passed by the U.S. Senate on March 8, 2011 (by a recorded vote of 81 ayes to 342 noes, Roll No. 483);

Sensenbrenner amendment (No. 12 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–111) that sought to strike Section 3 of the legislation, which would convert the U.S. patent system from “first-to-invent” to “first-to-file” (by a recorded vote of 129 ayes to 295 noes, Roll No. 486);

Manzullo amendment (No. 13 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–111) that sought to eliminate the ability of the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to set fees, retaining that authority for Congress (by a recorded vote of 92 ayes to 329 noes, Roll No. 487);

Rohrabacher amendment (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–111) that sought to eliminate the burden of post-grant reviews and reexaminations on individual inventors and small businesses with 100 or fewer employees (by a recorded vote of 81 ayes to 342 noes, Roll No. 488); and

Schock amendment (No. 15 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–111) that sought to strike section 18 of the bill, the Transitional program for covered business method patents (by a recorded vote of 158 ayes to 262 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 489).

Withdrawn:

Watt amendment (No. 11 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–111) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have added a severability clause protecting the remainder of the bill if the Supreme Court determines that certain sections or provisions are unconstitutional.

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

H. Res. 316, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2021) and (H.R. 1249), was agreed to yesterday, June 22nd.


H. Res. 320, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 251 ayes to 173 noes, Roll No. 480, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 247 yeas to 168 nays, Roll No. 479.

Presidential Messages: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to North Korea is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2011—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 112–40).

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to the Western Balkans is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2011—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 112–41).

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and eleven recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4479, H4479–80, H4480–81, H4498, H4499, H4500, H4501, H4501–02, H4502, H4503, H4504–05, H4505. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a markup to approve the Activity Report of the Committee on Agriculture for the 1st Quarter of the 112th Congress as required by House Rule XI, clause d(1). The report was agreed to as amended.

OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS OF AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to review opportunities and benefits of agricultural biotechnology. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup of the FY 2012 Financial Services Bill. The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

AFGHANISTAN AND THE PROPOSED DRAWDOWN OF U.S. FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Recent Developments in Afghanistan and the Proposed Drawdown of U.S. Forces. Testimony was heard from Michéle Flournoy, Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense; and ADM Michael G. Mullen, USN, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE’S LONG-TERM BUDGET OUTLOOK

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Congressional Budget Office’s Long-Term Budget Outlook.” Testimony was heard from Douglas W. Elmendorf, Director, CBO.
ACCOUNTABILITY IN NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training held a hearing entitled “Demanding Accountability in National Service Programs.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a markup of the following: the Semi-Annual Committee Activity Report; and H.R. 1938, the “North American-Made Energy Security Act.” The Semi-Annual Committee Activity Report was agreed to as amended. H.R. 1938 was ordered reported, as amended.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO REFORM THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Reform the Housing Choice Voucher Program.” Testimony was heard from Sandra B. Henriquez, Assistant Secretary, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology held a hearing entitled “Investigating the Gold: H.R. 1495, the Gold Reserve Transparency Act of 2011 and the Oversight of United States Gold Holdings.” Testimony was heard from Eric M. Thorson, Inspector General, Department of the Treasury; Gary T. Engel, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO; and public witnesses.

IRAN AND SYRIA: NEXT STEPS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing on Iran and Syria: Next Steps. Testimony was heard from John Bolton, former U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations and former Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security; and public witnesses.

Prior to the hearing the Committee held a markup of the Semiannual Committee Report on Legislative Review and Oversight Activities. The report was agreed to without amendment.

ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights held a hearing on Global Strategies to Combat the Devastating Health and Economic Impacts of Alzheimer’s Disease. Testimony was heard from Richard Hodes, Director, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health; and public witnesses.

TRANSITIONING AUTHORITY AND IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK IN IRAQ

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia held a hearing on Preserving Progress: Transitioning Authority and Implementing the Strategic Framework in Iraq. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Security Technologies and the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications held a joint hearing entitled “H.R. __, the ‘WMD Prevention and Preparedness Act of 2011.’” Testimony was heard from Rep. Pascrell; Jim Talent; former Senator and Vice Chairman, WMD Center; Robert P. Kadlec, former Special Assistant to the President for Biodefense; and Richard H. Berdnik, Sheriff, Passaic County, New Jersey.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 1741, the “Secure Visas Act”; H.R. 1933, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the requirements for admission of nonimmigrant nurses in health professional shortage areas; and the Committee Activities Report. Both H.R. 1741 and H.R. 1933 were ordered reported, as amended. The Committee Activities report was agreed to without amendment.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 461, the South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act; H.R. 795, the Small-Scale Hydropower Enhancement Act of 2011; and H.R. 2060, the Central Oregon Jobs and Water Security Act. Testimony was heard from Robert Quint, Senior Advisor and Chief of Staff to the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation; Steve Forrester, City Manager, City of Prineville, Oregon; Richard Moore, Mayor, Payson, Utah; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2170, the Cutting Federal Red Tape to Facilitate Renewable Energy Act; H.R. 2171, the Exploring for Geothermal Energy on Federal Lands Act; H.R. 2172, the Utilizing America’s Federal Lands for Wind Energy Act; and H.R. 2173,
the Advancing Offshore Wind Production Act. Testimony was heard from Mike Pool, Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management; Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and Procurement Reform held a hearing entitled “Improving Oversight and Accountability in Federal Grant Programs.” Testimony was heard from Sen. Coburn; Jeanette Franzel, Managing Director of Financial Management, Assurance Team, GAO; Cynthia Schnedar, Acting Inspector General, Department of Justice; Natalie Keegan, Analyst in American Federalism and Emergency, Management Policy, Congressional Research Service; and Danny Werfel, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget.

