

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S2055–S2118*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 755–774, and S. Res. 102–103. **Pages S2098–99**

#### Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Report of the Select Committee on Intelligence United States Senate Covering the Period January 6, 2015 to January 2, 2017”. (S. Rept. No. 115–13) **Page S2098**

#### Measures Passed:

**National Asbestos Awareness Week:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 98, designating the first week of April 2017 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2115**

**Vietnam Veterans Day:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 103, designating March 29, 2017, as “Vietnam Veterans Day”. **Pages S2103–14, S2115**

**Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act:** Senate passed H.R. 353, to improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s weather research through a focused program of investment on affordable and attainable advances in observational, computing, and modeling capabilities to support substantial improvement in weather forecasting and prediction of high impact weather events, to expand commercial opportunities for the provision of weather data, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2115–16**

McConnell (for Thune) Amendment No. 204, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2116**

McConnell (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 205 (to the language proposed by Amendment No. 204), to authorize and strengthen the tsunami detection, forecast, warning, research, and mitigation program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. **Page S2116**

#### Measures Considered:

**Savings Arrangements Established by Qualified State Political Subdivisions for Non-Governmental Employees Rule—Agreement:** Senate

began consideration of H.J. Res. 67, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to savings arrangements established by qualified State political subdivisions for non-governmental employees, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. **Pages S2055–96**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 30, 2017, with all debate time being expired; and that Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution with no intervening action or debate. **Page S2116**

#### Appointments:

**Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress:** The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 101–509, the re-appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Deborah Skaggs Speth, of Kentucky. **Page S2115**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities that was declared in Executive Order 13694 on April 1, 2015; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–4)

**Pages S2096–97**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S2097**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S2097–98**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Page S2098**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S2099–S2100**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S2100–04**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S2096**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S2104–14**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S2114–15**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S2115**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:10 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2116.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM AND MILITARY MEDICINE FUNDING

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine a review of the defense health program and military medicine funding, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Nadja West, Surgeon General of the Army, Vice Admiral C. Forrest Faison, III, Surgeon General of the Navy, Lieutenant General Mark A. Ediger, Surgeon General of the Air Force, and Stacy Cummings, Program Executive Officer of the Defense Healthcare Management Systems, all of the Department of Defense.

### CIVIL SOCIETY PERSPECTIVES ON RUSSIA

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine civil society perspectives on Russia, after receiving testimony from Vladimir Kara-Murza, Open Russia; Laura Jewett, National Democratic Institute; and Jan Erik Surotchak, International Republican Institute.

### RUSSIAN INFLUENCE AND UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE OPERATIONS IN THE "GREY ZONE"

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded a hearing to examine Russian influence and unconventional warfare operations in the "Grey Zone", focusing on lessons from Ukraine, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Charles T. Cleveland, USA (Ret.), former Commanding General, United States Army Special Operations Command, Department of Defense, and Madison Policy Forum; Olga Oliker, Center for Strategic and International Studies Russia and Eurasia Program; and Michael R. Carpenter, University of Pennsylvania Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement.

### DOD INDUSTRIAL BASE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine on the health of the Department of Defense industrial base, and its role in providing readiness to the warfighter, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Larry D. Wyche, USA, Deputy

Commanding General, United States Army Materiel Command, Vice Admiral Paul A. Grosklags, USN, Commander, United States Naval Air Systems Command, Vice Admiral Thomas J. Moore, USN, Commander, United States Naval Sea Systems Command, Lieutenant General Michael G. Dana, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics, United States Marine Corps, and Lieutenant General Lee K. Levy II, USAF, Commander, Air Force Sustainment Center, United States Air Force Materiel Command, Department of Defense.

### AIR FORCE MODERNIZATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine Air Force modernization, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Mark C. Nowland, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Headquarters, Lieutenant General Arnold W. Bunch, Jr., USAF, Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, and Lieutenant General Jerry D. Harris, Jr., USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans, Programs and Requirements, Headquarters, all of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense.

### CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine closing the skills gap and boosting United States competitiveness, after receiving testimony from John Ratzenberger, American Museum of Manufacturing, Rancho Mirage, California; Rory DeJohn, Turner Construction Company, Branford, Connecticut; Colonel Michael Cartney, USAF (Ret.), Lake Area Technical Institute, Watertown, South Dakota; John J. Neely III, Gulfstream Aerospace, a General Dynamics Company, Savannah, Georgia; and Judy Marks, Siemens USA, Washington, D.C.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jeffrey A. Rosen, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

### CLEANING UP COLD WAR LEGACY SITES

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine cleaning up our nation's Cold War legacy sites, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite, Commanding General and Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense; Barry Breen, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Land and Emergency Management, Environmental Protection Agency; Kevin Frederick,

Administrator, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division, Cheyenne; Alexandra K. Smith, Washington State Department of Ecology, Lacey; and Sarah Lukin, Afognak Native Corporation, Anchorage, Alaska.

#### U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONSHIP

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine United States-Mexico relationship, focusing on advancing security and prosperity on both sides of the border, after receiving testimony from former New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Santa Fe; and Robert F. Noriega, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.

#### AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine American leadership in the Asia-Pacific, focusing on security issues, after receiving testimony from J. Randy Forbes, United States Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island; and Robert L. Gallucci, Georgetown University Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Washington, D.C.

#### EFFECT OF BORROWING ON FEDERAL SPENDING

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management concluded a hearing to examine the effect of borrowing on Federal spending, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, former Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office, Bridgeport, Connecticut; Veronique de Rugy, George Mason University Mercatus Center, Arlington Virginia; and Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S.304, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover the cost of a copayment of an Indian or Alaska Native veteran receiving medical care or services from the Department of Veterans Affairs;

S.343, to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians;

S.381, to repeal the Act entitled "An Act to confer jurisdiction on the State of Iowa over offenses

committed by or against Indians on the Sac and Fox Indian Reservation";

S.607, to establish a business incubators program within the Department of the Interior to promote economic development in Indian reservation communities; and

S.669, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions.

#### NATIVE YOUTH

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine native youth, focusing on promoting diabetes prevention through healthy living, after receiving testimony from Rear Admiral Chris Buchanan, Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS, Acting Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Vinton Hawley, National Indian Health Board, Washington, D.C.; Jared Eagle, Forth Berthold Diabetes Program, New Town, North Dakota; Martin Sensmeier, Boys and Girls Club of America, Atlanta, Georgia; and Alton Villegas, and Rachel Seepie, both of the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Scottsdale, Arizona.

#### SMALL BUSINESSES AND REGULATIONS

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine how small businesses confront and shape regulations, including H.R. 33, to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Regulatory Flexibility Act), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, H.R. 26, to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law, and H.R. 5, to reform the process by which Federal agencies analyze and formulate new regulations and guidance documents, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations, to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, after receiving testimony from Randy Noel, National Association of Home Builders, Laplace, Louisiana; and Frank Knapp, Jr., American Sustainable Business Council, Columbia, South Carolina.

#### INTELLIGENCE

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

**ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the arc of Alzheimer's, focusing on preventing cognitive decline in Americans to assuring quality care for those living with the disease, after receiving testimony from Maria Shriver, The

Women's Alzheimer's Movement, Los Angeles, California; Kristine Yaffe, University of California Weill Institute of Neurosciences, San Francisco; Christopher M. Callahan, Indiana University Center for Aging Research, Indianapolis; and Phyllis Gallagher, Frackville, Pennsylvania.

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## House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 30 public bills, H.R. 1770–1799; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 41–42, were introduced. **Pages H2557–59**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2560–61**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 369, to eliminate the sunset of the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–65);

H.R. 194, to ensure the effective processing of mail by Federal agencies, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–66);

H.R. 657, to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–67);

H.R. 679, to amend title 41, United States Code, to improve the manner in which Federal contracts for design and construction services are awarded, to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for design and construction services procurements, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 115–68);

Authorization and Oversight Plans for all House Committees (H. Rept. 115–69);

H.R. 1219, to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to expand the investor limitation for qualifying venture capital funds under an exemption from the definition of an investment company (H. Rept. 115–70); and

H.R. 1343, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise its rules so as to increase the threshold amount for requiring issuers to provide certain disclosures relating to compensatory benefit plans (H. Rept. 115–71). **Page H2557**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fleischmann to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2519**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Pages H2525–26**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Robert Dillingham, Farina United Methodist, Church Farina, IL. **Page H2526**

**EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2017—Rule for Consideration:** The House agreed to H. Res. 233, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1431) to amend the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to provide for Scientific Advisory Board member qualifications and public participation, by a recorded vote of 232 ayes to 188 noes, Roll No. 204, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 203. **Pages H2529–36**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:52 p.m. and reconvened at 4:20 p.m. **Page H2547**

**Honest and Open New EPA Science Treatment Act of 2017:** The House passed H.R. 1430, to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or disseminating regulations or assessments based upon science that is not transparent or reproducible, by a recorded vote of 228 ayes to 194 noes, Roll No. 206.

