

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 2, Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2141–S2183

Measures Introduced: Thirty-seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 903–939, and S. Res. 135.

Pages S2172–73

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Review of Legislative Activity During the 113th Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 114–31)

S. 903, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access and administration of the United States Tax Court. (S. Rept. No. 114–14)

S. 904, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove bond requirements and extend filing periods for certain taxpayers with limited excise tax liability. (S. Rept. No. 114–15)

S. 905, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation on eligibility for the alternative tax for certain small insurance companies. (S. Rept. No. 114–16)

S. 906, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the types of wines taxed as hard cider. (S. Rept. No. 114–17)

S. 907, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent the extension of the tax collection period merely because the taxpayer is a member of the Armed Forces who is hospitalized as a result of combat zone injuries. (S. Rept. No. 114–18)

S. 908, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to agricultural research organizations. (S. Rept. No. 114–19)

S. 909, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt private foundations from the tax on excess business holdings in the case of certain philanthropic enterprises which are independently supervised. (S. Rept. No. 114–20)

S. 910, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the special rules for accident and

health plans of certain governmental entities. (S. Rept. No. 114–21)

S. 912, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude payments received under the Work Colleges Program from gross income, including payments made from institutional funds. (S. Rept. No. 114–22)

S. 913, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an investment tax credit for waste heat to power technology. (S. Rept. No. 114–23)

S. 914, to amend title 31, United States Code, to clarify the use of credentials by enrolled agents. (S. Rept. No. 114–24)

S. 915, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain stock of real estate investment trusts from the tax on foreign investments in United States real property interests. (S. Rept. No. 114–25)

S. 916, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain compensation received by public safety officers and their dependents from gross income. (S. Rept. No. 114–26)

S. 917, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to equalize the excise tax on liquefied petroleum gas and liquefied natural gas. (S. Rept. No. 114–27)

S. 918, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide notice to charities and other non-profit organizations before their tax-exempt status is automatically revoked. (S. Rept. No. 114–28)

S. 919, to exclude from gross income certain clean coal power grants to non-corporate taxpayers. (S. Rept. No. 114–29)

S. 920, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State. (S. Rept. No. 114–30)

S. 615, to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran’s nuclear

program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2171–72**

Measures Passed:

Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act:

By 92 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 144), Senate passed H.R. 2, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare sustainable growth rate and strengthen Medicare access by improving physician payments and making other improvements, to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program, after taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S2156–61**

Rejected:

By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 137), Cornyn Amendment No. 1114, to repeal the individual mandate. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S2156–57

By 42 yeas to 58 nays (Vote No. 139), Lee Amendment No. 1116, to strike the provision excluding the budgetary effects of the Act from PAYGO requirements. **Page S2158**

By 11 yeas to 89 nays (Vote No. 141), Cotton Amendment No. 1118, to provide steady updates of payment rates under the Medicare physician fee schedule. **Page S2159**

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

By 50 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 138), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive all applicable budgetary discipline pursuant to Section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, with respect to Bennet Amendment No. 1115, to protect and retain our Children's Health Insurance Program for 4 years (PRO-CHIP). Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 201(a) of S. Con. Res. 21, FY08 Congressional Budget Resolution, was sustained, and the amendment was ruled out of order.

Pages S2157–58

By 43 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 140), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive all applicable budgetary discipline pursuant to Section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, with respect to Murray Amendment No. 1117, to improve women's access to quality health care. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 201(a) of S. Con. Res. 21, FY08 Congressional Budget Resolution, was sustained, and the amendment was ruled out of order. **Pages S2158–59**

By 58 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 142), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive all applicable budgetary discipline pursuant to Section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, with respect to Cardin Amendment No. 1119, to repeal the therapy cap and provide for medical review of outpatient therapy services. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 201(a) of S. Con. Res. 21, FY08 Congressional Budget Resolution, was sustained, and the amendment was ruled out of order. **Page S2160**

