

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4165–S4225

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1624–1631, and S. Res. 231. **Page S4192**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year. **Pages S4165–66, S4167–68**

American Health Care Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.R. 1628, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S4168–84**

Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 267, of a perfecting nature. **Pages S4170–76**

Enzi (for Paul) Amendment No. 271 (to Amendment No. 267), of a perfecting nature. **Page S4183**

Donnelly motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance with instructions to report back with instructions. **Page S4183**

Prior to the consideration of this measure today, Senate took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 50 nays, Vice President voting yea (Vote No. 167), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to the consideration of the bill. **Page S4168**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 43 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 168), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to McConnell Amendment No. 270 (to Amendment No. 267), of a perfecting nature. Subsequently, the point of order that the

amendment was in violation of section 311(a)(2)(B) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S4183**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the time from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 26, 2017, be equally divided between the managers, or their designees, that at 11:30 a.m., Senator Murray, or designee, be recognized to make points of order, and that Senator Enzi, or designee, be recognized to make a motion to waive, and that following the motion to waive, Senate vote on or in relation to Enzi (for Paul) Amendment No. 271 (to Amendment No. 267) (listed above), and following disposition of the amendment, the time until 3:30 p.m. be equally divided on Donnelly motion to commit (listed above), with a vote on the motion at 3:30 p.m.; and that following disposition of Donnelly motion to commit, Senator Murray, or her designee, be recognized to offer an additional motion to commit. **Page S4177**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 26, 2017, with the time until 11:30 a.m. equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees. **Page S4224**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Samuel H. Clovis, Jr., of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics.

Mark T. Esper, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Army.

Anthony Kurta, of Montana, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Joseph Balash, of Alaska, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Kathleen M. Fitzpatrick, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

A. Wess Mitchell, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European and Eurasian Affairs).

Daniel Alan Craig, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Navy.	Pages S4224–25
Messages from the House:	Pages S4187–88
Measures Referred:	Page S4188
Executive Communications:	Pages S4188–91
Petitions and Memorials:	Page S4191
Executive Reports of Committees:	Pages S4191–92
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S4192–93
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S4193–95
Additional Statements:	Page S4186
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S4195–S4224
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Page S4224
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S4224
Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—168)	Pages S4168, S4183

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:58 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4224.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

2018 FARM BILL

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine commodities, credit, and crop insurance, focusing on perspectives on risk management tools and trends for the 2018 Farm Bill, after receiving testimony from Bruce Rohwer, Rohwer Farms, Paullina, Iowa, on behalf of the National Corn Growers Association; Kevin Scott, Evergreen Stock Farm, Valley Springs, South Dakota, on behalf of the American Soybean Association; David Schemm, Arrow S Farms, Sharon Springs, Kansas, on behalf of the National Association of Wheat Growers; Nick McMichen, McMichen Farm, Centre, Alabama, on behalf of the National Cotton Council; Jennifer James, H and J Land Company, Newport, Arkansas, on behalf of the USA Rice Federation; Dan Atkisson, Atkisson Land and Cattle, Stockton, Kansas, on behalf of the National Sorghum Producers; Meredith McNair Rogers, Family Farm Partners, Camilla, Georgia, on behalf of the Southern Peanut Farmers Federation; Robert Rynning, Robert Rynning Farms, Kennedy, Minnesota, on behalf of the U.S. Canola Association; Ervin Schlemmer,

Schlemmer Farms Inc., Joliet, Montana, on behalf of the American Sugar Alliance; Ken Nobis, Nobis Dairy Farm, Novi, Michigan, on behalf of the National Milk Producers Federation and Michigan Milk Producers Association; Mark Haney, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation, Louisville, on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Roger Johnson, National Farmers Union, Washington, D.C.; Lindsey Lusher Shute, Hearty Roots Community Farm, Hudson, New York, on behalf of the National Young Farmers Coalition; William Cole, Stone Corner Farms, Batesville, Mississippi, on behalf of the Crop Insurance Professionals Association; Ron Rutledge, Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Iowa, West Des Moines; Mandy Minick, Northwest Farm Credit Services, Pasco, Washington; and Brenda Kluesner, Royal Bank, Cassville, Wisconsin, on behalf of the Independent Community Bankers of America.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies approved for full committee consideration an original bill entitled, "Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018".

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies approved for full committee consideration an original bill entitled, "Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018".

