acting Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Mark Harrell, Emergency Coordinator, Livingston Parish, Louisiana; and a public witness.

## IMPROVING THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE AT NATIONAL PARKS

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment held a hearing entitled "Improving the Visitor Experience at National Parks". Testimony was heard from Glenn Casamassa, Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Linda Lanterman, Director, Division of State Parks, Kansas; and public witnesses.

## ASSESSING THE IRAN DEAL

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled "Assessing the Iran Deal". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## TAKING CARE OF SMALL BUSINESS: WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER SBA

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Taking Care of Small Business: Working Together for a Better SBA". Testimony was heard from Linda McMahon, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

## FAST ACT IMPLEMENTATION: STATE AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled "FAST Act Implementation: State and Local Perspectives". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 105, the "Protect Veterans from Financial Fraud Act of 2017"; H.R. 299, the "Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017"; H.R. 1328, the "American Heroes COLA Act of 2017"; H.R. 1329, the "Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2017"; H.R. 1390, to amend

title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay costs relating to the transportation of certain deceased veterans to veterans' cemeteries owned by a State or tribal organization; H.R. 1564, the "VA Beneficiary Travel Act of 2017"; and a draft bill entitled "Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2017". Testimony was heard from Representatives Bost; Brownley of California; Banks of Indiana; Bergman; and Valadao; Beth Murphy, Director, Compensation Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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## NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D379)

H.R. 1228, to provide for the appointment of members of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance to replace members whose terms expire during 2017. Signed on April 3, 2017. (Public Law 115-19)

H.J. Res. 69, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Department of the Interior relating to "Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska". Signed on April 3, 2017. (Public Law 115-20)

H.J. Res. 83, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Clarification of Employer's Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness". Signed on April 3, 2017. (Public Law 115-21)

S.J. Res. 34, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Protecting the Privacy of Customers of Broadband and Other Telecommunications Services". Signed on April 3, 2017. (Public Law 115-22)

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 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 protecting our midshipmen, focusing on preventing sexual assault and

sexual harassment at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, 10 a.m., SD-192.

*Subcommittee on Department of Defense,* to hold closed hearings to examine intelligence programs and threat assessment, 10:30 a.m., SVC-217.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine the current state of retirement security in the United States, 3 p.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* business meeting to consider proposed legislation entitled, "Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver (WILD) Act", S. 518, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for technical assistance for small treatment works, S. 692, to provide for integrated plan permits, to establish an Office of the Municipal Ombudsman, to promote green infrastructure, and to require the revision of financial capability guidance, and S. 675, to amend and reauthorize certain provisions relating to Long Island Sound restoration and stewardship, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine a progress report on conflict minerals, 2 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Scott Gottlieb, of Connecticut, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine improving border security and public safety, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

### House

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Evaluating the Defense Contract Auditing Process", 9 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Examination of the Federal Financial Regulatory System and Opportunities for Reform", 9:15 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "Enforcement is Not Optional: The Goldman Act to Return Abducted American Children", 12 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled "The Best and Worst Places to Work in the Federal Government", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "Scam Spotting: Can the IRS Effectively Protect Small Business Information?", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs,* Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 91, the "Building Supportive Networks for Women Veterans Act"; H.R. 95, the "Veterans' Access to Child Care Act"; H.R. 467, the "VA Scheduling

Accountability Act”; H.R. 907, the “Newborn Care Improvement Act”; H.R. 918, the “Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act”; H.R. 1005, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans; H.R. 1162, the “No Hero Left Untreated Act”; H.R. 1545, the “VA Prescription Data Accountability Act 2017”; H.R. 1662, to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit smoking in any facility of the Veterans Health Administration,

and for other purposes; and H.R. 1848, the “Veterans Affairs Medical Scribe Pilot Act of 2017”, 8 a.m., 334 Cannon.

### Joint Meetings

*Joint Economic Committee:* to hold hearings to examine the decline of economic opportunity in the United States, focusing on causes and consequences, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth Building.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 5

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Thursday, April 6

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Consideration of H.R. 1219—Supporting America's Innovators Act of 2017.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Barragán, Nanette Diaz, Calif., E454  
 Bordallo, Madeleine Z., Guam, E454, E457, E459, E461, E462, E464, E465  
 Butterfield, G.K., N.C., E462  
 Capuano, Michael E., Mass., E463  
 Clay, Wm. Lacy, Mo., E453  
 Clyburn, James E., S.C., E463  
 Collins, Doug, Ga., E458, E463  
 Comstock, Barbara, Va., E457, E466  
 Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E456, E466  
 Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E464

Dunn, Neal P., Fla., E459  
 Gohmert, Louie, Tex., E455  
 Graves, Sam, Mo., E464  
 Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E459  
 Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E460  
 Larson, John B., Conn., E461  
 Lofgren, Zoe, Calif., E453  
 Matsui, Doris O., Calif., E459  
 McCollum, Betty, Minn., E465  
 Moore, Gwen, Wis., E460  
 Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E453, E454, E460, E463  
 Quigley, Mike, Ill., E458  
 Reed, Tom, N.Y., E458

Rogers, Mike, Ala., E457, E466  
 Royce, Edward R., Calif., E456  
 Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E455  
 Scott, Austin, Ga., E461  
 Shimkus, John, Ill., E458  
 Slaughter, Louise McIntosh, N.Y., E458, E462  
 Smith, Christopher H., N.J., E464  
 Thornberry, Mac, Tex., E455  
 Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E453  
 Walorski, Jackie, Ind., E461  
 Wittman, Robert J., Va., E454  
 Young, David, Iowa, E454, E457, E459, E461, E462, E464, E465



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