

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 203, Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S707–S739

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 340–355, and S. Res. 63–64. **Pages S736–37**

Measures Reported:

S. 192, to reauthorize the Older Americans Act of 1965. **Page S736**

Measures Passed:

Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act: By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 50), Senate passed H.R. 203, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Pages S716–20**

National School Counseling Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 64, designating February 2 through 6, 2015, as “National School Counseling Week”. **Page S739**

Measures Considered:

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act—Cloture: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 240, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. **Pages S707–08, S720–24, S733**

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 Thursday, February 5, 2015. **Page S733**

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

By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 51), 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 motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S722**

Subsequently, Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S722**

Appointments:

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki): The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appointed the following Senators as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 114th Congress: Senator Wicker, Co-Chair, and Senators Burr and Boozman. **Page S739**

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appointed the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control during the 114th Congress: Senator Grassley, Co-Chairman, and Senators Cornyn, Risch, and Sessions. **Page S739**

Messages from the House: **Page S736**

Measures Referred: **Page S736**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S736, S707**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S737**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S738–39**

Additional Statements: **Pages S735–36**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S739**

Privileges of the Floor: Page S739

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—51) Pages S720, S722

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:19 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S739.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MILITARY COMPENSATION AND RETIREMENT MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the findings of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, after receiving testimony from Alphonso Maldon, Jr., Chairman, and former Senator Larry L. Pressler, former Senator J. Robert Kerrey, former Representative Stephen E. Buyer, former Representative Christopher P. Carney, General Peter W. Chiarelli, USA (Ret.), Dov S. Zakheim, and Michael R. Higgins, each a Commissioner, all of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission.

PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016, after receiving testimony from Shaun Donovan, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Internal Revenue Service operations and the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016, after receiving testimony from John

A. Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury.

POLICY CHANGES IN CUBA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine understanding Cuba policy changes, including the impact on human rights in Cuba, after receiving testimony from Roberta S. Jacobson, Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs, and Tom P. Malinowski, Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, both of the Department of State; Rosa Maria Paya, Christian Liberation Movement, Miami, Florida; Berta Soler, Cuban Ladies in White, Matanzas, Cuba; and Manuel Cuesta Morua, Progressive Arc, and Miriam Leiva, both of Havana, Cuba.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine No Child Left Behind, focusing on innovation to meet the needs of students, after receiving testimony from Ken Bradford, Louisiana Assistant Superintendent of Education, Baton Rouge; Robert Balfanz, Johns Hopkins University School of Education Center for Social Organization of Schools, and Henriette Taylor, University of Maryland School of Social Work, both of Baltimore; Josh Davis, Delta Health Alliance, Stoneville, Mississippi; Katie Duffy, Democracy Prep Public Schools, New York, New York; Susan Stone Kessler, Hunter Lane High School, Nashville, Tennessee; and James P. McIntyre, Jr., Knox County Schools, Knoxville, Tennessee.

INTELLIGENCE

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

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 5, 666–697; 1 private bill, H.R. 698; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 28; H. Con. Res. 13; and H. Res. 77–85, were introduced.

Pages H754–56

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H757–58

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 78, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 527) to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Regulatory Flexibility Act), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, and for

other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 50) to provide for additional safeguards with respect to imposing Federal mandates, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–14). **Page H754**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fleischmann to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H707**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:29 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H710**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 267 yeas to 148 nays with one answering "present", Roll No. 56. **Pages H710, H722–23**

Repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: The House passed H.R. 596, to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, by a recorded vote of 239 yeas to 186 noes, Roll No. 58. **Pages H723–42**

Rejected the DeSaulnier motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 179 yeas to 241 nays, Roll No. 57. **Pages H740–41**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in H. Rept. 114–13 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H723**

H. Res. 70, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 596), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 242 yeas to 178 noes, Roll No. 55, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 242 yeas to 176 nays, Roll No. 54. **Pages H713–22**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 77, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H742**

House Democracy Partnership—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the House Democracy Partnership: Representative Roskam, Chairman; Representatives Fortenberry, Boustany, Conaway, Buchanan, Crenshaw, Brooks (IN), Black, Ribble, Walorski, and Zeldin. **Pages H742–43**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today and appears on page H742.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H721–22, H722, H723, H741, and H741–42. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Committee Meetings

WORLD WIDE THREATS

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "World Wide Threats". Testimony was heard from the following Department of Defense officials: Mark S. Chandler, Acting Director for Intelligence, J–2, the Joint Staff; Lieutenant General William C. Mayville, USA, Director for Operations, J–3, the Joint Staff; and Lieutenant General Vincent R. Stewart, USMC, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM UPDATE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled "Wounded Warrior Program Update". Testimony was heard from Captain Brent Breining, Director, Navy Wounded Warrior—Safe Harbor, United States Navy; Brigadier General Patrick Doherty, Director, Air Force Services, United States Air Force; James Rodriguez, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Warrior Care, Department of Defense; Colonel Chris Toner, Commander, Warrior Transition Command, United States Army; and Paul Williamson, Command Advisor, Wounded Warrior Regiment, United States Marine Corps.