ACHIEVING A 355-SHIP NAVY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine options and considerations for achieving a 355-ship Navy from naval analysts, after receiving testimony from Eric J. Labs, Senior Analyst for Naval Forces and Weapons, Congressional Budget Office; Ronald O'Rourke, Specialist in Naval Affairs, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Jerry Hendrix, Center for a New American Security; and Bryan Clark, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments.

MARINE DEBRIS IN THE OCEANS AND GREAT LAKES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine efforts on marine debris in the oceans and Great Lakes, after receiving testimony from Senator Whitehouse; David A. Balton, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries; Nancy Wallace, Director of

the Marine Debris Program, Office of Response and Restoration, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; and Melissa B. Duhaime, University of Michigan Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Ann Arbor.

ADVANCED CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety concluded a hearing to examine developing and deploying advanced clean energy technologies, after receiving testimony from Senator Alexander; Steven R. Bohlen, Global Security E-Program Manager, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Mohammad A. Khaleel, Associate Laboratory Director, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Kemal Pasamehmetoglu, Associate Laboratory Director, Nuclear Science and Technology, Idaho National Laboratory, all of the Department of Energy; Brian J. Anderson, West Virginia University WVU Energy Institute, Morgantown; and Jason Begger, Wyoming Infrastructure Authority, Cheyenne.

NORTH KOREA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine assessing the maximum pressure and engagement policy toward North Korea, after receiving testimony from Susan

Thornton, Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Bruce Klingner, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.; and Leon V. Sigal, Social Science Research Council, New York, New York.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ralph R. Erickson, of North Dakota, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Hoeven and Heitkamp, Dabney Langhorne Friedrich, of California, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Stephen S. Schwartz, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and Brian Allen Benczkowski, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

INTELLIGENCE

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

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 22 public bills, H.R. 3377–3398; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 474, were introduced. **Pages H6279–99**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6299–H6300**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3178, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the delivery of home infusion therapy and dialysis and the application of the Stark rule under the Medicare program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–254, Part 1);

H.R. 2246, to repeal the mandatory flood insurance coverage requirement for commercial properties located in flood hazard areas and to provide for greater transfer of risk under the National Flood Insurance Program to private capital and reinsurance

markets, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–255);

H.R. 2053, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to enhance and support mining and mineral engineering programs in the United States by funding activities at mining schools, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–256);

H.R. 2939, to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–257, Part 1);

H.R. 3210, to require the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau to submit a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–258); and

H. Res. 473, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–259). **Page H6297**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Johnson (LA) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6217**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:41 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H6222**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Lonnie Mitchell, Sr., Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Spokane, WA. **Page H6222**

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

Medicare Part B Improvement Act of 2017: H.R. 3178, amended, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the delivery of home infusion therapy and dialysis and the application of the Stark rule under the Medicare program; **Pages H6233–39**

Plum Island Preservation Act: H.R. 2182, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to Congress on the alternatives for the final disposition of Plum Island, including preservation of the island for conservation, education, and research; and **Pages H6239–41**

Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act: H.R. 3364, to provide congressional review and to counter aggression by the Governments of Iran, the Russian Federation, and North Korea, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 413. **Pages H6241–68, H6278–79**

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Arbitration Agreements": The House passed H.J. Res. 111, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Arbitration Agreements", by a recorded vote of 231 yeas to 190 noes, Roll No. 412. **Pages H6225–33, H6268–78**

H. Res. 468, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 111) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 233 yeas to 188 noes, Roll No. 411, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 229 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 410. **Pages H6232–33**

Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individual on the part of the

House to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Ms. Cynthia A. Fisher of Newton, Massachusetts. **Page H6279**

Recess: The House recessed at 8 p.m. and reconvened at 9:39 p.m. **Page H6296**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6232, H6233, H6278, and H6278–79. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EVALUATING DOD EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORM PROCUREMENT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Evaluating DOD Equipment and Uniform Procurement in Iraq and Afghanistan". Testimony was heard from Jessica Farb, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; John Sopko, Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction; and the following Department of Defense officials: Colonel David W. Navratil, Country Director, Iraq, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Policy; Michael Roark, Assistant Inspector General; and Peter Velz, Director, Afghanistan (Resources and Transition), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Policy.