**Pages H2536–47, H2547–48**

Rejected the McEachin motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 189 yeas to 232 nays, Roll No. 205.

**Pages H2546–47, H2547–48**

H. Res. 229, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1430) was agreed to yesterday, March 28th.

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, March 30. **Page H2548**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities is to continue in

effect beyond April 1, 2017—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 115–26). **Page H2557**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2529.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2535, H2535–36, H2547–48, and H2548. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### REVIEW OF THE FARM CREDIT SYSTEM

*Committee on Agriculture:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Review of the Farm Credit System”. Testimony was heard from Dallas P. Tonsager, Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration; Jeffery S. Hall, Member of the Board, Farm Credit Administration; and public witnesses.

### U.S. EUROPEAN COMMAND

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense held a closed hearing on U.S. European Command. Testimony was heard from General Curtis M. Scaparrotti, U.S. Army.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department of Health and Human Services. Testimony was heard from Tom Price, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

### PUBLIC WITNESS DAY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing for public witnesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MILITARY ASSESSMENT OF THE SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE GREATER MIDDLE EAST

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Military Assessment of the Security Challenges in the Greater Middle East”. Testimony was heard from General Joseph Votel, Commander, U.S. Central Command.

### THREATS TO SPACE ASSETS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Strategic Forces; and Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications of the Committee on Homeland Security held a joint hearing entitled “Threats to Space Assets and Implications for Homeland Security”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MILITARY PILOT SHORTAGE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Military Pilot Shortage”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Mark A. Brilakis, Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps; Vice Admiral Robert P. Burke, Chief Personnel, U.S. Navy; Lieutenant General Gina M. Grosso, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel Services, U.S. Air Force; and Major General Erik C. Peterson, Director, Aviation, U.S. Army.

### LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing on H.R. 986, the “Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2017”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### REALIZING NATIONWIDE NEXT-GENERATION 911

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Realizing Nationwide Next-Generation 911”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### FEDERAL ENERGY RELATED TAX POLICY AND ITS EFFECTS ON MARKETS, PRICES, AND CONSUMERS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Federal Energy Related Tax Policy and its Effects on Markets, Prices, and Consumers”. Testimony was heard from Terry Dinan, Senior Advisor, Congressional Budget Office; and public witnesses.

### EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF THE VOLCKER RULE ON THE MARKETS, BUSINESSES, INVESTORS, AND JOB CREATORS

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Investment held a hearing entitled “Examining the Impact of the Volcker Rule on the Markets, Businesses, Investors, and Job Creators”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 54, reaffirming the United States-Argentina partnership and recognizing Argentina's economic reforms; H. Res. 92, condemning North Korea's development of multiple intercontinental ballistic missiles, and for other purposes; H. Res. 137, honoring the life of Shimon Peres; H. Res. 145, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the fight against corruption in Central America; H. Res. 187, relating to efforts to respond to the famine in South Sudan; H.R. 390, the "Iraq and Syria Genocide Emergency Relief and Accountability Act of 2017"; H.R. 479, the "North Korea State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation Act of 2017"; H.R. 672, the "Combating European Anti-Semitism Act of 2017"; and H.R. 1644, the "Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act of 2017". H. Res. 137 was ordered reported, without amendment. H. Res. 54, H. Res. 145, H. Res. 187, H. Res. 92, H.R. 390, H.R. 672 H.R. 479, and H.R. 1644 were ordered reported, as amended.

**TESTING THE LIMITS: IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM, SANCTIONS, AND THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CORPS**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled "Testing the Limits: Iran's Ballistic Missile Program, Sanctions, and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps". Testimony was heard from Kenneth Katzman, Specialist, Middle Eastern Affairs, Congressional Research Service; and public witnesses.