By 71 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. 143), three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to waive all applicable budgetary discipline pursuant to section 311(b) of S. Con. Res. 70 with respect to the bill. Subsequently, the point of order that the bill was in violation of section 311(b) of S. Con. Res. 70, was not sustained, and thus the point of order fell. **Page S2161**

Authorizing the Use of Emancipation Hall: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 9, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page S2183**

Making Minority Party Appointments: Senate agreed to S. Res. 135, making minority party appointments for the 114th Congress. **Page S2183**

Measures Considered:

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of S. 178, to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2161–64**

Withdrawn:

Portman Amendment No. 271, to amend the definition of "homeless person" under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to include certain homeless children and youth. **Page S2162**

Portman Amendment No. 270, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking. **Page S2162**

Pending:

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1120, to strengthen the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act by incorporating additional bipartisan amendments. **Pages S2162–64**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1120 to 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, April 16, 2015. **Pages S2162–64**

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

Vitter Amendment No. 284 (to Amendment No. 271), to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth, fell when Portman Amendment No. 271 (listed above) was withdrawn.

Page S2162

Presidential Coin Program Referral—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that S. 95, to terminate the \$1 presidential coin program, be discharged from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and be referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Page S2183

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to the United States Congress with respect to the proposed rescission of Cuba's designation as a state sponsor of terrorism; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–13)

Page S2167

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Glyn Townsend Davies, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2019.

Page S2183

Messages from the House:

Page S2167

Measures Referred:

Page S2167

Executive Communications:

Pages S2168–71

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2173–74

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S2174–75

Additional Statements:

Pages S2166–67

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S2175–82

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S2182–83

Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—144)

Pages S2157–61

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:11 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2183.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

U.S. DEFENSE POLICY ISSUES

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine U.S. defense policy issues pertaining to the Asia-Pacific theater, after receiving testimony from Graham T. Allison, John F. Kennedy School of Government Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Kurt M. Campbell, The Asia Group, Michael J. Green, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Admiral Gary Roughead, USN (Ret.), Hoover Institution, all of Washington, D.C.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Michael E. Williamson, USA, Military Deputy and Director, Army Acquisition Corps, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, Lieutenant General Herbert R. McMaster, Jr., USA, Director, Army Capabilities Integration Center, and Deputy Commanding General, Futures, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, Lieutenant General Anthony R. Ierardi, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army (G–8), and Major General Gary H. Cheek, USA, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army (G–3/5/7), all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded open and closed hearings to examine military cyber programs and posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Eric Rosenbach, Principal Cyber Advisor to the Secretary, Lieutenant General James K. McLaughlin, USAF, Deputy Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, Lieutenant General Edward C. Cardon, USA, Commander, U.S. Army Cyber Command, Vice Admiral Jan E. Tighe, USN, Commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command, Commander, U.S. 10th Fleet, Major General Burke E. Wilson, USAF, Commander, 24th Air Force, Commander, Air Forces Cyber, and Major General Daniel J. O'Donohue, USMC, Commanding General, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Cyberspace, all of the Department of Defense.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, after receiving testimony from Michael P. Huerta, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation.

FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CHEMICAL SAFETY, AND FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES OVERSIGHT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight concluded an oversight hearing to examine the management of Federal environmental protection, chemical safety, and fish and wildlife agencies, after receiving testimony from Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency; and Mary L. Kendall, Deputy Inspector General, Department of the Interior.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 615, to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

REDUCING UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reducing unnecessary duplication in Federal programs, focusing on government efficiency and effectiveness, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Cynthia Bascetta, Managing Director, Health Care, and Paul Francis, Managing Director, Acquisitions and Sourcing Management, all of the Government Accountability Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee began consideration of an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

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: 30 public bills, H.R. 1764–1793; 1 private bill, H.R. 1794; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 44; H. Con. Res. 35–36; and H. Res. 199, were introduced.

Pages H2208–10

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2211–13

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1562, to prohibit the awarding of a contract or grant in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies in writing to the agency awarding the contract or grant that the contractor or grantee has no seriously delinquent tax debts, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–72);

H.R. 1563, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that individuals having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–73, Part 1); and

H. Res. 200, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 622) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction of State and local general sales taxes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1105) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1195) to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to establish advisory boards, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–74).