AUTHORIZING THE LIMITED USE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES IN SUPPORT OF THE NATO MISSION IN LIBYA; AND TO LIMIT THE USE OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES IN SUPPORT OF NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION OPERATION UNIFIED PROTECTOR WITH RESPECT TO LIBYA, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by record vote of 7 to 3, a closed rule for H.J. Res. 68. The rule provides one hour of debate on H.J. Res. 68 with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.J. Res. 68. The rule provides that H.J. Res. 68 shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in H.J. Res. 68. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.J. Res. 68.

No testimony was given.

INSOURCING GONE AWRY: OUTSOURCING SMALL BUSINESS JOBS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce held a hearing entitled “Insourcing Gone Awry: Outsourcing Small Business Jobs.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a markup of the Semiannual Report on the Activity of the Committee on Small Business. The report was agreed to without amendment.

GPS RELIABILITY: A REVIEW OF AVIATION INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE, SAFETY ISSUES, AND AVOIDING POTENTIAL NEW AND COSTLY GOVERNMENT BURDENS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation and the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a joint hearing entitled “GPS Reliability: A Review of Aviation Industry Performance, Safety Issues, and Avoiding Potential New and Costly Government Burdens.” Testimony was heard from Roy Kienitz, Under Secretary for Policy, Department of Transportation; Teri Takai, Acting Assistant Secretary for Networks and Information Integration, Chief Information Officer, Department of Defense; Rear Admiral Robert E. Day, Jr., Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information, Technology and Chief Information Officer, United States Coast Guard; Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Arlington National Cemetery: An Update from the New Administration.” Testimony was heard from Kathryn A. Condon, Executive Director, Army National Cemeteries Program, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Department of the Army, Department of Defense; Patrick K. Hallinan, Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Department of the Army, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) TO THE U.S. ECONOMY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing on the importance of foreign direct investment (FDI) to the U.S. economy and how tax reform might affect foreign-headquartered businesses that invest and create jobs.
in the United States. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SOCIAL SECURITY’S CURRENT REVENUE STREAMS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on Social Security’s current revenue streams, proposed changes to those structures and the impact they would have on the program, beneficiaries, workers and the economy. Testimony was heard from Thomas A. Barthold, Chief of Staff, Joint Committee on Taxation; Stephen C. Goss, Chief Actuary, Office of the Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration; Mark J. Warshawsky, former Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

USD(I) QUARTERLY UPDATE; AND MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a briefing on USD(I) Quarterly Update.

Prior to the hearing the full Committee met to markup the Semiannual Committee Activity Report. The report was agreed to without amendment.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing on Agricultural Program Audit: Examination of Crop Insurance Programs, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “OMB’s Role in the DOE Loan Guarantee Process.” 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing entitled “NRC Repository Safety Division—Staff Perspective on Yucca License Review.” 9 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, and Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense and Foreign Operations, joint hearing on Venezuela’s Sanctionable Activity, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.


Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, hearing on H.R. 963, the “See Something, Say Something Act of 2011.” 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup of the semi-annual 112th Congress Report on Legislative and Oversight Activities, 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Inland Affairs, hearing entitled “Why We Should Care About Bats: Devastating Impact White-Nose Syndrome is Having on One of Nature’s Best Pest Controllers.” 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on District of Columbia, Census and National Archives, hearing entitled “Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority: Is There a Security Gap?” 9:30 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense and Foreign Operations; and the Committee on Foreign Affairs’ Subcommittees on the Western Hemisphere and the Middle East and South Asia, joint hearing entitled, “Venezuela’s Sanctionable Activity.” 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Running Roughshod Over States and Stakeholders: EPA’s Nutrients Policies.” 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, markup of the Activities Report for the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, 9:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup of the “Report on the Legislative and Oversight Activities of the Committee on Ways and Means during the 112th Congress as of May 31, 2011.” 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.