

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4973–S5026

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3218–3228. **Pages S5003–04**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany H.R. 1900, to designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum. (S. Rept. No. 115–304)

S. Res. 557, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the strategic importance of NATO to the collective security of the transatlantic region and urging its member states to work together at the upcoming summit to strengthen the alliance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. 2497, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5003**

Measures Passed:

E-Visit Verification Delay: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6042, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to delay the reduction in Federal medical assistance percentage for Medicaid personal care services furnished without an electronic visit verification system, and the bill was then passed. **Page S5006**

Oldham Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Andrew S. Oldham, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit. **Pages S4981–83**

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

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 159), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S4983**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, July 18, 2018; that the time until 2 p.m. be

equally divided; and that at 2 p.m., notwithstanding Rule XXII, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination with no intervening action or debate.

Page S5006

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 156), James Blew, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, Department of Education. **Pages S4978–81, S5026**

By 66 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. EX. 158), Randal Quarles, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Pages S4981–83, S5026

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

By 66 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 157), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S4981**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James Morhard, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Martin J. Oberman, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2018.

Martin J. Oberman, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2023.

Kevin K. Sullivan, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Nicaragua.

Damon Ray Leichty, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

John Milton Younge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Nicholas A. Trutanich, of Nevada, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nevada for the term of four years.

G. Zachary Terwilliger, of Virginia, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia for the term of four years.

William Travis Brown, Jr., of Louisiana, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Louisiana for the term of four years.

Nick Edward Proffitt, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia for the term of four years. **Page S5026**

Messages from the House: **Page S5002**

Measures Referred: **Pages S5002–03**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S5003**

Executive Communications: **Page S5003**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S5003**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5004–05**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Page S5005

Additional Statements: **Pages S5001–02**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S5005**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S5005–06

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5006**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—159) **Pages S4981, S4983**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:09 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 18, 2018. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5006.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, after receiving testimony from Jerome H. Powell, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

DOI CRITICAL MINERALS LIST

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of

the Interior's final list of critical minerals for 2018 and opportunities to strengthen the United States' mineral security, after receiving testimony from Steven M. Fortier, Director, National Minerals Information Center, Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Roderick G. Eggert, Deputy Director, Advanced Manufacturing Office, Critical Materials Institute, The Ames Laboratory, Department of Energy; Greg Gregory, Materion Natural Resources, Delta, Utah; Aaron Mintzes, Eathworks, Washington, D.C.; Laurel Sayer, Midas Gold Idaho, Inc., Boise; and Jim Sims, NioCorp Developments Ltd., Centennial, Colorado.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT AMENDMENTS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine an original bill entitled, "Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018", after receiving testimony from Wyoming Governor Matthew H. Mead, Cheyenne; Bob Broscheid, Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Denver; and Matthew J. Strickler, Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources, Richmond.

REDUCING HEALTH CARE COSTS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reducing health care costs, focusing on eliminating excess health care spending and improving quality and value for patients, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey R. Balser, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee; Steven M. Safyer, Montefiore Medicine, New York, New York; David Lansky, Pacific Business Group on Health, San Francisco, California; and Brent C. James, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California.

INTELLIGENCE

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

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.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 6393–6413; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 129; and H. Res. 999–1002 were introduced. **Pages H6462–63**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6464–65**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 6138, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for ambulatory surgical center representation during the review of hospital outpatient payment rates under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–831, Part 1);

H.R. 4952, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study and submit a report on the effects of the inclusion of quality increases in the determination of blended benchmark amounts under part C of the Medicare program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–832, Part 1);

H.R. 1482, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain or replace certain facilities and structures for commercial recreation services at Smith Gulch in Idaho, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–833); and

H. Res. 1001, providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 119) expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy (H. Rept. 115–834). **Page H6462 Speaker:**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Byrne to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6265**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:52 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H6271**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H6271**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 1000, electing a Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives. **Page H6282**

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

Pro bono Work to Empower and Represent Act: S. 717, amended, to promote pro bono legal services as a critical way in which to empower survivors of domestic violence; **Pages H6282–85**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Nation now faces a more complex and grave set of threats than at any time since the end of World War II, and that the lack of full, on-

time funding related to defense activities puts servicemen and servicewomen at risk, harms national security, and aids the adversaries of the United States: H. Res. 995, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Nation now faces a more complex and grave set of threats than at any time since the end of World War II, and that the lack of full, on-time funding related to defense activities puts servicemen and servicewomen at risk, harms national security, and aids the adversaries of the United States; **Pages H6285–89**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Navy's total readiness remains in a perilous state due to high operational demands, increased deployment lengths, shortened training periods, and deferred maintenance all while the Navy is asked to "do more with less" as financial support for critical areas waned in the era of sequestration and without consistent Congressional funding: H. Res. 998, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Navy's total readiness remains in a perilous state due to high operational demands, increased deployment lengths, shortened training periods, and deferred maintenance all while the Navy is asked to "do more with less" as financial support for critical areas waned in the era of sequestration and without consistent Congressional funding; **Pages H6289–93**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Marine Corps faces significant readiness challenges and that budgetary uncertainty impedes the Corps' ability to meet ongoing and unexpected national security threats, putting United States national security at risk: H. Res. 994, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Marine Corps faces significant readiness challenges and that budgetary uncertainty impedes the Corps' ability to meet ongoing and unexpected national security threats, putting United States national security at risk; **Pages H6293–95**