Page H2208

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Newhouse to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2157**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2161**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 199, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Pages H2161–62**

Congressional Budget Resolution FY 2016: Pursuant to H. Res. 189, S. Con. Res. 11, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025, was taken from the Speaker's Table; the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H. Con. Res. 27, as agreed to in the House, was considered as agreed to; and S. Con. Res. 11, as amended, was agreed to. The House insisted on its amendment and requested a conference with the Senate thereon.

Pages H2171–78, H2197–98

Rejected the Van Hollen motion to instruct conferees on the concurrent resolution by a ye-and-nay vote of 187 yeas to 239 nays, Roll No. 153.

Pages H2171–78, H2197–98

Subsequently, the Chair appointed the following Members of the House to the conference committee on the concurrent resolution: Representatives Price (GA), Rokita, Diaz-Balart, Black, Moolenaar, Van Hollen, Yarmuth, and Moore. **Page H2198**

H. Res. 189, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 650, H.R. 685, and the adoption of S. Con. Res. 11, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 237 yeas to 185 noes, Roll No. 149, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 148. **Pages H2165–71**

Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2015: The House passed H.R. 650, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, by a ye-and-nay vote of 263 yeas to 162 nays, Roll No. 151. **Pages H2178–88, H2194–97**

Rejected the Waters (CA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a ye-and-nay vote of 184 yeas to 239 nays, Roll No. 150.

Pages H2194–96

H. Res. 189, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 650, H.R. 685, and the adoption of S. Con. Res. 11, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 237 yeas to 185 noes, Roll No. 149, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 148. **Pages H2165–71**

Mortgage Choice Act of 2015: The House passed H.R. 685, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction, by a ye-and-nay vote of 286 yeas to 140 nays, Roll No. 152. **Pages H2188–94, H2197**

H. Res. 189, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 650, H.R. 685, and the adoption of S. Con. Res. 11, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 237 yeas to 185 noes, Roll No. 149, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 148. **Pages H2165–71**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted the proposed rescission of Cuba's designation as a state sponsor of terrorism—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–26).

Page H2200

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five ye-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2169–70, H2170–71, H2196, H2196–97, H2197, and H2198. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Committee Meetings

REAUTHORIZING THE CFTC: COMMISSIONERS' PERSPECTIVES

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit held a hearing entitled "Reauthorizing the CFTC: Commissioners' Perspectives". Testimony was heard from Sharon Y. Bowen, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; J. Christopher Giancarlo, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and Mark P. Wetjen, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

A PRESENTATION BY NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research held a hearing entitled "A Presentation by National 4-H Conference Participants Concerning the Future of Agriculture in the United States". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—EARLY EDUCATION PANEL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a

hearing on Early Education Panel budget. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Defense Health Program budget. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Douglas J. Robb, Director, Defense Health Agency; Lieutenant General Patricia D. Horoho, Surgeon General, United States Army; Vice Admiral Matthew L. Nathan, Surgeon General, United States Navy; Lieutenant General Thomas W. Travis, Surgeon General, United States Air Force.

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Member Day”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Chabot and Representatives Blackburn, Wagner, Hardy, Young of Alaska, Rothfus, Bost, Fitzpatrick, Curbelo of Florida, Lawrence, Ross, Blumenauer, Gohmert, Ellmers, and Hurd of Texas.

UPDATE ON THE F-35 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF) PROGRAM AND THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing entitled “Update on the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Program and the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Christopher C. Bogdan, USAF, Program Executive Officer, F-35 Lightning II Joint Program Office; Sean J. Stackley, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; Michael Sullivan, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management Issues, Governmental Accountability Office; and Michael Gilmore, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation.