OVERSIGHT AND REAUTHORIZATION OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled "Oversight and Reauthorization of the Federal Communications Commission". Testimony was heard from the following Federal Communications Commission officials: Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner; Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner; and Ajit Pai, Chairman.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1624, the "Municipal Finance Support Act of 2017"; H.R. 2864, the "Improving Access to Capital Act"; H.R. 3110, the "Financial Stability Oversight Council Insurance Member Continuity Act"; H.R. 3326, the "World Bank Accountability Act of 2017"; and H. Res. 442, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to provide certain documents in the Secretary's possession to the House of Representatives relating to President

Trump's financial connections to Russia, certain illegal financial schemes, and related information. H.R. 2864, H.R. 1624, and H.R. 3326 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 3110 and H. Res. 442 were ordered reported, without amendment.

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE AND CURRENT TERRORIST THREATS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Authorization for the Use of Military Force and Current Terrorist Threats". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2018 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR EUROPE AND EURASIA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats held a hearing entitled "Examining the President's FY 2018 Budget Proposal for Europe and Eurasia". Testimony was heard from John A. Heffern, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State; Daniel N. Rosenblum, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Central Asia, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State; Margot Ellis, Acting Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Ann Marie Yastishock, Acting Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia, U.S. Agency for International Development.

HELD FOR RANSOM: THE FAMILIES OF IRAN'S HOSTAGES SPEAK OUT

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled "Held for Ransom: The Families of Iran's Hostages Speak Out". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DETER, DETECT AND INTERDICT: TECHNOLOGY'S ROLE IN SECURING THE BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled "Deter, Detect and Interdict: Technology's Role in Securing the Border". Testimony was heard from Rebecca Gambler, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and the following Department of Homeland Security officials: Dennis J. Micheleni, Acting Executive Director of Operations, Air and Marine Operations, Customs and Border Protection; Todd C. Owens, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, Customs and Border Protection; and Scott A. Luck, Acting Deputy Chief, Border Patrol.

SECURING AIR CARGO: INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security held a hearing entitled "Securing Air Cargo: Industry Perspectives". Testimony was heard from Bart Elias, Specialist in Aviation Policy, Resources, Science and Industry Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

NO REGULATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION: H.R. 2887 AND THE GROWING PROBLEM OF STATES REGULATING BEYOND THEIR BORDERS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law held a hearing entitled "No Regulation Without Representation: H.R. 2887 and the Growing Problem of States Regulating Beyond Their Borders". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ASSESSING CURRENT CONDITIONS AND CHALLENGES AT THE LYNDON B. JOHNSON TROPICAL MEDICAL CENTER IN AMERICAN SAMOA

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled "Assessing Current Conditions and Challenges at the Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center in American Samoa". Testimony was heard from Thomas Bussanich, Director of Budget, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; Taufete'e John Faumuina, CEO, Director, Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center; and Sandra King Young, Medicaid Director, American Samoa Medicaid Agency, Office of the Governor, American Samoa Government.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 825, the "Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act"; H.R. 873, the "Global War on Terrorism War Memorial Act"; H.R. 965, the "Saint-Gaudens National Historical Park Redesignation Act"; H.R. 1074, 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"; H.R. 1418, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Alexander Creek, Alaska, is and shall be recognized as an eligible Native village under that Act, and for other purposes; H.R. 1491, the "Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Land Affirmation Act of 2017"; H.R. 1547, the "Udall Park Land Exchange Completion Act"; H.R. 2075, the "Crooked River Ranch Fire Protection Act"; H.R. 2083, the

“Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act”; H.R. 2199, the “Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act of 2017”; H.R. 2316, the “Cooperative Management of Mineral Rights Act of 2017”; H.R. 2371, the “Western Area Power Administration Transparency Act”; H.R. 2374, the “Eastern Nevada Economic Development and Land Management Improvement Act”; H.R. 2423, the “Washington County, Utah, Public Lands Management Implementation Act”; H.R. 2582, the “Confirming State Land Grants for Education Act”; H.R. 2611, the “Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site Boundary Modification Act”; H.R. 2615, the “Gulf Islands National Seashore Land Exchange Act of 2017”; H.R. 2768, the “Fowler and Boskoff Peaks Designation Act”; H.R. 3115, the “Superior National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2017”; H.R. 3279, the “Helium Extraction Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3281, the “Reclamation Title Transfer and Non-Federal Infrastructure Incentivization Act”.