Encouraging Employee Ownership Act: S. 488, amended, to increase the threshold for disclosures required by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to compensatory benefit plans, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 406 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 333; **Pages H6295–H6312, H6342–43**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To modernize U.S. markets and to promote capital formation, investor confidence, and economic growth, and for other purposes." **Pages H6342–43**

Defending Economic Livelihoods and Threatened Animals Act: H.R. 4819, amended, to promote inclusive economic growth through conservation and biodiversity programs that facilitate transboundary cooperation, improve natural resource management, and build local capacity to protect and preserve threatened wildlife species in the greater Okavango River Basin of southern Africa; **Pages H6312–15**

Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act: H.R. 3030, amended, to help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 334; **Pages H6315–19, H6343–44**

Protecting Diplomats from Surveillance Through Consumer Devices Act: H.R. 4989, to require the Department of State to establish a policy regarding the use of location-tracking consumer devices by employees at diplomatic and consular facilities, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 412 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 335; **Pages H6319–20, H6344**

Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018: H.R. 5105, amended, to establish the United States International Development Finance Corporation; **Pages H6320–33**

Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018: H.R. 5480, amended, to improve programs and activities relating to women’s entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development; **Pages H6333–37**

East Rosebud Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: H.R. 4645, 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; **Pages H6337–38**

Juab County Conveyance Act of 2018: H.R. 3777, amended, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land containing the Nephi Work Center in Juab County, Utah, to Juab County; and **Pages H6339–40**

Gila River Indian Community Federal Rights-of-Way, Easements and Boundary Clarification Act: H.R. 4032, amended, to confirm undocumented Federal rights-of-way or easements on the Gila River Indian Reservation, clarify the northern boundary of the Gila River Indian Community’s Reservation, to take certain land located in Maricopa County and Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community. **Pages H6340–42**

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019: The House considered H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, July 18th. **Pages H6274–82, H6344–H6461**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–81 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. **Page H6274**

Agreed to:

Soto amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System by \$500,000 for the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species; **Pages H6434–35**

Lance amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program by \$1 million; **Pages H6435–36**

Courtney amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that designates \$300,000 within the Operation of the National Park System for the New England Scenic Trail; **Page H6436**

Courtney amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases the Historic Preservation Fund by \$5 million to restore level funding with FY 2018; **Pages H6436–37**

Sewell amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights Movement by \$2,500,000, and reduces departmental operations for the Office of the Secretary of Interior by the same amount; **Page H6437**

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases by \$500,000 the amount of funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund to be used for competitive grants for the survey and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks associated with communities currently under-represented; **Pages H6437–38**

Clyburn amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding by \$2 million for Historic Preservation Fund grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities; **Pages H6438–39**

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that states that of the funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund, increase by \$1,000,000 those funds allocated for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities; **Pages H6439–40**

Olson amendment (No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that reduces by \$20,000,000 and then increases by the same amount the National Recreation and Preservation account with intent to use the funds for the National Maritime Heritage grant program; **Page H6440**

Dingell amendment (No. 12 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases USGS funding by \$250,000 for fisheries assessment to continue and expand advanced technologies research in the Ecosystem Fisheries Program in accordance with Congressional direction that mission areas and accounts would be maintained at the enacted level; **Pages H6440–41**

Courtney amendment (No. 13 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that provides funding for the U.S. Geological Survey to develop a map showing pyrrhotite occurrences across the United States; **Page H6441**

Gabbard amendment (No. 14 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases the USGS Surveys, Investigations and Research account by \$4,798,500, intended to be used for the Volcano Hazards Program to ameliorate impacts caused by volcanic eruptions; **Pages H6441–42**

Kildee amendment (No. 15 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding to USGS to eradicate grass carp by \$1 million; reduces funding from the Office of the Interior Secretary by the same amount; **Pages H6442–43**

Johnson (OH) amendments printed in H. Rept. 115–830: (No. 16) that provides for a balanced distribution of funds among Appalachian states for reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development, offset by funds from the Environmental Programs and Management account; and (No. 17) that restores the number of Appalachian states eligible for grants for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands to be used for economic and community development from 3 to 6; **Page H6443**

O'Halleran amendment (No. 18 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that reduces and increases by \$36,000,000 the amount of funding appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs construction account for public safety and justice facility construction; **Page H6444**