**TERRORISM IN NORTH AFRICA: AN EXAMINATION OF THE THREAT**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing entitled "Terrorism in North Africa: An Examination of the Threat". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1667, the "Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2017"; H.R. 1695, the "Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017"; H. Res. 184, a resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Attorney General to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to communications with the government of Russia; and H. Res. 203, a resolution of inquiry requesting the President, and directing the Attorney General, to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to certain communications by the President of the United States. H.R. 1667 was or-

dered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1695, H. Res. 184, and H. Res. 203 were ordered reported, as amended.

**FEDERALLY FUNDED CANCER RESEARCH: COORDINATION AND INNOVATION**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Federally Funded Cancer Research: Coordination and Innovation". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**WMATA AFTER SAFETRACK**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled "WMATA After SafeTrack". Testimony was heard from Paul Wiedefeld, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Dennis Anosike, Chief Financial Officer, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; and Mark L. Goldstein, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office.

**CLIMATE SCIENCE: ASSUMPTIONS, POLICY IMPLICATIONS, AND THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Climate Science: Assumptions, Policy Implications, and the Scientific Method". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**EVALUATING THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT: ARE BURDENS BEING REDUCED?**

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Evaluating the Paperwork Reduction Act: Are Burdens Being Reduced?". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1346, to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled "Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform"; H.R. 1726, the "Coast Guard Improvement and Reform Act of 2017"; H.R. 1093, to require the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Transit Authority to provide appropriate Congressional notice of safety audits conducted with respect to railroads and rail transit agencies; H.R. 1665, to ensure that Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency considers severe local impact in making a recommendation to the President for a major disaster declaration;

H.R. 1678, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act concerning the statute of limitations for actions to recover disaster or emergency assistance payments, and for other purposes; H.R. 1679, the “FEMA Accountability, Modernization and Transparency Act of 2017”; H. Con. Res. 35, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition; H. Con. Res. 36, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; and H.R. 455, to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse”. H.R. 1346, H.R. 1726, H.R. 1678, H.R. 1679, H. Con. Res. 35, H. Con. Res. 36, and H.R. 455 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1093 and H.R. 1665 were ordered reported, as amended.

## LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on a draft of the “Veterans Affairs Medical Scribe Pilot Act of 2017”; H.R. 91, the “Building Supportive Networks for Women Veterans Act”; H.R. 95, the “Veterans’ Access to Child Care Act”; H.R. 467, the “VA Scheduling Accountability Act”; H.R. 907, the “Newborn Care Improvement Act”; H.R. 918, the “Veterans Urgent Access to Mental Health Care Act”; H.R. 1005, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans; H.R. 1162, the “No Hero Left Untreated Act”; H.R. 1545, to clarify VA’s authority to disclose certain patient information to State controlled substance monitoring programs; and H.R. 1662, to prohibit smoking in any facility of the Veterans Health Administration. Testimony was heard from Chairman Roe of Tennessee, Representatives Walorski, Collins of Georgia, Coffman, Knight, and Kuster of New Hampshire; Jennifer S. Lee, M.D., Deputy Under Secretary, Health for Policy and Services, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* business meeting to consider the nomination of Sonny Perdue, of

Georgia, to be Secretary of Agriculture, Time to be announced, S–216, Capitol.

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Heather Wilson, of South Dakota, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* business meeting to consider S. 35, to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Bureau of Land Management land from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for inclusion in the Black Hills National Cemetery, S. 55/H.R. 46, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Ontario in the State of New York, S. 97, 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, S. 99, to require the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the President James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 117, to designate a mountain peak in the State of Montana as “Alex Diekmann Peak”, S. 131, to provide for the exchange of certain National Forest System land and non-Federal land in the State of Alaska, S. 167, to designate a National Memorial to Fallen Educators at the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas, S. 189, to modify the boundary of the Fort Scott National Historic Site in the State of Kansas, S. 190, to provide for consideration of the extension under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of nonapplication of No-Load Mode energy efficiency standards to certain security or life safety alarms or surveillance systems, S. 199, to authorize the use of the active capacity of the Fontenelle Reservoir, S. 213, to designate the wilderness within the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska as the Jay S. Hammond Wilderness Area, S. 214, to authorize the expansion of an existing hydroelectric project, S. 215, to authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to issue an order continuing a stay of a hydroelectric license for the Mahoney Lake hydroelectric project in the State of Alaska, S. 216, to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets, S. 217, to amend the Denali National Park Improvement Act to clarify certain provisions relating to the natural gas pipeline authorized in the Denali National Park and Preserve, S. 225/H.R. 699, bills to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to modify provisions relating to certain land exchanges in the Mt. Hood Wilderness in the State of Oregon, S. 226, to exclude power supply circuits, drivers, and devices to be connected to, and power, light-emitting diodes or organic light-emitting diodes providing illumination or ceiling fans using direct current motors from energy conservation standards for external power supplies, S. 239, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities, S. 267, to provide for the correction of a survey of certain land in the State of Alaska, S. 280/H.R. 618, bills to authorize, direct, expedite, and facilitate a

