

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2565–S2631

Measures Introduced: Thirty-five bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 954–988, S. Res. 144–147, and S. Con. Res. 14. **Pages S2615–16**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing Use of Capitol Visitor Center: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 14, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I. **Page S2630**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to 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. **Page S2630**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 36, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. **Page S2630**

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 127, supporting the goals and ideals of Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2630**

Congratulating the Ashland University Women's Basketball Team: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 132, congratulating the Ashland University women's basketball team for winning the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association division II championship, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2631**

Financial Literacy Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 145, designating April 2017 as "Financial Literacy Month". **Page S2631**

El Dia de Los Ninos—Celebrating Young Americans: Senate agreed to S. Res. 146, designating April 30, 2017, as El Dia de Los Ninos—Celebrating Young Americans. **Page S2631**

Appointments:

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki): The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appointed the following Senator as a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 115th Congress: Senator Gardner. **Page S2631**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 60 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. EX. 116), R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor. **Pages S2566–S2600, S2631**

Messages from the House: **Pages S2614–15**

Measures Referred: **Page S2615**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2615**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2616–18**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2818–29**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2612–14**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2629**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—116) **Page S2600**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:15 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Friday, April 28, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2629.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

PREVENTING VETERAN SUICIDE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine preventing veteran suicide, after receiving testimony from Carolyn M. Clancy, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Organizational Excellence, Harold S. Kudler, Chief Consultant for Mental Health Services, and Stephanie A. Davis, Suicide Prevention Coordinator and Staff Psychologist, VA Eastern Kansas Health Care System, each of the Veterans Health Administration, and Michael L. Missal, Inspector General, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Melissa D. Jarboe, Military Veteran Project, Topeka, Kansas; and Rajeev Ramchand, Rand Corporation, Arlington, Virginia.

U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND AND U.S. FORCES KOREA

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea, after receiving testimony from Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., USN, Commander, United States Pacific Command, Department of Defense.

CYBER-ENABLED INFORMATION OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity concluded a hearing to examine cyber-enabled information operations, after receiving testimony from John C. Inglis, former Deputy Director, National Security Agency; Michael D. Lumpkin, Neptune Computer Incorporated, and former Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; Rand Waltzman, RAND Corporation; and Clint Watts, Foreign Policy Research Institute.

COUNTERING RUSSIA

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine countering Russia, focusing on further assessing options for sanctions, including S. 94, to impose sanctions in response to cyber intrusions by the Government of

the Russian Federation and other aggressive activities of the Russian Federation, and S. 341, to provide for congressional oversight of actions to waive, suspend, reduce, provide relief from, or otherwise limit the application of sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, after receiving testimony from Chip Poncy, Financial Integrity Network, Fairfax, Virginia; and R. Nicholas Burns, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS ECONOMIC EXPANSION ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine H.R. 339, to amend Public Law 94–241 with respect to the Northern Mariana Islands, after receiving testimony from Representative Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan; Nikolao I. Pula, Acting Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas, Department of the Interior; David Gootnick, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; Northern Mariana Islands Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Jim Arenovski, Island Training Solutions, both of Saipan.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Scott Gottlieb, of Connecticut, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

AGING WITHOUT COMMUNITY

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine aging without community, focusing on the consequences of isolation and loneliness, after receiving testimony from W. Mark Clark, Pima Council on Aging, Tucson, Arizona; Julianne Holt-Lunstad, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah; Lenard W. Kaye, University of Maine Center on Aging, Bangor; and Rick Creech, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 40 public bills, H.R. 2183–2222; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 100; and H. Res. 286–288, 290–292 were introduced. **Pages H2939–41**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2942–44**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 289, providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–97). **Page H2939**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Mitchell to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2901**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:49 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2906**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Melissa Hatch, Prosper United Methodist Church, Prosper, TX. **Page H2906**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a recorded vote of 249 ayes to 163 noes with answering 2 "present", Roll No. 234. **Pages H2906, H2925**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Tuesday, April 25th.

