

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S215–S296

Measures Introduced: Five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2465–2469. **Page S254**

Measures Considered:

Energy Policy Modernization Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S217–40, S243–47**

Pending:

Murkowski Amendment No. 2953, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S225**

Murkowski (for Cassidy/Markey) Amendment No. 2954 (to Amendment No. 2953), to provide for certain increases in, and limitations on, the drawdown and sales of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. **Pages S225–40, S243–45**

Murkowski (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 2968 (to Amendment No. 2953), to clarify the definition of the term “smart manufacturing”. **Page S245**

Murkowski Amendment No. 2963 (to Amendment No. 2953), to modify a provision relating to bulk-power system reliability impact statements. **Pages S245–46**

Murkowski (for Barrasso/Schatz) Amendment No. 3017 (to Amendment No. 2953), to expand the authority for awarding technology prizes by the Secretary of Energy to include a financial award for separation of carbon dioxide from dilute sources. **Page S246**

Murkowski (for Markey) Amendment No. 2982 (to Amendment No. 2953), to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review and submit a report on energy production in the United States and the effects of crude oil exports. **Page S246**

Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953), to enable civilian research and development of advanced nuclear energy technologies by private and public institutions, to expand theoretical and practical knowledge of nuclear physics, chemistry, and materials science. **Pages S246–47**

Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953), to modify the funding provided for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy. **Page S247**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 12 noon, on Thursday, January 28, 2016, Senate vote on or in relation to Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953) (listed above), and at 1:45 p.m., Senate vote on or in relation to Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953) (listed above); that no second-degree amendments be in order to Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953), or Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953), prior to the votes; and that the time until 12 noon, and following disposition of Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953) until 1:45 p.m., be equally divided between the two Managers, or their designees. **Page S247**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:45 a.m., on Thursday, January 28, 2016. **Page S296**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 84 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 6), John Michael Vazquez, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey. **Pages S240–43**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

1 Army nomination in the rank of general. **Page S296**

Executive Communications: **Page S253**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S254–55**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements: **Pages S250–53**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S255–96**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S296**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S296**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—6) Page S243

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 7:26 p.m., until 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2016. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S296.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MILITARY SPACE LAUNCH

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine military space launch and the use of Russian-made rocket engines, after receiving testimony from Frank Kendall III, Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, and Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force, both of the Department of Defense.

FUTURE U.S. NUCLEAR POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the future nuclear posture of the United States, after receiving testimony from John R. Harvey, former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs; Franklin C. Miller, The Scowcroft Group; Keith B. Payne, Missouri State University Graduate Department of Defense and Strategic Studies, on behalf of the National Institute for Public Policy; and Brad Roberts, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Center for Global Security Research.

HEROIN AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine attacking America's epidemic of heroin and prescription drug abuse, including S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use, after receiving testimony from Senators Ayotte, Shaheen, and Portman; Michael P. Botticelli, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Nora D. Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, and Kana Enomoto, Acting Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Louis J. Milione, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice; Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin, Montpelier; Enoch Willard, Manchester Police Department, Manchester, New Hampshire; Tonda DaRe, Holly's Song of Hope, Carrollton, Ohio; and Linda Hurley, CODAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., Cranston, Rhode Island.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Clare E. Connors, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, who was introduced by Senators Schatz and Hirono, and Elizabeth J. Drake, of Maryland, Jennifer Choe Groves, of Virginia, and Gary Stephen Katzmann, of Massachusetts, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet in a Pro Forma session at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2016.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Lieutenant General John W. Nicholson Jr., USA, to be general and Commander, Resolute Support, and Commander, United States Forces-Afghanistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine helping Americans prepare for retirement, focusing on increasing access, participation and coverage in retirement savings plans, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider H.R. 757, to improve the enforcement of sanctions against the Government of North Korea, H.R. 1493, to protect and preserve international cultural property at risk due to political instability, armed conflict, or natural or other disasters, S. 1882, to support the sustainable recovery and rebuilding of Nepal following the recent, devastating earthquakes near Kathmandu, S. 2426, to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, S. Res. 347, honoring the memory and legacy of Anita Ashok Datar and condemning the terrorist attack in Bamako, Mali, on November 20, 2015, the nominations of Laura S. H. Holgate, of Virginia, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and Scot Alan Marciel, of California, to be Ambassador to the Union of Burma, Department of State, and lists in the Foreign Service, 10 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine generic drug user fee amendments, focusing on accelerating patient access to generic drugs, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Health and Human Services's placement of migrant children, focusing on vulnerabilities to human trafficking, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 247, to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality, H.R. 1428, to extend Privacy Act remedies to citizens of certified states, S. 483, to improve enforcement efforts related to prescription drug diversion and abuse, S. 1890, to amend chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code, to provide Federal jurisdiction for the theft of trade secrets, S. 2040, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use, and the nominations of Mary S. McElroy, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, and Susan Paradise Baxter, and Marilyn Jean Horan, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer programs, focusing on the importance of small business innovation to national and economic security, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:15 p.m., SH-219.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:45 a.m., Thursday, January 28

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 2012, Energy Policy Modernization Act. At 12 noon, Senate will vote on or in relation to Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953), to be followed by a vote on or in relation to Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953), at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Thursday, January 28

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: The House is scheduled to meet in a Pro Forma session at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2016.



Congressional Record

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