EXAMINING THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO SEASONAL INFLUENZA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Examining the U.S. Public Health Response to Seasonal Influenza". Testimony was heard from Anne Schuchat, Director, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Karen Midthun, Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration; Robin Robinson, Director, Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services; and Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health.

THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE: DEFINING U.S. INTERESTS IN THE REGION

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled "The Strategic Importance of the Western Hemisphere: Defining U.S. Interests in the Region". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A REVIEW OF ACCESS CONTROL MEASURES AT OUR NATION'S AIRPORTS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled “A Review of Access Control Measures at Our Nation's Airports”. Testimony was heard from Mark Hatfield, Acting Deputy Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; Gary D. Perdue, Deputy Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE ADEQUACY AND ENFORCEMENT OF OUR NATION'S IMMIGRATION LAWS

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the Adequacy and Enforcement of Our Nation's Immigration Laws”. Testimony was heard from Paul Babeu, Sheriff of Pinal County, Arizona; and public witnesses.

INSPECTORS GENERAL: INDEPENDENCE, ACCESS AND AUTHORITY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Inspectors General: Independence, Access and Authority”. Testimony was heard from Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice; Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency; and Kathy A. Buller, Inspector General, U.S. Peace Corps.

UNFUNDED MANDATES INFORMATION AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2015; SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2015

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 50, the “Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2015”; and H.R. 527, the “Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2015”. The committee granted, by record vote of 6–2, a structured rule for H.R. 527. The rule provides one hour of general debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order as original text for the purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–3 and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only

those further amendments printed in part A of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part A of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule also granted a structured rule for H.R. 50. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–4, modified by the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments to H.R. 50 printed in part C of the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part C of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Chaffetz, and Representatives Marino, Johnson of Georgia, Chabot, Jackson Lee, Clay, and Meadows.

NSF'S OVERSIGHT OF THE NEON PROJECT AND OTHER MAJOR RESEARCH FACILITIES DEVELOPED UNDER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, held a joint hearing entitled “NSF's Oversight of the NEON Project and Other Major Research Facilities Developed Under Cooperative Agreements”. Testimony was heard from Richard Buckius, Chief Operating Officer, National Science Foundation; Kate Manuel, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service; and a public witness.

HOW THE CHANGING ENERGY MARKETS WILL AFFECT U.S. TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “How the Changing Energy Markets Will Affect U.S. Transportation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing on the President’s fiscal year 2016 budget. Testimony was heard from Jacob Lew, Secretary, Department of Treasury.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Ashton B. Carter, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine private sector experience with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) framework, focusing on building a more secure cyber future, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine the impacts of vessel discharge regulations on shipping and fishing industries, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to examine impacts of the proposed waters of the United States rule on state and local governments, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine ending modern slavery, focusing on the best way forward, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine deferred action on immigration, focusing on implications and unanswered questions, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 184, to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to require background checks before foster care placements are ordered in tribal court proceedings, S. 209, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, S. 246, to establish the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and an

original bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine loan leveraging in Indian country, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine combating financial exploitation of vulnerable seniors, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Final Recommendations from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2016 Budget”, 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Expanding Opportunity in America’s Schools and Workplaces”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, markup on the “Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act of 2015”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 639, the “Improving Regulatory Transparency for New Medical Therapies Act”; H.R. 471, the “Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act”; the “Trauma Systems and Regionalization of Emergency Care Reauthorization Act”; and the “Access to Life-Saving Trauma Care for All Americans Act”, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Exploring Alleged Ethical and Legal Violations at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Cuba: Assessing the Administration’s Sudden Shift”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “The Palestinian Authority’s International Criminal Court Gambit: A True Partner for Peace?”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing on committee funding for the 114th Congress, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, hearing on the “Legal Workforce Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing on H.R. 526, the “Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2015”, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 644, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory; H.R. 637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make

permanent the rule allowing certain tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes; H.R. 641, the “Conservation Easement Incentive Act of 2015”; H.R. 640, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax rate for excise tax on investment income of private foundations; H.R. 636, the “America’s Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2015”; H.R.

629, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the reduced recognition period for built-in gains of S corporations; H.R. 630, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent certain rules regarding basis adjustments to stock of S corporations making charitable contributions of property, 11:15 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 4

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 4

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. for a bipartisan conference meeting.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 50—Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule).

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