

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 178, Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2311–S2359

Measures Introduced: Twenty-eight bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1036–1063, and S. Res. 144–147. **Pages S2351–52**

Measures Passed:

Medicare Independence at Home Medical Practice Demonstration Improvement Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 971, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in the limit on the length of an agreement under the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S2318–19

Cornyn (for Wyden) Amendment No. 1129, to make a technical correction. **Page S2319**

Steve Gleason Act: Senate passed S. 984, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices. **Page S2319**

2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 144, supporting the mission and goals of 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which include increasing public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of, and services available to assist, victims and survivors of crime in the United States. **Page S2319**

Parkinson's Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 145, supporting the designation of April 2015, as "Parkinson's Awareness Month". **Page S2319**

National Assistant Principals Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 146, expressing support for the

designation of the week of April 13 through April 17, 2015, as "National Assistant Principals Week".

Page S2319

Historian Emeritus Donald A. Ritchie: Senate agreed to S. Res. 147, designating Donald A. Ritchie as Historian Emeritus of the United States Senate.

Page S2319

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act: By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 163), Senate passed S. 178, to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2312–18, S2319–48

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 157), Cornyn/Murray Amendment No. 1124, to strengthen the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act by incorporating additional bipartisan amendments. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.) **Pages S2313–16, S2320**

By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 160), Brown Amendment No. 311, to direct the Attorney General to increase the amount provided under certain formula grants to States that have in place laws that terminate the parental rights of men who father children through rape. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.)

Pages S2331–32

By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 161), Burr Amendment No. 1121, to require the Secretary of Defense to inform the Attorney General of persons required to register as sex offenders. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.)

Pages S2320–26, S2332

By 97 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 162), Grassley (for Kirk) Modified Amendment No. 273, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a penalty for

knowingly selling advertising that offers certain commercial sex acts. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.)

Pages S2326–29, S2332–33

Cornyn (for Klobuchar) Amendment No. 296, to stop exploitation through trafficking. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Hoeven) Modified Amendment No. 299, to ensure that eligible entities that have only recently begun collecting data on child human trafficking are not precluded from being awarded certain grants. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Sullivan) Amendment No. 279, to require the Attorney General of the United States to grant certain requests by State attorneys general to cross designate State and local attorneys to prosecute individuals for sex trafficking. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Wicker) Amendment No. 1126, to direct the Attorney General to create a publicly accessible database for trafficking victims advocates that contains information about services for trafficking survivors. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Flake) Amendment No. 294, to require a GAO study on the programs authorized by the bill. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Cassidy/Peters) Amendment No. 308, to provide for the development and dissemination of evidence-based best practices for health care professionals to recognize victims of a severe form of trafficking and respond to such individuals appropriately. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Portman) Amendment No. 1128, 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. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Brown) Amendment No. 310, to allow grants under the victim-centered child human trafficking deterrence block grant program to be used for assisting law enforcement agencies in finding homeless and runaway youth. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Brown) Amendment No. 312, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to expand the training for Federal Government personnel related to trafficking in persons. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Heller) Amendment No. 1122, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to train Department of Homeland Security personnel how to effectively deter, detect, disrupt, and prevent human trafficking during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities. **Pages S2333–37**

Cornyn (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 303, to aid human trafficking victims' recovery and rehabilitation. **Pages S2333–37**

Rejected:

By 43 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 156), Leahy Amendment No. 301, relating to justice for victims of human trafficking. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S2316–18, S2319–20**

By 45 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 158), Cornyn Amendment No. 1127, to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S2330**

By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 159), Leahy Amendment No. 290, to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 21, 2015, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S2329–30, S2330–31**

Withdrawn:

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1120, to strengthen the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act by incorporating additional bipartisan amendments. **Pages S2312–13**

Essential Transportation Worker Identification Credential Assessment Act—Referral Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that H.R. 710, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, be discharged from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. **Page S2319**

Grand Canyon Bison Management Act—Referral Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that S. 782, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a bison management plan for Grand Canyon National Park, be discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works and be referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. **Page S2319**

Lynch Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 23, 2015, notwithstanding Rule XXII, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be Attorney General; that there be 2 hours of debate, equally divided in the usual form, prior to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination; that if cloture is invoked, there be up to 2 hours of post-cloture debate equally divided between the two Leaders, and that following the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S2359**

Messages from the House:	Page S2351
Measures Referred:	Page S2351
Measures Placed on the Calendar:	Page S2351
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S2352–53
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S2353–58
Additional Statements:	Page S2351
Amendments Submitted:	Page S2358
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Pages S2358–59

Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—163) **Pages S2319–20, S2330–33, S2338**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 4:34 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2359.)