EXAMINING ‘SUE AND SETTLE’ AGREEMENTS: PART II

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs; and Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment held a joint hearing entitled “Examining ‘Sue and Settle’ Agreements: Part II”. Testimony was heard from Carl E. Geffken, City Administrator, Fort Smith, Arkansas; and public witnesses.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

Committee on Rules: Full Committee began a hearing on H.R. 3219, the “Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2018” [Make America Secure Appropriations Act, 2018] [Meeting II]. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a structured rule for H.R. 3219. The rule provides two hours of general 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 bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–30 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report, amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 4 of the resolution. Each amendment printed in the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by

a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides that it shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 20 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The rule provides that no further consideration of the bill shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House. In section 6, the rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 3219, it shall not be in order to use a decrease in Overseas Contingency Operations funds to offset an amendment that increases an appropriation not designated as Overseas Contingency Operations funds or vice versa, but does not apply to amendments between the Houses. Testimony was heard from Representatives Graves of Louisiana, Blumenauer, Courtney, and Jackson Lee.

EXAMINING ADVANCEMENTS IN BIOFUELS: BALANCING FEDERAL RESEARCH AND MARKET INNOVATION

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment; and Subcommittee on Energy held a joint hearing entitled “Examining Advancements in Biofuels: Balancing Federal Research and Market Innovation”. Testimony was heard from Paul Gilna, Director, BioEnergy Science Center and Deputy-Division Director of Biosciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and public witnesses.

BUILDING A 21ST CENTURY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AMERICA: COAST GUARD SEA, LAND, AND AIR CAPABILITIES, PART II

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled “Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: Coast Guard Sea,

Land, and Air Capabilities, Part II". Testimony was heard from Admiral Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; Rear Admiral Michael J. Haycock, Assistant Commandant for Acquisition, Chief Acquisition Officer, U.S. Coast Guard; Marie A. Mak, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Ronald O'Rourke, Specialist in Naval Affairs, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and a public witness.

PTSD CLAIMS: ASSESSING WHETHER VBA IS EFFECTIVELY SERVING VETERANS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled "PTSD Claims: Assessing Whether VBA is Effectively Serving Veterans". Testimony was heard from Ronald S. Burke, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary, Office for Field Operations, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE'S ELECTRONIC RECORD RETENTION POLICIES: IMPROVING COMPLIANCE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled "Internal Revenue Service's Electronic Record Retention Policies: Improving Compliance". Testimony was heard from Gregory Kutz, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Management Services and Exempt Organizations, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Jeffrey Tribiano, Deputy Commissioner for Operations Support, Internal Revenue Service; and Edward Killen, Director of Privacy, Governmental Liaison, and Disclosure, Internal Revenue Service.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Karen Dunn Kelley, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Peter B. Davidson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Commerce, and Mark H. Buzby, of Virginia, to be Administrator of

