

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 3606, Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act, as amended.

Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 2038, Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1955–S2008

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2223–2232, S.J. Res. 39, and S. Res. 404–405. **Page S2001**

Measures Passed:

Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act: By 73 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 55), Senate passed H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1963–77**

Adopted:

By 64 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. 54), Reid (for Merkley) Amendment No. 1884, to amend the securities laws to provide for registration exemptions for certain crowdfunded securities. **Page S1976**

Rejected:

Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1931 (to Amendment No. 1884), to improve the bill. **Pages S1973–76**

Use of Rotunda: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 108, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page S2006**

Recognizing the life and work of Marie Colvin: Senate agreed to S. Res. 404, recognizing the life and work of war correspondent Marie Colvin and other courageous journalists in war zones. **Pages S2006–07**

Authorizing the Taking of a Photograph: Senate agreed to S. Res. 405, authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Chamber of the United States Senate. **Page S2007**

Measures Considered:

Oil Tax Subsidies—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2204, to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation. **Pages S1984–85**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Monday, March 26, 2012. **Page S1985**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S1985**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 4:30 p.m., on Monday, March 26, 2012, with the time until 5:30 p.m. equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; provided further, that the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill be at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, March 26, 2012, and that if cloture is not invoked, there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form prior to the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service. **Page S2007**

21st Century Postal Service Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service. **Page S1985**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S. 2204, to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation. **Page S1985**

House Messages:

Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act: Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, after taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1977–81**

Withdrawn:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 1940, to change the enactment date. **Page S1981**

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

By 96 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 56), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill. **Page S1981**

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1942, to change the enactment date, fell when cloture was invoked on Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill. **Page S1981**

Reid Amendment No. 1943 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1942), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1942, fell. **Page S1981**

Reid Amendment No. 1944 (to Amendment No. 1943), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 1943 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1942), fell. **Page S1981**

Reid Amendment No. 1941 (to Amendment No. 1940), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 1940, was withdrawn. **Page S1981**

Appointments:

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law

105–292, as amended by Public Law 106–55, Public Law 107–228, and Public Law 112–75, appointed the following individual to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom:

Dr. M. Zuhdi Jasser of Arizona, Vice Richard D. Land. **Page S2007**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 57), David Nuffer, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah. **Pages S1984, S2008**

By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 58), Ronnie Abrams, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York. **Pages S1984, S2008**

Rudolph Contreras, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. **Pages S1984, S2008**

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

A routine list in the Public Health Service.

Pages S2005–2006

Messages from the House: **Pages S1998–99**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S1999, S2007**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1999–S2000**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S2000–01**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2001–02**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2002–04**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1997–98**

Notices of Intent: **Page S2004**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S2004**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2004–05**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2005**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—58) **Pages S1976–77, S1981, S1984**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:28 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 26, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2007.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Commerce, after receiving testimony from John Bryson, Secretary of Commerce.

APPROPRIATIONS: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND THE U.S. CAPITOL POLICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and the United States Capitol Police, after receiving testimony from Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; Terrance W. Gainer, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate; and Phillip D. Morse, Sr., United States Capitol Police Chief.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 246 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the situation in Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from James N. Miller, Jr., Acting Under Secretary for Policy, and General John R. Allen, USMC, Commander, International Security Assistance Force, and Commander, United States Forces Afghanistan, both of the Department of Defense.