Motion to Adjourn: Senate agreed to the motion to adjourn. **Page S2359**

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Transportation, after receiving testimony from Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEFENSE INNOVATION AND RESEARCH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for defense innovation and research, after receiving testimony from Frank Kendall, Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Alan Shaffer, Acting Assistant Secretary for Development Research and Engineering, and Arati Prabhakar, Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), all of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: FEMA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for Federal Emergency Manage-

ment Agency (FEMA), after receiving testimony from W. Craig Fugate, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine reform of the defense acquisition system in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, Sean J. Stackley, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, and William A. LaPlante, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine Air Force and Navy nuclear programs and the implementation of nuclear enterprise review recommendations in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Major General Garrett Harencak, USAF, Assistant Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Lieutenant General Stephen W. Wilson, USAF, Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command, Vice Admiral Terry J. Benedict, USN, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, and Yisroel E. Brumer, Director, Strategic, Defensive and Space Programs, Office of the Secretary, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, all of the Department of Defense; and Madelyn R. Creedon, Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

WEATHER COMMUNICATION TO ENHANCE COMMERCE AND SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how to better communicate weather to enhance commerce and safety, after receiving testimony from Don Herme, Manatee County Emergency Management, Bradenton, Florida; Jay Trobec, Keloland Television, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Ron Sznajder, Schneider Electric, Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Kim Klockow, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, Silver Spring, Maryland.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reauthorization of and potential reforms to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, after receiving testimony from Michael Connor, Deputy Secretary of the Interior; Lewis Ledford, National Association of State Park Directors, Raleigh, North Carolina; Lynn Scarlett, The Nature Conservancy, Arlington, Virginia; and Reed Watson, Property and Environment Research Center (PERC), Bozeman, Montana.

NOMINATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Vanessa Lorraine Allen Sutherland, of Virginia, to be a Member and Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee began consideration of S. 995, to establish congressional trade negotiating objectives and enhanced consultation requirements for trade negotiations, to provide for consideration of trade agreements, an original bill relating to extension of the trade adjustment assistance program, and amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for health insurance costs of certain eligible individuals, an original bill to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and an original bill to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities.

STATE DEPARTMENT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine State Department reauthorization, focusing on ensuring effective United States diplomacy within a reasonable budget, after receiving

testimony from Heather Higginbottom, Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

SECURING THE BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine securing the border, focusing on understanding threats and strategies for the northern border, after receiving testimony from Michael Fisher, Chief, Border Patrol, and John Wagner, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, both of Customs and Border Protection, and James C. Spero, Special Agent in Charge, Homeland Security Investigations Buffalo, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, all of the Department of Homeland Security; Dave Rodriguez, Director, Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney, Northern District of New York, Department of Justice.

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine tribal transportation, focusing on pathways to safer roads in Indian country, after receiving testimony from Michael Black, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Delbert A. McOmie, Wyoming Department of Transportation Chief Engineer, Cheyenne; J. Michael Chavarria, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Espanola, New Mexico; Rick Kirn, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation, Poplar, Montana; and John Smith, Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone Tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation, Fort Washakie, Wyoming.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 710, to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, with an amendment.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 55 public bills, H.R. 1926–1980; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 219, were introduced. **Pages H2415–17**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2419–20**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Collins (GA) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2359**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:55 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2365**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Tom Tucker, Sisk Memorial Baptist Church, Fort Mill, South Carolina.

Page H2365

Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Advisory Boards Act: The House passed H.R. 1195, to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to establish advisory boards, by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 167.

Pages H2378–81

Rejected the Kuster 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 recorded vote of 184 yeas to 234 noes, Roll No. 166.

Pages H2379–80

Agreed to:

Kuster amendment (No. 1 printed in part D of H. Rept. 114–74) that was debated on April 21st that requires the CFPB Director to include representatives of minority- and women-owned small business concerns in the membership of the Small Business Advisory Board, and to include financial institutions predominantly serving traditionally underserved communities and populations and their interests in the membership of the Credit Union Advisory Council and Community Bank Advisory Council (by a recorded vote of 244 yeas to 173 noes, Roll No. 165).

Page H2378

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Takai wherein he resigned from the Committee on Natural Resources.

Page H2381

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 219, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives.

Page H2381

Protecting Cyber Networks Act: The House passed H.R. 1560, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, by a recorded vote of 307 yeas to 116 noes, Roll No. 170.

Pages H2381–98

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence printed in the bill shall be considered as read.

Page H2386

Rejected the Rice (NY) motion to recommit the bill to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 183 yeas to 239 noes, Roll No. 169.

Pages H2396–97

Agreed to:

Nunes amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–88) that makes technical changes to several sections of the bill and clarifies the authorization for the use of defensive measures. Further clarifies

the liability protections for network monitoring and sharing and receipt of cyber threat indicators and defensive measures.