FIVE YEARS OF BROKEN PROMISES: HOW THE PRESIDENT’S HEALTH CARE LAW IS AFFECTING AMERICA’S WORKPLACES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Five Years of Broken Promises: How the President’s Health Care Law is Affecting America’s Workplaces”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EPA’S PROPOSED 111(d) RULE FOR EXISTING POWER PLANTS, AND H.R. _____, RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled “EPA’s Proposed 111(d) Rule for Existing Power Plants, and

H.R. _____, Ratepayer Protection Act”. Testimony was heard from Janet McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Melissa A. Hoffer, Chief, Energy and Environment Bureau, Office of the Attorney General of Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

H.R. _____, THE TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing entitled “H.R. _____, the TSCA Modernization Act of 2015”. Testimony was heard from Jim Jones, Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee began a markup on the “Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015”; H.R. 906, to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters; and the “Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015”.

THE CRUDE OIL EXPORT BAN: HELPFUL OR HURTFUL?

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled “The Crude Oil Export Ban: Helpful or Hurtful?”. Testimony was heard from Chairman McCaul, Representative Barton, and public witnesses.

YEMEN UNDER ATTACK BY IRANIAN-BACKED HOUTHIS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled “Yemen Under Attack by Iranian-Backed Houthis”. Testimony was heard from Gerald M. Feierstein, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1731, the “National Cybersecurity Protection Advancement Act of 2015”. The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

OVERSIGHT OF U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement”. Testimony was heard from Sarah R. Saldaña, Director, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 9, the “Innovation Act”. Testimony was heard from Michelle Lee, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 329, the “Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2015”; H.R. 521, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation located in Bethel, Alaska; and H.R. 812, the “Indian Trust Asset Reform Act”. Testimony was heard from Nisha Patel, Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; Robert McSwain, Acting Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; and Vincent Logan, Special Trustee, Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of Interior; and public witnesses.

PROPOSED FEDERAL WATER GRABS AND THEIR POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON STATES, WATER AND POWER USERS, AND LANDOWNERS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Power, and Oceans held a hearing entitled “Proposed Federal Water Grabs and Their Potential Impacts on States, Water and Power Users, and Landowners”. Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief, Forest Service; Timothy Mauck, Commissioner, District 1, Clear Creek County, Colorado; and public witnesses.

DOJ IG: HANDLING OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND MISCONDUCT ALLEGATIONS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “DOJ IG: Handling of Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Allegations”. Testimony was heard from Michael Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice; Kevin Perkins, Associate Deputy Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Michele Leonhart, Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration.

GAO’S DUPLICATION REPORT AT FIVE YEARS: RECOMMENDATIONS REMAIN UNADDRESSED

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “GAO’s Duplication Report at Five Years: Recommendations Remain Unaddressed”. Testimony was heard from Gene

L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; and Beth Cobert, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

STATE AND LOCAL SALES TAX DEDUCTION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2015; DEATH TAX REPEAL ACT OF 2015; BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION ADVISORY BOARDS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 622, the “State and Local Sales Tax Deduction Fairness Act of 2015”; H.R. 1105, the “Death Tax Repeal Act of 2015”; and H.R. 1195, the “Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Advisory Boards Act”. The committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a closed rule for H.R. 622. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. 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 provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Additionally, the rule grants a closed rule for H.R. 1105. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted. 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 provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Lastly, the rule grants a structured rule for H.R. 1195. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part C 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

printed in part D of the Rules Committee report. Each such further 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 D of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hensarling, Chairman Ryan of Wisconsin, and Representatives Heck of Washington and Levin.

OVERSIGHT OF THE ONGOING RAIL, PIPELINE, AND HAZMAT RULEMAKINGS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Ongoing Rail, Pipeline, and Hazmat Rulemakings”. Testimony was heard from Sarah Feinberg, Acting Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; Timothy P. Butters, Acting Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; and Christopher A. Hart, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 675, the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2015”; H.R. 677, the “American Heroes COLA Act of 2015”; H.R. 732, the “Veterans Access to Speedy Review Act”; H.R. 800, the “Express Appeals Act”; H.R. 1067, the “U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Reform Act”; H.R. 1331, the “Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2015”; H.R. 1379, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Board of Veterans’ Appeals to develop evidence in appeal cases, and for other purposes; H.R. 1414, the “Pay As You Rate Act”; H.R. 1569, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify that the estate of a deceased veteran may receive certain accrued benefits upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1607, the “Ruth Moore Act of 2015”. Testimony was heard from Representative Pingree of Maine; David R. McLenachen, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Disability Assistance, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS; INDIVIDUAL AND EMPLOYER MANDATES AND ASSOCIATED PENALTIES IN THE PRESIDENT’S HEALTH CARE LAW