Repealing the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled "Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform": S. 496, to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled "Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform", by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 417 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 231. **Pages H2019–20**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:44 p.m. and reconvened at 3 p.m. **Page H2923**

Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017: The House passed H.R. 1694, to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), by a yeas-and-nays vote of 425 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 233. **Pages H2910–19, H2920–25**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–14 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the

five-minute rule, modified by the amendment printed in part B of H. Rept. 115–96, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill. **Pages H2910, H2921**

Agreed to:

Ross amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 115–96) that makes technical and conforming changes to the bill; **Pages H2921–22**

Clay amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 115–96) that clarifies that nothing in the bill may be construed to preclude or restrict disclosure of information regarding new products or significant new product terms prior to loan purchasing; and **Pages H2922–23**

Johnson (GA) amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 115–96) that ensures that the traditional Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemptions apply to this sub-section (by a recorded vote of 410 ayes to 5 noes, Roll No. 232). **Pages H2922, H2923–24**

H. Res. 280, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1694) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 226 ayes to 192 noes, Roll No. 230, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 230 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 229. **Pages H2910–19**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:41 p.m. and reconvened at 11:03 p.m. **Page H2938**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeas-and-nays votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2918, H2918–19, H2919–20, H2923–24, H2924–25, H2925. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:04 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Member Day". Testimony was heard from Chairman Chabot, and Representatives Walz, Carter of Texas, Loeb sack, Crawford, Dunn, and Johnson of Louisiana.

**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER/
TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY**

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder/Traumatic Brain Injury”. Testimony was heard from Captain Mike Colston, U.S. Navy, Director, Department of Defense, Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury; Lieutenant Colonel Chris Ivany, M.D., Chief, Behavior Health Division, Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army; Captain Thomas Johnson, M.D., U.S. Navy, Site Director, Intrepid Spirit Concussion Recovery Center, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and Colonel Steven Pflanz, Deputy Director of Psychological Health, U.S. Air Force.

**STRENGTHENING ACCREDITATION TO
BETTER PROTECT STUDENTS AND
TAXPAYERS**

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Strengthening Accreditation to Better Protect Students and Taxpayers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**OUTDOOR RECREATION: VAST IMPACT OF
THE GREAT OUTDOORS**

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Outdoor Recreation: Vast Impact of the Great Outdoors”. Testimony was heard from Representative Beyer, and public witnesses.

**SAFEGUARDING THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM
FROM TERRORIST FINANCING**

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance held a hearing entitled “Safeguarding the Financial System from Terrorist Financing”. Testimony was heard from Jamal El-Hindi, Acting Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury.

**SYRIA AFTER THE MISSILE STRIKES:
POLICY OPTIONS**

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Syria After the Missile Strikes: Policy Options”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**AFGHANISTAN’S TERRORIST RESURGENCE:
AL-QAEDA, ISIS, AND BEYOND**

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Afghanistan’s Terrorist Resurgence: Al-Qaeda, ISIS, and Beyond”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**CHECKPOINT OF THE FUTURE:
EVALUATING TSA’S INNOVATION TASK
FORCE INITIATIVE**