WALL STREET REFORM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine international harmonization of Wall Street reform, focusing on orderly liquidation, derivatives, and the Volcker Rule, after receiving testimony from Lael Brainard, Under Secretary for International Affairs, and John Walsh, Acting Comptroller of the Currency, both of the Department of the Treasury; Daniel K. Tarullo, Governor, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Elisse B. Walter, Commissioner, United States Securities and Exchange Commission; Martin J. Gruenberg, Acting Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and Jacqueline H. Mesa, Director, Office of International Affairs, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine S. 303, to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to require the Bureau of Land Management to provide a claimant of a small miner waiver from claim maintenance fees with a period of 60 days after written receipt of 1 or more defects is provided to the claimant by registered mail to cure the 1 or more defects or pay the claim maintenance fee, S. 1129, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing leases and permits, S. 1473, to amend Public Law 99-548 to provide for the implementation of the multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River, Nevada, and to extend the authority to purchase certain parcels of public land, S. 1492, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, S. 1559, to establish the San Juan Islands National Conservation Area in the San Juan Islands, Washington, S. 1635, to designate certain lands in San Miguel, Ouray, and San Juan Counties, Colorado, as wilderness, S. 1687, to adjust the boundary of Carson National Forest, New Mexico, S. 1774, to establish the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Management Area, to designate certain Federal land as wilderness, and to improve the management of noxious weeds in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, S. 1788, to designate the Pine Forest Range Wilderness area in Humboldt County, Nevada, S. 1906, to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, S. 2001, to expand the Wild Rogue Wilderness Area in the State of Oregon, to make additional wild and scenic river designations in the Rogue River area, to provide additional protections for Rogue River tributaries, S. 2015, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the Powell Recreation District in the State of Wyoming, and S. 2056, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain interests in Federal land acquired for the Scofield Project in Carbon County, Utah, after receiving testimony from Senator Baucus; Mike Pool, Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Leslie A. C. Weldon, Deputy Chief National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; James H. Magagna, Wyoming Stock Growers Association, Cheyenne; Andy Kerr, WildEarth Guardians, Washington, D.C.; Doug Gann, National Forest Homeowners, Kirkland,

Washington, on behalf of the C2 Coalition; Dave Strahan, Grants Pass, Oregon; and Dusty Crary, Choteau, Montana.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BUDGET

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Health Care concluded a hearing to examine prescription drug abuse, focusing on how Medicare and Medicaid are adapting to the challenge, after receiving testimony from Billy Millwee, Texas Health and Human Services Commission State Medicaid Director, Austin; Jeffrey Coben, West Virginia University Injury Control Research Center, Morgantown; Timothy Schwab, SCAN Health Plan, Long Beach, California; and Alex Cahana, University of Washington, Seattle.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Scott H. DeLisi, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, Michael A. Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, and Makila James, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

ARMY MILITARY PAY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Organization, Efficiency, and Financial Management to examine problems in Army military pay, focusing on challenges the Army faces in achieving audit readiness for its military pay, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant Colonel Kirk Zecchini, U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (Reinforcement), James J. Watkins, Director of Accountability and Audit Readiness, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller, Jeanne M. Brooks, Director of Technology and Business Architecture Integration, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, and Aaron P. Gillison, Acting Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Indianapolis, all of the Department of Defense; and Asif A. Khan,

Director, Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office.

WORK STRATEGIES

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine stay-at-work and back-to-work strategies, focusing on lessons from the private sector, after receiving testimony from Karen Amato, SRA International, Inc., Arlington, Virginia, and Christine V. Walters, FiveL Company, Westminster, Maryland, both on behalf of the Society for Human Resource Management; Kenneth Mitchell, WorkRx Group, Ltd., Worthington, Ohio; Thomas R. Watjen, Unum Group, Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Eric Buehlmann, Arlington, Virginia.

INDIAN AFFAIRS BILLS

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1898, to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, and H.R. 1560, to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe, after receiving testimony from Jodi Gillette, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Robert McSwain, Deputy Director for Management Operations, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Paul Hansen, Maniilaq Health Center, Kotzebue, Alaska; and Carlos Hisa, and Jannette Hernandez, both of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, El Paso, Texas.

SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine small business investment companies and their role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem, after receiving testimony from Harry Haskins, Deputy Associate Administrator for Investment, Small Business Administration; Barry Wides, Deputy Comptroller, Community Affairs, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury; Roger Bates, MEP R&H Supply, Inc., Broussard, Louisiana; Vincent D. Foster, Main Street Capital Corporation, Houston, Texas; James Goodman, Gemini Investors, Wellesley, Massachusetts; Manuel A. Henriquez, Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Palo Alto, California; Tim Rafalovich, Wells Fargo Bank, San Diego, California; Charles Rothstein, Michigan Growth Capital Partners, Farmington Hills; Rick Girard, Girard Environmental Services, Sanford, Florida; Thies Kolln, AAVIN Private Equity, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Carl Kopfinger, TD Bank, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;

Dan Penberthy, RAND Capital Corporation, Buffalo, New York; and Don Sackett, Olympus Innov-X, Woburn, Massachusetts.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Blinded Veterans Association, American Veterans (AMVETS), Gold Star Wives, Fleet Reserve Association, Military Officers Association of America, National Guard Association of the United States, and the Jewish War Veterans, after receiving testimony from Charles Susino, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Arlington, Texas; John R. Davis, Fleet Reserve Association, and Robert F. Nor-

ton, USA (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America, both of Alexandria, Virginia; Jamie H. Tomek, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc., Arlington, Virginia; Allen E. Falk, Jewish War Veterans of the USA, Bill Lawson, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Sam Huhn, Blinded Veterans Association, and Gus Hargett, National Guard Association of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.; John R. McCauslin, USAF (Ret.), Air Force Sergeants Association, Suitland, Maryland; and Gary L. Fry, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland.

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: 17 public bills, H.R. 4239–4255; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 110–111; and H. Res. 594 were introduced. **Pages H1541–42**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1543**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

In the Matter Regarding Arrests of Members of the House During a Protest Outside the Embassy of Sudan in Washington, D.C., on March 16, 2012 (H. Rept. 112–419) and H.R. 3834, to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 to authorize activities for support of networking and information technology research, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–420).

Page H1541

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H1499, H1519**

Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act: The House passed H.R. 5, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system, by a recorded vote of 223 ayes to 181 noes with 4 answering "present", Roll No. 126. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, March 21st. **Pages H1501–19**

Rejected the Loeb sack motion to recommit the bill to the Committees on Ways and Means and En-

ergy and Commerce with instructions to report the same to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 180 ayes to 229 noes with 2 answering "present", Roll No. 125. **Pages H1516–18**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–18 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary now printed in the bill. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. **Page H1501**

Agreed to:

Dent amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–416) that addresses the crisis in access to emergency care by extending liability coverage to on-call and emergency room physicians under the Public Health Service Act; **Pages H1507–09**

Gosar amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–416) that restores the application of antitrust laws to the business of health insurance by amending the McCarran-Ferguson Act; **Pages H1509–11**

Woodall amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–416) that strikes the findings in Title I (by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 173 noes with 2 answering "present", Roll No. 122); and

Pages H1504–05, H1513–14

Stearns amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–416) that grants limited civil liability protection to health professionals that volunteer at federally declared disaster sites (by a recorded vote of 251 ayes to 157 noes with 1 answering “present”, Roll No. 124). **Pages H1511–13, H1515**

Rejected:

Bonamici amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 112–416) that sought to delay the date of enactment until the Secretary of Health and Human Services submits to Congress a report on the potential effect of this title on health care premiums (by a recorded vote of 179 ayes to 228 noes with 1 answering “present”, Roll No. 123). **Pages H1505–07, H1514–15**

H. Res. 591, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to yesterday, March 21st.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, March 26th for morning hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business. **Page H1521**