the Maritime Administration, and Ronald L. Batory, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, both of the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine S. 32, to provide for conservation, enhanced recreation opportunities, and development of renewable energy in the California Desert Conservation Area, S. 90, to survey the gradient boundary along the Red River in the States of Oklahoma and Texas, S. 357, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public lands in San Bernardino County, California, to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District, and to accept in return certain exchanged non-public lands, S. 436, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, to substitute certain land selections of the Navajo Nation, to designate certain wilderness areas, S. 467, to provide for the disposal of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Mohave County, Arizona, S. 468, to establish a procedure for resolving claims to certain rights-of-way, S. 614, to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a pilot program for commercial recreation concessions on certain land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, S. 785, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of land to Alaska Native veterans, S. 837, to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Washington County, Utah, to authorize the exchange of Federal land and non-Federal land in the State of Utah, S. 884, to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to require the Bureau of Land Management to provide a claimant of a small miner waiver from claim maintenance fees with a period of 60 days after written receipt of 1 or more defects is provided to the claimant by registered mail to cure the 1 or more defects or pay the claim maintenance fee, S. 941, to withdraw certain National Forest System land in the Emigrant Crevice area located in the Custer Gallatin National Forest, Park County, Montana, from the mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States, S. 1149, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to repeal a provision limiting the export of timber harvested from land conveyed to the Kake Tribal Corporation under that Act, S. 1230, to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, S. 1271, to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as "Fowler Peak" and "Boskoff Peak", and S. 1548, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas and to make additional wild and scenic river designations in the State of Oregon, 9:45 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider S. 1514, to amend certain Acts to reauthorize those Acts and to increase protections for wildlife, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine South Sudan's conflict and famine; to be immediately followed by a full committee hearing to examine the nominations of Michael Arthur Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Maria E. Brewer, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone, and John P. Desrocher, of New York, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 873, to amend section 8433 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from the Thrift Savings Fund, S. 288, to require notice and comment for certain interpretative rules, S. 886, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, S. 906, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for congressional notification regarding major acquisition program breaches, S. 1199, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize the Border Enforcement Security Task Force program within the Department of Homeland Security, S. 938, to require notice of cost-free Federal procurement technical assistance in connection with registration of small business concerns in procurement systems, S. 1208, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide for an option under the Secure Mail Initiative under which a person to whom a document is sent under that initiative may elect to have the United States Postal Service use the Hold for Pickup service or the Signature Confirmation service in delivering the document, S. Con. Res. 15, expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2017, as "Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day", H.R. 1293, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees, H.R. 1117, to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report regarding certain plans regarding assistance to applicants and grantees during the response to an emergency or disaster, H.R. 1679, to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, H.R. 195, to amend title 44, United States Code, to restrict the distribution of free printed copies of the Federal Register to Members of Congress and other officers and employees of the United States, H.R. 194, to ensure the effective processing of mail by Federal agencies, and an original bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to reauthorize the Judicial Conference of the United States to redact sensitive information contained in financial disclosure reports of judicial officers and employees, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold an oversight hearing to examine Federal infrastructure permitting and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 1285, to allow the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians to lease or transfer certain lands, and H.R. 984, to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office reports on human trafficking of American Indian and Alaska Natives in the United States, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Foreign Agents Registration Act and attempts to influence United States elections, focusing on lessons learned from current and prior Administrations, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 1598, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 11 a.m., S-216, Capitol.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine progress toward a cure for Type I Diabetes, focusing on research and the artificial pancreas, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Renegotiating NAFTA: Opportunities for Agriculture", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled "Expanding Options for Employers and Workers Through Earn-and-Learn Opportunities", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled "Powering America: A Review of the Operation and Effectiveness of the Nation's Wholesale Electricity Markets", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Examining the Extension of Special Needs Plans", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled "Assessing the U.S.-Qatar Relationship", 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2626, the "Strong Visa Integrity Secures America Act"; H.R. 2805, to permanently authorize the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Card Program; H.R. 3202, the "Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act"; H.R. 3284, the "Joint Counterterrorism Awareness Workshop Series Act of 2017"; H.R. 3328, the "Cuban Airport Security Act of 2017"; to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; and

H. Res. 447, directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to Department of Homeland Security policies and activities relating to businesses owned or controlled by President Donald J. Trump, 11:30 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Library of Congress’ Strategic Plan”, 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 391, the “Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act of 2017”; and H. Res. 446, resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Attorney General to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the removal of former Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 825, the “Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act”; H.R. 873, the “Global War on Terrorism War Memorial Act”; H.R. 965, the “Saint-Gaudens National Historical Park Redesignation Act”; H.R. 1074, 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”; H.R. 1418, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Alexander Creek, Alaska, is and shall be recognized as an eligible Native village under that Act, and for other purposes; H.R. 1491, the “Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Land Affirmation Act of 2017”; H.R. 1547, the “Udall Park Land Exchange Completion Act”; H.R. 2075, the “Crooked River

Ranch Fire Protection Act”; H.R. 2083, the “Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act”; H.R. 2199, the “Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act of 2017”; H.R. 2316, the “Cooperative Management of Mineral Rights Act of 2017”; H.R. 2371, the “Western Area Power Administration Transparency Act”; H.R. 2374, the “Eastern Nevada Economic Development and Land Management Improvement Act”; H.R. 2423, the “Washington County, Utah, Public Lands Management Implementation Act”; H.R. 2582, the “Confirming State Land Grants for Education Act”; H.R. 2611, the “Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site Boundary Modification Act”; H.R. 2615, the “Gulf Islands National Seashore Land Exchange Act of 2017”; H.R. 2768, the “Fowler and Boskoff Peaks Designation Act”; H.R. 3115, the “Superior National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2017”; H.R. 3279, the “Helium Extraction Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3281, the “Reclamation Title Transfer and Non-Federal Infrastructure Incentivization Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Office of National Drug Control Policy: Reauthorization in the 115th Congress”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled “STEM and Computer Science Education: Preparing the 21st Century Workforce”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Protecting Small Businesses from Cyber Attacks: the Cybersecurity Insurance Option”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 26

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 1628, American Health Care Act, and vote on or in relation to Enzi (for Paul) Amendment No. 271 (to Amendment No. 267) at 11:30 a.m., and vote on the Donnelly motion to commit at 3:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 3219—Make America Secure Appropriations Act, 2018 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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