Page H2391

Cárdenas amendment (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–88) that instructs the SBA to provide assistance to small businesses and small financial institutions to participate under this section, instructs the SBA to generate a report about such entities participation, and instructs the federal government to engage in out reach to encourage small business and small financial institution participation.

Pages H2391–92

Carson (IN) amendment (No. 3 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–88) that adds the requirement that the Inspector General report on current procedures pertaining to the sharing of information, removal procedures for personal information or information identifying a specific person, and any incidents pertaining to the improper treatment of information.

Pages H2392–93

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 5 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–88) that directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to provide a report to Congress on the actions taken by the Federal Government to remove personal information from data shared through the programs established by this statute.

Pages H2394–95

Mulvaney amendment (No. 4 printed in part A of H. Rept. 114–88) that sunsets the provisions of the bill after 7 years (by a recorded vote of 313 yeas to 110 noes, Roll No. 168).

Pages H2393–94, H2395–96

H. Res. 212, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1560) and (H.R. 1731), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 238 yeas to 182 noes, Roll No. 164, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 163.

Pages H2368–78

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, April 23.

Pages H2398

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today and appears on page H2378.

Senate Referrals: S. 984 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means. S. 971 was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Page H2414

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2376–77, H2377–78, H2378, H2380, H2380–81, H2395–96, H2397, and H2397–98. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Committee Meetings

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE U.S. GRAIN STANDARDS ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review reauthorization of the U.S. Grain Standards Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to review reauthorization of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup on Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, FY 2016; and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill, FY 2016; and a Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2016. The Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, FY 2016 was ordered reported, as amended. The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill, FY 2016 was ordered reported, as amended. The Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2016 passed, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a markup on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”. H.R. 1735 was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a markup on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”. H.R. 1735 was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

EXAMINING THE CHALLENGES FACING NATIVE AMERICAN SCHOOLS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled “Examining the Challenges Facing Native American Schools”. Testimony was heard from Melissa Emrey-Arras, Director of Education, Workforce, and Income

Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a markup on the “Ratepayer Protection Act”. The “Ratepayer Protection Act” was forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a markup on the “Targeting Rogue and Opaque Letters (TROL) Act”. The “Targeting Rogue and Opaque Letters (TROL) Act” was forwarded to the full committee, as amended.

A SURVEY OF GLOBAL TERRORISM AND TERRORIST FINANCING

Committee on Financial Services: Task Force to Investigate Terrorism Financing held a hearing entitled “A Survey of Global Terrorism and Terrorist Financing”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN: CAN’T TRUST, CAN WE VERIFY?

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Nuclear Agreement with Iran: Can’t Trust, Can We Verify?”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION: TIER RANKINGS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “Accountability and Transformation: Tier Rankings in the Fight Against Human Trafficking”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

POACHING AND TERRORISM: A NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Poaching and Terrorism: A National Security Challenge”. Testimony was heard from Judith G. Garber, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Oceans and International and Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State; Robert Dreher, Associate Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and John Cruden, Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice.

STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVES ON THE BIOTERRORISM THREAT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled “Strategic Perspectives on the Bioterrorism Threat”. Testimony was heard from Marisa Raphael, Deputy Commissioner, Office of Emergency Planning and Response, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and public witnesses.

ACQUISITION OVERSIGHT: HOW EFFECTIVELY IS DHS SAFEGUARDING TAXPAYER DOLLARS?

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a hearing entitled “Acquisition Oversight: How Effectively Is DHS Safeguarding Taxpayer Dollars?”. Testimony was heard from Michele Mackin, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Chip Fulghum, Acting Deputy Undersecretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and a public witness.

INNOVATIONS IN SAFETY SINCE THE 2010 MACONDO INCIDENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Innovations in Safety Since the 2010 Macondo Incident”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Brian Salerno (USCG, Retired), Director, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION’S PART 83 REVISIONS AND HOW THEY MAY ALLOW THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT TO CREATE TRIBES, NOT RECOGNIZE THEM

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “The Obama Administration’s Part 83 Revisions and How They May Allow the Interior Department to Create Tribes, not Recognize Them”. Testimony was heard from Senator Blumenthal; Kevin K. Washburn, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY’S EXCESS URANIUM MANAGEMENT PLAN

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on the Interior held a hearing entitled “Examining the Department of Energy’s Excess Uranium Management Plan”. Testimony was heard from John Kotek, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary,

Office of Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy; David Trimble, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

ENHANCING CYBERSECURITY OF THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Enhancing Cybersecurity of Third-Party Contractors and Vendors”. Testimony was heard from Tony Scott, Chief Information Officer and Administrator, Office of Electronic Government and Information Technology, Office of Management and Budget; Donna K. Seymour, Chief Information Officer, Office of Personnel Management; Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director of Information Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Eric A. Fischer, Senior Specialist in Science and Technology, Congressional Research Service.

AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1806, the “America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2015”. H.R. 1806 was ordered reported, as amended.

**SMALL BUSINESS, BIG THREAT
PROTECTING SMALL BUSINESSES FROM CYBER ATTACKS**

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Small Business, Big Threat: Protecting Small Businesses from Cyber Attacks”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A REVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “A Review of the President’s Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request for the United States Army Corps of Engineers and Tennessee Valley Authority”. Testimony was heard from Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works; Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick, Chief of Engineers, Army Corps of Engineers; and William Johnson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Tennessee Valley Authority.

PHILADELPHIA AND OAKLAND: SYSTEMIC FAILURES AND MISMANAGEMENT

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Philadelphia and Oakland: Systemic Failures and Mismanagement". Testimony was heard from Linda Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; Danny G.I. Pummill, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

THE 2015 TAX FILING SEASON AND GENERAL OPERATIONS AT THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the 2015 tax filing season and general operations at the Internal Revenue Service. Testimony was heard from John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

THE EXPANDING AMERICAN TRADE WITH ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing on the expanding American trade with accountability and transparency. Testimony was heard from Penny S. Pritzker, Secretary, Department of Commerce; Jacob J. Lew, Secretary, Department of the Treasury; and Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Department of Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture held a hearing on Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence budget. This hearing was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-124.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine surface transportation reauthorization, focusing on building on the successes of the Mov-

ing Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) to deliver safe, efficient, and effective public transportation services and projects, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security, to hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on airport issues and infrastructure financing, 9:45 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine the impact of the medical device tax on jobs, innovation, and patients, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anne Elizabeth Wall, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury, Brodi L. Fontenot, of Louisiana, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, and Rafael J. Lopez, of California, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, 2 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 993, to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems, and the nominations of Sally Quillian Yates, of Georgia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, Kara Farnandez Stoll, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, and Roseann A. Ketchmark, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest, to hold hearings to examine the Administration's Central American minors refugee/parole program, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider S. 552, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, S. 957, to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs to help create jobs, S. 958, to amend the Small Business Act to provide for team and joint venture offers for certain contracts, S. 966, to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration, S. 967, to require the Small Business Administration to make information relating to lenders making covered loans publicly available, S. 999, to amend the Small Business Act to provide for improvements to small business development centers, S. 1001, to establish authorization levels for general business loans for fiscal years 2015 and 2016, and an original bill entitled, "SCORE for Small Business Act of 2015", 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on United States Customs and Border Protection budget, 8 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, markup on appropriations bill, FY 2016, 11 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Federal Emergency Management Agency budget, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Programs Supporting Native Americans budget, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, markup on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, markup on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”, 9:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, markup on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, markup on H.R. 1735, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”, 12 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing entitled “Protecting America’s Workers: An Enforcement Update from the Mine Safety and Health Administration”, 9 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “Title II: 21st Century Workforce”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Combating the Opioid Abuse Epidemic: Professional and Academic Perspectives”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled “Examining Regulatory Burdens—Regulator Perspective”, 9:15 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 237, the “FTO Passport Revocation Act of 2015”; H.R. 500, the “Survivors of Human Trafficking Empowerment Act”; H.R. 907, the “United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015”; H.R. 1493, the “Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act”; H.R. 1567, the “Global Food Security Act of 2015”; 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 Rus-

sian prison since July 2014; and H. Con. Res 40, encouraging reunions of divided Korean American families, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled “The U.S. Rebalance in East Asia: Budget Priorities for FY 2016”, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled “The Devastating Impacts of Wildland Fires and the Need to Better Manage our Overgrown, Fire-prone National Forests”, 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hydraulic Fracturing: Banning Proven Technologies on Possibilities Instead of Probabilities”, 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on draft legislation to improve reproductive treatment provided to certain disabled veterans; draft legislation to direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report on the Veterans Health Administration; H.R. 1769, the “Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015”; H.R. 271, the “COVER Act”; H.R. 627, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the definition of homeless veteran for purposes of benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 1369, the “Veterans Access to Extended Care Act of 2015”; and H.R. 1575, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the pilot program on counseling in retreat settings for women veterans newly separated from service in the Armed Forces, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways And Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1891, to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and for other purposes; H.R. 1890, the “Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015”; H.R. 1892, to extend the trade adjustment assistance program, and for other purposes; H.R. 1907, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, hearing on Department of Energy and Department of Homeland Security budget, 9 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine the Armenian genocide and the ongoing quest for justice, 1:30 p.m., 2175 Rayburn Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 23

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, April 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be Attorney General. At approximately 11:30 a.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination. At approximately 1:30 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 1731—National Cybersecurity Protection Advancement Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule).

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