Commission on International Religious Freedom—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term effective March 23, 2012 and ending May 14, 2014: Mr. Robert P. George of Princeton, NJ. **Page H1530**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1513–14, H1514–15, H1515, H1518, H1518–19. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—FY 2013 BUDGET ISSUES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 budget issues. Testimony was heard from Representatives Chu, Farr, Lipinski, Pierluisi, Posey, Gerald W. Hyland, Supervisor, Fairfax County, Virginia; Billy Frank, Chairman, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission; Seamus P. McCaffery, Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania; Tom Skalak, Vice President for Research, University of Virginia; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—FY 2013 BUDGET ISSUES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 budget issues. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FY 2013 BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Education. Testimony was heard from Arnie Duncan, Secretary, Department of Education.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MAJOR MODES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Transportation Major Modes. Testimony was heard from Michael Huerta, Acting Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; Victor Mendez, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration; Joseph C. Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; and Peter Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—COMMODITY FUTURE TRADING COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Testimony was heard from Gary Gensler, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

NAVY’S READINESS POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on the Navy’s readiness posture. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral William Burke, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Fleet Readiness and Logistics; Vice Admiral Kevin McCoy, USN, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; and Vice Admiral David Architzel, USN, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command.

HAZING IN THE MILITARY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on hazing in the military. Testimony was heard from Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, USA, Sergeant Major of the Army; Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick D. West, USN, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy; Sergeant Major Michael P. Barrett, USMC, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Roy, USAF, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force; and Master Chief Michael P. Leavitt, USCG, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Budget: On Wednesday, March 21, 2012, the full Committee held a markup. The following was ordered reported, as amended: a Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013.

MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY PROVISIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Motor Vehicle Safety Provisions in House and Senate Highway Bills”. Testimony was heard from Representative Lewis (GA); David L. Strickland, Administrator, National Highway Transportation Safety Administration; and public witnesses.

HOW MOBILE PAYMENTS COULD CHANGE FINANCIAL SERVICES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled “The Future of Money: How Mobile Payments Could Change Financial Services”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING ONE DHS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management held a hearing entitled “Building One DHS: Why is Employee Morale Low?”. Testimony was heard from Catherine Emerson, Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and David Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Team, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

EFFECTS OF THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2013 BUDGET FOR THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Effect of the President’s FY 2013 Budget for the U.S. Geological Survey on Private Sector Job Creation, Hazard Protection, Mineral Resources and Deficit Reduction”. Testimony was heard from Marcia McNutt, Director, Geological Survey; and public witnesses.

LATEST THREAT TO ACCESS FOR RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs held a hearing entitled “Empty Hooks: The National Ocean Policy is the Latest Threat to Access for Recreational and Commercial Fisherman”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 3985, the “Building Better Business Partnerships Act of 2012”; H.R. 3987, the “Small Business Protection Act of 2012”; H.R. 4081, the “Contractor Opportunity Protection Act of 2012”; H.R. 4206, the “Contracting Oversight for Small Business Jobs Act of 2012”; and H.R. 4203, the “Women’s Procurement Program Improvement Act of 2012”. The following bills were order reported, as amended: H.R. 3985; H.R. 3987; H.R. 4081; and H.R. 4206. The following bill was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 4203.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OPERATIONS AND THE 2012 TAX RETURN FILING SEASON

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Internal Revenue Service Operations and the 2012 Tax Return Filing Season”. Testimony was heard from Douglas Shulman, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing on ongoing intelligence activities. This was a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

PROGRESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe. On Wednesday, March 21, 2012, commission concluded a hearing to examine prerequisites for progress in Northern Ireland, focusing on the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and the current challenges to full implementation of the agreement and the action that is necessary for continued confidence and progress in the peace process, after receiving testimony from Christopher Stanley, British-Irish Rights Watch, London; Mark Thompson, Relatives for Justice, Brian Gormally, Committee on the Administration of Justice, and Geraldine Finucane, all of Belfast; and Patricia Lundy, University of Ulster, Jordanstown.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, March 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 4:30 p.m.), Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2204, Oil Tax Subsidies, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 5:30 p.m. If cloture is not invoked, Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1789, 21st Century Postal Service Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 p.m., Monday, March 26

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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 Yarmuth, John A., Ky., E423



Congressional Record

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