

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2441–S2489

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1105–1125, S.J. Res. 14, and S. Res. 152–153.

Pages S2472–73

Measures Reported:

S. 1124, to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the Act. Page S2472

Measures Passed:

Motor Vehicle Safety Whistleblower Act: Senate passed S. 304, to improve motor vehicle safety by encouraging the sharing of certain information, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S2487–88

Recognizing the Importance of the United States-Japan Relationship: Senate agreed to S. Res. 153, recognizing the importance of the United States-Japan relationship to safeguarding global security, prosperity, and human rights.

Pages S2488–89

Measures Considered:

Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2443–68

Rejected:

By 39 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 167), Johnson Amendment No. 1150 (to Amendment No. 1140), to declare that any agreement reached by the President relating to the nuclear program of Iran is deemed a treaty that is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S2456–61, S2467–68

Pending:

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S2443

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1179 (to Amendment No. 1140), to require submission of all Persian text included in the agreement.

Pages S2443–44

Blunt Amendment No. 1155 (to Amendment No. 1140), to extend the requirement for annual Department of Defense reports on the military power of Iran.

Pages S2461–67

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill following the Joint Meeting with the Japanese Prime Minister, His Excellency Shinzo Abe, on Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

Page S2489

Joint Meeting—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join with a like committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort His Excellency Shinzo Abe, into the House Chamber for the Joint Meeting at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

Page S2489

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, Senate recess subject to the call of the Chair to allow for the Joint Meeting with the Japanese Prime Minister, His Excellency Shinzo Abe.

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Neffenger Nomination—Referral: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nomination of Peter V. Neffenger, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; that upon the reporting out or discharge of the nomination, the nomination then be referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days; after which the nomination, if still in committee, be discharged and placed on the Executive Calendar.

Page S2489

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Peter V. Neffenger, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.	
1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.	
Routine lists in the Army, and Navy.	Page S2489
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S2473–76
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S2476–81
Additional Statements:	Page S2472
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S2481–86
Notices of Intent:	Page S2487
Notices of Hearings/Meetings:	Page S2487
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Page S2487
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S2487
Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—167)	Page S2468
Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:08 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2489.)	

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

U.S. SECURITY POLICY IN EUROPE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States security policy in Europe, after receiving testimony from Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN (Ret.), Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Boston, Massachusetts; and Ian J. Brzezinski, Atlantic Council Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security, and Stephen Sestanovich, Council on Foreign Relations, both of Washington, D.C.

INSURANCE INDUSTRY AND INSURANCE REGULATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of the insurance industry and insurance regulation, including S. 1086, to establish an insurance policy advisory committee on international capital standards, after receiving testimony from S. Roy Woodall, Jr., Independent Member, Financial Stability Oversight Council, and Michael McRaith, Director, Federal Insurance Office, both of the Department of the Treasury; Mark E. Van Der Weide, Deputy Director, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and Kevin M. McCarty, Florida Office of Insurance Regulation Commissioner, Tallahassee, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

U.S. COAST GUARD RESOURCES AND PRIORITIES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine the resources and priorities of the U.S. Coast Guard, after receiving testimony from Admiral Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on aviation safety and general aviation, after receiving testimony from Margaret Gilligan, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation; Christopher A. Hart, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; Faye Malarkey Black, Regional Airline Association, Washington, D.C.; Mark Baker, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Frederick, Maryland; and Chesley B. Sullenberger III, Danville, California.

ADMINISTRATION'S QUADRENNIAL ENERGY REVIEW

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Administration's Quadrennial Energy Review, after receiving testimony from Ernest J. Moniz, Secretary of Energy.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 697, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reauthorize and modernize that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 544, to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or disseminating regulations or assessments based upon science that is not transparent or reproducible, with an amendment; and

General Services Administration resolutions.

AUDIT AND APPEALS ISSUES IN MEDICARE

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine creating a more efficient and level playing field, focusing on audit and appeals issues in Medicare, after receiving testimony from Nancy J. Griswold, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals, Department of Health and Human Services; Sandy Coston, Diversified Service Options, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida; and

Thomas Naughton, MAXIMUS Federal Services, Inc., Reston, Virginia.

JUDICIAL REVIEW IN THE FEDERAL REGULATORY PROCESS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management concluded a hearing to examine the proper role of judicial review in the federal regulatory process, after receiving testimony from Ronald M. Levin, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri; and Andrew M. Grossman, Cato Institute, Washington, D.C.

FUTURE OF MEDICAL INNOVATION FOR PATIENTS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of medical innovation for patients, after receiving testimony from Roderic I. Pettigrew, Director, National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bio-

engineering, and Christopher P. Austin, Director, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, both of the National Institutes of Health, and Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and Jeffrey Shuren, Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, both of the Food and Drug Administration, all of the Department of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Jeh Johnson, Secretary of Homeland Security.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed sessions to receive briefings on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 43 public bills, H.R. 2039–2081; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 48; H. Con. Res. 43; and H. Res. 222 09226 were introduced.

Pages H2495–98

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2499–H2501

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 223, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2028) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; and providing for proceedings during the period from May 4, 2015, through May 11, 2015 (H. Rept. 114–94).

Page H2495

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Walker to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2477

Recess: The House recessed at 12:21 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H2479

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Jim Birchfield, First Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas.

