

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Senate continued in the session that began on Wednesday, December 11, 2013. See next volume of the Congressional Record.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

P5 + 1 INTERIM NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine assessing the P5+1 Interim Nuclear Agreement with Iran, focusing on Administration perspectives, after receiving testimony from Wendy Sherman, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs; and David S. Cohen, Under Secretary of the Treasury.

WEATHER FORECASTING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine forecasting success, focusing on achieving U.S. weather readiness for the long term, after receiving testimony from Louis W. Uccellini, Assistant Administrator for Weather Services, and Director of the National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; William B. Gail, Global Weather Corporation, Boulder, Colorado; A. Thomas Young, NOAA Satellite Independent Review Team, Onancock, Virginia; Barry Lee Myers, AccuWeather, Inc, State College, Pennsylvania; Richard J. Hirn, National Weather Service Employees Organization, Washington, D.C.; and Lee E. Ohanian, University of California Los Angeles Ettinger Family Program in Macroeconomic Research.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of

Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, who was introduced by Senator Feinstein, and Jonathan Elkind, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, both of the Department of Energy, and Rhea Sun Suh, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, and Tommy Port Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be an Assistant Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Begich, both of the Department of the Interior, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably the following business items:

An original bill to repeal the Sustainable Growth Rate system and to consider health care extenders; and

An original bill entitled, "Supporting at Risk Children Act".

ACCREDITATION AS QUALITY ASSURANCE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine accreditation as quality assurance, focusing on meeting the needs of 21st Century learning, after receiving testimony from Arthur Levine, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Princeton, New Jersey; Ralph A. Wolff, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Alameda, California; Daniel Phelan, Jackson College, Jackson, Michigan; and Laura Rasar King, Council on Education for Public Health, Silver Spring, 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: 61 public bills, H.R. 3712–3772; and 7 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 71–72; and H. Res. 441–445 were introduced. **Pages H8107–12**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8112–13**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 94, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions (H. Rept. 113–291);

H.R. 95, to reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions (H. Rept. 113–292, Pt. 1);

H.R. 1994, to terminate the Election Assistance Commission (H. Rept. 113–293); and

H.R. 3107, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish cybersecurity occupation classifications, assess the cybersecurity workforce, develop a strategy to address identified gaps in the cybersecurity workforce, and for other purposes, with an amendment (Rept. 113–294). **Pages H8106–07**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7691**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H7698**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. John Loudon, First Presbyterian Church, Lakeland, Florida. **Page H7698**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 250 yeas to 147 nays with 2 answering "present", Roll No. 639. **Page H7716**

Oath of Office—Fifth Congressional District of Massachusetts: Representative-elect Katherine M. Clark presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a facsimile copy of a letter received from the Honorable William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held December 10, 2013, the Honorable Katherine M. Clark was elected Representative to Congress for the Fifth Congressional District, Commonwealth of Massachusetts. **Pages H7714–15, H8104–05**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the adminis-

tration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, Ms. Clark, the whole number of the House is 433. **Page H7715**

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

Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3304, with an amendment: H. Res. 441, to provide for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3304, with an amendment, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 350 yeas to 69 nays, Roll No. 641; **Pages H7717–H8046, H8084–85**

Providing a temporary extension of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 and amendments made by that Act: H.R. 3695, amended, to provide a temporary extension of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 and amendments made by that Act, as previously extended and amended and with certain additional modifications and exceptions and to suspend permanent price support authorities; **Pages H8046–47**

Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013: H.R. 1447, to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies; and **Pages H8047–49**

Assessing Progress in Haiti Act of 2013: H.R. 3509, amended, to direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the status of post-earthquake recovery and development efforts in Haiti. **Pages H8049–53**

Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2014: The House agreed to the Ryan (WI) motion that the House recede from its amendment to the amendment of the Senate to H.J. Res. 59, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, and concur therein with the amendment printed in Part A of H. Rept. 113–290, modified by the amendment printed in Part B of that report, by a recorded vote of 332 yeas to 94 noes, Roll No. 640. **Pages H7702–16, H8053–84**

H. Res. 438, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 59), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 638, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 637. **Pages H7714–16**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the late South African president Nelson Mandela. **Page H8084**

Providing for corrections to the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3304: The House agreed by unanimous consent to H. Con. Res. 71, to provide for corrections to the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3304.