land exchange in El Paso and Teller Counties, Colorado, S. 285/H.R. 689, bills to ensure adequate use and access to the existing Bolts Ditch headgate and ditch segment within the Holy Cross Wilderness in Eagle County, Colorado, S. 286/H.R. 698, bills to require a land conveyance involving the Elkhorn Ranch and the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado, S. 287, to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, S. 289/H.R. 698, bills to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, S. 331, to remove the use restrictions on certain land transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, S. 346, to provide for the establishment of the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, S. 363, to revise the authorized route of the North Country National Scenic Trail in northeastern Minnesota and to extend the trail into Vermont to connect with the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, S. 385, to promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, S. 392, to establish the 400 years of African-American History Commission, S. 401, to establish the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area, S. 432, to designate the Cerro del Yuta and Rio San Antonio Wilderness Areas in the State of New Mexico, S. 466, to clarify the description of certain Federal land under the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act of 2005 to include additional land in the Kaibab National Forest, S. 490, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam, S. 491, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Clark Canyon Dam, S. 501, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 502, to modify the boundary of Voyageurs National Park in the State of Minnesota, S. 508, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Oregon, S. 513, to designate the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area in the State of Oregon, S. 566, to withdraw certain land in Okanogan County, Washington, to protect the land, S. 590, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain or replace certain facilities and structures for commercial recreation services at Smith Gulch in Idaho, S. 617, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 627, to establish the Maritime Washington Heritage Area in the State of Washington, S. 644, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Medgar Evers House, located in Jackson, Mississippi, S. 703, to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project, S. 710, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam, S. 713, to establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area in the State of Washington, S. 714, to amend Public Law 103-434 to author-

ize Phase III of the Yakima River Basin Water Basin Water Enhancement Project for the purposes of improving water management in the Yakima River basin, S. 723, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project, S. 724, to amend the Federal Power Act to modernize authorizations for necessary hydropower approvals, S. 729, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, for inclusion in the John Muir National Historic Site, S. 730, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects, S. 731, to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area, S. 733, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, S. 734, to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam, H.R. 88, to modify the boundary of the Shiloh National Military Park located in Tennessee and Mississippi, to establish Parker's Crossroads Battlefield as an affiliated area of the National Park System, H.R. 267, to redesignate the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, H.R. 381, to designate a mountain in the John Muir Wilderness of the Sierra National Forest as "Sky Point", H.R. 494, to expand the boundary of Fort Frederica National Monument in the State of Georgia, H.R. 538, to redesignate Ocmulgee National Monument in the State of Georgia and revise its boundary, H.R. 558, to adjust the boundary of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park to include the Wallis House and Harriston Hill, H.R. 560, to amend the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Improvement Act to provide access to certain vehicles serving residents of municipalities adjacent to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, H.R. 863, to facilitate the addition of park administration at the Coltsville National Historical Park, and subcommittee assignments, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the potential for infrastructure improvements to create jobs and reduce the cost of living through all-of-the-above energy and mineral production in Alaska, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine United States interests, values, and the American people, 10 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* business meeting to consider the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor, Time to be announced, S-216, Capitol.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold hearings to examine disinformation, focusing on a primer in Russian active measures and influence campaigns, 10 a.m., SD-106.

## House

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Readiness; and Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, joint hearing entitled "The Current State of U.S. Transportation Command", 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces; and Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, joint hearing entitled “Consequences and Context for Russia’s Violations of the INF Treaty”, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, hearing on H.R. 1689, the

“Private Property Rights Protection Act”, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled “SBA’s Entrepreneurial Development Programs: Resources to Assist Small Businesses”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 30

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Thursday, March 30

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will continue consideration of H.J. Res. 67, Savings Arrangements Established by Qualified State Political Subdivisions for Non-Governmental Employees Rule, and vote on passage of the joint resolution.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Consideration of H.R. 1431—EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2017.

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