Page H2480

Office of Congressional Ethics—Resignation: Read a letter from Mr. Porter J. Goss wherein he resigned as Chairman and Board Member of the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Page H2481

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress—Reappointment: The Chair announced, pursuant to 44 United States Code 2702, the Speaker's reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Jeffrey W. Thomas, Columbus, Ohio.

Page H2481

Recess: The House recessed at 2:14 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m.

Page H2481

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

Designating the United States Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry located at First Street and Pan American Avenue in Douglas, Arizona, as the “Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry”: H.R. 1075, to designate the United States Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry located at First Street and Pan American Avenue in Douglas, Arizona, as the “Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry”;

Pages H2481–83

Designating the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the “Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse”: 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”; **Pages H2483–84**

Designating the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse”: 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”; **Pages H2484–85**

Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act: H.R. 373, amended, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 413 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 174; **Pages H2485–87, H2489–90**

Amending the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail: H.R. 984, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail; and **Pages H2487–88**

Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2015: H.R. 1324, to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 381 yeas to 30 nays, Roll No. 175. **Pages H2488–89, H2490**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:04 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H2489**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the “Sister Ann Keefe Post Office”: H.R. 651, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the “Sister Ann Keefe Post Office”. **Page H2483**

Recess: The House recessed at 7:59 p.m. and reconvened at 8:54 p.m. **Page H2495**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2489–90 and H2490. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee began a markup on the “Ratepayer Protection Act”; and the “Targeting Rogue and Opaque Letters (TROL) Act”.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016; MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2028, the “Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016”; and H.R. 2029, the “Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016”. The committee granted, by record vote of 8–2, modified-open rules for H.R. 2028 and H.R. 2029. The rule provides one hour of general debate on each bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of each bill. The rule waives points of order against provisions in each bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule provides that after general debate each bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule except that: 1) amendments shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent and shall not be subject to amendment; and 2) no pro forma amendments shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule provides one motion to recommit each bill with or without instructions. In section 3, the rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 2028 and H.R. 2029, the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 27, as adopted by the House, shall have force and effect in the House as though Congress has adopted such concurrent resolution; and the allocations printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered for all purposes in the House to be allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. In section 4, the rule provides that on any legislative day during the period from May 4, 2015, through May 11, 2015:

the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 5, the rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 4. Testimony was heard from Chairman Dent and Representatives Bishop of Georgia, Simpson, and Kaptur.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Guard and Reserve, 9 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Homeland Security, 2 p.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 2:30 p.m., SD-124.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine military space programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine opportunities for private investment in public infrastructure, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine five years after Deepwater Horizon, focusing on improvements and challenges in prevention and response, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider S. 335, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans, 9:35 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Homeland Security, 9 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 152, to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian land in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts; to be immediately followed by a hearing

to examine S. 248, to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the King vs. Burwell Supreme Court case and congressional action that can be taken to protect small businesses and their employees, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office's High Risk List and the Veterans Health Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR-418.

House

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing to review the National Forest System and active forest management, 1:30 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing for public and outside witnesses, 8:30 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, markup on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, FY 2016, 9:30 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1735, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled "Examining Reforms to Modernize the Multiemployer Pension System", 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee, markup on the "Ratepayer Protection Act"; and the "Targeting Rogue and Opaque Letters (TROL) Act" (continued), 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled "The Impact of International Regulatory Standards on the Competitiveness of U.S. Insurers", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "Legislative Proposals to Enhance Capital Formation and Reduce Regulatory Burdens", 2 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "The Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act", 2 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled "ISIS: Defining the Enemy", 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled "Progress and Challenges in the Western Balkans", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, hearing entitled "Terrorism in Africa: The Imminent Threat to the United States", 12 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Register’s Perspective on Copyright Review”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, hearing entitled “Birthright Citizenship: Is it the Right Policy for America?”, 1 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, hearing on H.R. 1927, the “Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act of 2015”, 3 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Zero Accountability: The Consequences of Politically Driven Science”, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 774, the “Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015”; H.R. 1214, the “National Forest Small Tracts Act Amendments Act of 2015”; H.R. 1335, the “Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act”; and H.R. 1991, the “Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act Extension Act of 2015”, 5 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Flying Under the Radar: Securing Washington D.C. Airspace”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled “Following the Trail of U.S. Taxpayers’ Dollars Abroad: On-Budget Assistance in Afghanistan”, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Information Technology, hearing entitled “Encryption Technology and Potential U.S. Policy Responses”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1732, the “Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015”, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Reality Check Part II: The Impact of EPA’s Proposed Ozone Standards on Rural America”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “The Future of Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety: Technology, Safety Initiatives, and the Role of Federal Regulation”, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
9:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 29

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10:30 a.m.), Senate will recess subject to the call of the Chair to allow for the Joint Meeting with the Japanese Prime Minister, His Excellency Shinzo Abe. At 10:35 a.m., Senators will meet in the Senate Chamber to depart as a body at 10:40 a.m. to the Hall of the House for the 11 a.m. Joint Meeting.

Following the Joint Meeting, Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 1191, Protecting Volunteer Fire-fighters and Emergency Responders Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 a.m., Wednesday, April 29

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Joint Meeting with the Senate to receive His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. Consideration of H.R. 2029—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2016 (Subject to a Rule) and H.R. 2028—Energy and Water Appropriations Act, 2016 (Subject to a Rule).

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