Page H8085

Honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Nelson Mandela and expressing condolences on his passing: The House agreed to discharge and agree to H. Res. 434, to honor the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Nelson Mandela and to express condolences on his passing.

Pages H8085–86

Providing for corrections to the enrollment of H.J. Res. 59: The House agreed by unanimous consent to H. Con. Res. 72, to provide for corrections to the enrollment of H.J. Res. 59.

Page H8086

Fallen Firefighters Assistance Tax Clarification Act of 2013: The House agreed to discharge and pass H.R. 3458, to treat payments by charitable organizations with respect to certain firefighters as exempt payments.

Page H8086

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, December 16th.

Page H8086

United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individual on the part of the House of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission for a term expiring on December 31, 2015: Mr. Daniel M. Slane of Ohio.

Page H8104

Commission on Civil Rights—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment, effective December 16, 2013, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Commission on Civil Rights for a term expiring December 15, 2019: Peter N. Kirsanow of Cleveland, Ohio.

Page H8104

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H8096.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7714, H7715–16, H7716, H8083–84 and H8084–85. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 9:33 p.m., pursuant to House Resolution 434, the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Monday, December 16, 2013 as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late President Nelson Mandela, former President of the Republic of South Africa.

Program for Monday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 11 a.m.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission". Testimony was heard from the following Federal Communications Commission officials: Tom Wheeler, Chairman; Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner; Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner; and Ajit Pai, Commissioner.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power; and Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing entitled "Oversight of NRC Management and the Need for Legislative Reform"; and H.R. 3132, the "NRC Reorganization Plan Codification and Complements Act". Testimony was heard from the following Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials: Allison Macfarlane, Chairman; George Apostolakis, Commissioner; William Magwood, Commissioner; William Ostendorff, Commissioner; and Kristine Svinicki, Commissioner.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The Annual Testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Finance System". Testimony was heard from Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, Department of Treasury.

FEDERAL RESERVE'S MANY MANDATES ON ITS 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Rethinking the Federal Reserve's Many Mandates on Its 100-Year Anniversary". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IRAN'S PERSECUTION OF AMERICAN PASTOR ABEDINI WORSENS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled "Iran's Persecution of American Pastor Abedini Worsens". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RESURGENCE OF AL-QAEDA IN IRAQ

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled "The Resurgence of al-Qaeda

in Iraq”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DHS

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Help Wanted at DHS: Implications of Leadership Vacancies on the Mission and Morale”. Testimony was heard from David C. Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

ASYLUM ABUSE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Asylum Abuse: Is it Overwhelming our Borders?”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA— DECISIONS BY CLOSED DOOR SETTLEMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “ESA Decisions by Closed-Door Settlement: Short-Changing Science, Transparency, Private Property, and State & Local Economies”. Testimony was heard from Jeff Sikes, Legislative Director, Association of Arkansas Counties, Little Rock, Arkansas; and public witnesses.

OBAMACARE’S IMPACT ON PREMIUMS AND PROVIDER NETWORKS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “ObamaCare’s Impact on Premiums and Provider Networks”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FDA CHECKUP: DRUG DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING CHALLENGES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements held a hearing entitled “FDA Checkup: Drug Development and Manufacturing Challenges”. Testimony was heard from Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

BUILDING A NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a hearing entitled “Building a Network for Manufacturing

Innovation”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Reed and Kennedy; and public witnesses.

STATE OF AMERICAN AVIATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “The State of American Aviation”. Testimony was heard from Susan Kurland, Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2810, the “Medicare Patient Access and Quality Improvement Act of 2013”. The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

CLANDESTINE UPDATE

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Clandestine Quarterly Update”. This was a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1157)

H.R. 3626, to extend the Undetectable Firearms Act of 1988 for 10 years. Signed on December 9, 2013. (Public Law 113–57)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Sarah Bloom Raskin, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, and John Andrew Koskinen, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, both of the Department of the Treasury, and Rhonda K. Schmidlein, of Missouri, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, 11 a.m., SD–215.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

Friday, December 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate program is uncertain. See next volume of the Congressional Record.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Monday, December 16

House Chamber

Program for Monday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 11 a.m.



Congressional Record

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