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held an organizational meeting for the 114th Congress and a hearing on the individual and employer mandates and associated penalties in the President’s health care law. The subcommittee successfully organized. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on the Central Intelligence Agency held a hearing on Central Intelligence Agency budget. This hearing was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the national intelligence and military intelligence programs, 10:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for military construction and military family housing for select combatant commanders and select defense agencies, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine funding the Department of Homeland Security role in cybersecurity, focusing on protection to partnership, 2 p.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower, to receive a closed briefing on the major threats facing Navy forces and the Navy’s current and projected capabilities to meet those threats in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the National Nuclear Security Administration plans and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine American food aid, focusing on why reform matters, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to continue consideration of an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine IRS challenges in implementing the Affordable Care Act, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the need to reform asset forfeiture, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:45 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine the IRS impersonation scam and the government's response, 1:30 p.m., SD-562.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Past, Present, and Future of SNAP: The World of Nutrition and the Role of the Charitable Sector", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing for Members of Congress, 8:50 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Securities and Exchange Commission budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Ebola budget, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, markup on appropriations bill for fiscal year 2016, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Immigration and Customs Enforcement budget, 11 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, markup on appropriations bill for fiscal year 2016, 11:30 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing on United Nations and International Organizations budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Risk of Losing Military Technology Superiority and its Implications for U.S. Policy, Strategy, and Posture in the Asia-Pacific", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "The Role of Surface Forces in Presence, Deterrence, and Warfighting", 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2016 Nuclear Forces Hearing", 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Serving Students and Families through Child Nutrition Programs", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on the "Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015"; H.R. 906, to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters; and the "Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015" (continued), 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Examining Regulatory Burdens on Non-Depository Financial Institutions", 1 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Confronting Russia's Weaponization of Information", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, markup on H.R. 1150, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes; and H. Res. 50, calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "The Continuing Threat of Neglected Tropical Diseases", 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 427, the "Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015"; H.R. 1759, the "All Economic Regulations are Transparent Act of 2015"; and H.R. 758, the "Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, hearing entitled "Analyzing Misconduct in Federal Law Enforcement", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled "Federal Land Acquisition and its Impacts on Communities and the Environment", 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled "Examining the Future Impacts of President Obama's Offshore Energy Plan", 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules; and Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade of the Committee on Financial Services, joint hearing entitled "Oversight of Efforts to Reform the Export-Import Bank of the United States", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “The Taxpayer Advocate’s Annual Report”, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s UN Climate Pledge: Scientifically Justified or a New Tax on Americans?”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Tax Reform: Ensuring that Main Street Isn’t Left Behind”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1732, the “Regulatory Integrity Protection Act”; H.R. 1471, the “FEMA Disaster Assistance Reform Act of 2015”; H.R. 1472, the “Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Modernization Act of 2015”; H.R. 1473, the “John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2015”; H.R. 944, to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 336, to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska; H.R. 172, to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse”; H. Con. Res. 21, au-

thorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; H. Con. Res. 25, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition; and H.R. 1690, to designate the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the “Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “An Overview of the U.S. Coast Guard’s Missions”, 2 p.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Denver VA Medical Center: Constructing a Way Forward”, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on the National Security Agency and Cybersecurity, hearing on special activities, 10 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine if taxes are holding back small business growth, 2:30 p.m., SD-G50.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 15

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, April 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business for one hour. At 2:49 p.m., Senate will observe a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the Boston Marathon bombings.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. for the bipartisan luncheon.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 622—State and Local Sales Tax Deduction Fairness Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule), H.R. 1105—Death Tax Repeal Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule), and H.R. 1195—Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Advisory Boards Act (Subject to a Rule).

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