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security held a hearing entitled “Checkpoint of the Future: Evaluating TSA’s Innovation Task Force Initiative”. Testimony was heard from Steve Karoly, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Requirements and Capabilities Analysis, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; Roosevelt Council, Jr., General Manager Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Department of Aviation, City of Atlanta, Georgia; and Jeanne M. Olivier, Assistant Director, Aviation Security and Technology, Security Operations and Programs Department, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 115, the “Thin Blue Line Act”; H.R. 510, the “Rapid DNA Act of 2017”; H.R. 613, the “Lieutenant Osvaldo Albarati Correctional Officer Self-Protection Act of 2017”. H.R. 115, H.R. 510, and H.R. 613, were ordered reported, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 220, to authorize the expansion of an existing hydroelectric project, and for other purposes; H.R. 497, the “Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act”; H.R. 660, the “Bureau of Reclamation Transparency Act”; H.R. 1073, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a structure for visitor services on the Arlington Ridge tract, in the area of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial, and for other purposes; H.R. 1135, to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program; H.R. 1500, the “Robert Emmet Park Act of 2017”; H.R. 1654, the “Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act”; H.R. 1715, the “Medgar Evers House Study Act”; H.R. 1769, the “San Luis Unit Drainage Resolution Act”; H.R. 1807, the “Public Water Supply Invasive Species Compliance Act of 2017”; H.R. 1873, the “Electricity Reliability and Forest Protection Act”; H.R. 1967, the “Bureau of Reclamation Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act”; and H.R. 2085, to approve an agreement between the United States and the Republic of Palau, and for other purposes. H.R. 660, H.R. 1073, H.R. 1135, H.R. 1500, H.R. 1715, and H.R. 2085 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 220, H.R. 497, H.R. 1654, H.R. 1769, H.R. 1807, H.R.

1873, and H.R. 1967 were ordered reported, as amended.

THE BORDER WALL: STRENGTHENING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “The Border Wall: Strengthening our National Security”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.J. Res. 99, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–2, a closed rule for H.J. Res. 99. The rule provides one hour of debate 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 the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Frelinghuysen and Representative Lowey.

SMALL BUSINESS: THE KEY TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access held a hearing entitled “Small Business: The Key to Economic Growth”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING A 21ST CENTURY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AMERICA: MITIGATING DAMAGE AND RECOVERING QUICKLY FROM DISASTERS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled “Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: Mitigating Damage and Recovering Quick-

ly from Disasters”. Testimony was heard from Andrew Phelps, Director, Oregon Office of Emergency Management; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup on H.R. 105, the “Protect Veterans from Financial Fraud Act of 2017”; H.R. 1328, the “American Heroes COLA Act of 2017”; H.R. 1329, the “Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2017”; H.R. 1390, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay costs relating to the transportation of certain deceased veterans to veterans' cemeteries owned by a State or tribal organization; H.R. 1564, the “VA Beneficiary Travel Act of 2017”; and H.R. 1725, the “Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2017”. H.R. 1329, H.R. 1390, and H.R. 1725 were forwarded to the full committee, as amended. H.R. 105, H.R. 1328, and H.R. 1564 were forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

Joint Meetings

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission received a briefing on Russia's human rights violations against Ukrainian citizens from Halya Coynash, Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, Mustafa Nayyem, Member of Ukrainian Parliament, and Natalya Kaplan, all of Kiev, Ukraine.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, to continue hearing entitled “A Legislative Proposal to Create Hope and Opportunity for Investors, Consumers, and Entrepreneurs”, 9:15 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Friday, April 28

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, April 28

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of H.J. Res. 99—Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Beatty, Joyce, Ohio, E556
 Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E553
 Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E554
 Byrne, Bradley, Ala., E555
 Carbajal, Salud O., Calif., E555
 Chabot, Steve, Ohio, E551
 Clyburn, James E., S.C., E557

Comstock, Barbara, Va., E551, E554
 Conaway, K. Michael, Tex., E555
 Davis, Danny K., Ill., E552
 Dent, Charles W., Pa., E554
 Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E553
 Foxx, Virginia, N.C., E555
 Hanabusa, Colleen, Hawaii, E552
 Jenkins, Evan H., W.Va., E553
 Pascrell, Bill, Jr., N.J., E556

Paulsen, Erik, Minn., E555
 Pelosi, Nancy, Calif., E553
 Schneider, Bradley Scott, Ill., E556
 Slaughter, Louise McIntosh, N.Y., E552
 Speier, Jackie, Calif., E551
 Tonko, Paul, N.Y., E556
 Valadao, David G., Calif., E556
 Vargas, Juan, Calif., E554
 Wenstrup, Brad R., Ohio, E553



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