Plaskett amendment (No. 20 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that strengthens necessary support for insular territories of the United States (to equal Senate levels); **Pages H6445–46**

Moore amendment (No. 21 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that boosts funding for the Smithsonian by \$500,000 to better support efforts, including the creation of temporary or permanent exhibits, that better tell and increase understanding and education about the history, voices, and narratives of underrep-

resented communities, including African-Americans and tribal Communities; **Pages H6446–47**

Welch amendment (No. 22 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding for the Lake Champlain Basin Program by \$4 million to the FY18 enacted level; decreases the Office of the Secretary of Interior account by the same amount; **Page H6447**

Esty amendment (No. 24 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that helps cities and towns clean up brownfield sites in their local communities by increasing funding to “brownfields projects” within the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) by \$7 million by pulling \$7 million from the Office of the Secretary; **Page H6448**

Denham amendment (No. 26 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases the WIFIA administrative expenses account by \$2 million and decreases the DOI Office of the Secretary account by the same amount; **Pages H6449–50**

Heck amendment (No. 28 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that directs EPA to fund the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey; **Page H6451**

Soto amendment (No. 30 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding for the National Estuary Program by \$468,000; **Pages H6452–53**

LaMalfa amendment (No. 34 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funding to the National Forest System account for purposes of eradicating, enforcing, and remediating illegal marijuana grow operations on National Forest System land; **Pages H6454–55**

Welch amendment (No. 35 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases and decreases the State and Private Forestry Account account by \$5 million to indicate that the amount should be used to help mitigate the spread of and the Emerald Ash Borer; **Page H6455**

Ruiz amendment (No. 36 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases state and forestry private account by \$2 million to add funding for Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program, and decreases Wildland Fire Management account by the same amount; and **Pages H6455–56**

Carbajal amendment (No. 37 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that increases funds for hazardous fuels management activities by \$10 million, decreases funds provided for forest products by the same amount. **Pages H6456–57**

Rejected:

O'Halleran amendment (No. 19 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that reduces Interior operations funds and increase BIA construction funds by 10 million dollars; **Pages H6444–45**

Vargas amendment (No. 23 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that sought to increase funding for the

U.S.-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program by \$5 million; **Pages H6447–48**

Jayapal amendment (No. 32 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that sought to reduce then add back \$12 million to EPA's Superfund account to underscore the importance of Superfund enforcement; **Page H6453**

Carbajal amendment (No. 37 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that sought to increase funds for hazardous fuels management activities by \$10 million, decrease funds provided for forest products by the same amount; **Pages H6456–57**

Beyer amendment (No. 40 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that sought to strike section 430, which allows a loophole in Federal water quality permitting requirements for pollution discharges; and **Pages H6458–60**

Beyer amendment (No. 41 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that sought to strike section 431, which repeals the Clean Water Rule. **Pages H6460–61**

Withdrawn:

Langevin amendment (No. 31 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have provided funding for the Southern New England Estuaries Program under EPA Geographic Programs. **Page H6453**

Proceedings Postponed:

Biggs amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that seeks to transfer funds from the BLM Land acquisition account to the NPS Parks Maintenance Backlog; **Page H6434**

Grijalva amendment (No. 25 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that seeks to increase the budget for the Department of the Interior Inspector General's Office by \$2.5 million; **Page H6449**

O'Halleran amendment (No. 27 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that seeks to move \$3,000,000 from the Office of the Special Trustee to the Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation; **Pages H6450–51**

Adams amendment (No. 29 printed in H. Rept. 115–830) that seeks to decrease and then increase the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account fund by \$742,000; this increase is to emphasize the need for greater funding for the Environmental Justice program area within the account; and **Pages H6451–52**

Grothman amendment (No. 39 printed in H. Rept. 115–830), as modified, that seeks to reduce funding for the National Endowment on the Arts and the Humanities by 15 percent. **Pages H6457–58**

H. Res. 996, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6147) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 229 ayes to 184 noes, Roll No. 332, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 230 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 331. **Pages H6274–82**

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

Authorizing the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs: H.R. 1037, amended, to authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs. **Pages H6338–39**

Quorum Calls Votes—Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6281, H6282, H6342–43, H6343–44, H6344. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINING THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled "Examining the Summer Food Service Program". Testimony was heard from Kathryn Larin, Director of Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Gil Harden, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

REALIZING THE BENEFITS OF RURAL BROADBAND: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled "Realizing the Benefits of Rural Broadband: Challenges and Solutions". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING STATE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY OF HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR CONSUMERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Examining State Efforts to Improve Transparency of Health Care Costs for Consumers". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment held a markup on H.R. 3128, to amend section 111 of the Clean Air Act to clarify

when a physical change in, or change in the method of operation of, a stationary source constitutes a modification, and for other purposes. H.R. 3128 was forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

EXAMINING CAPITAL REGIMES FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled “Examining Capital Regimes for Financial Institutions”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FACEBOOK, GOOGLE AND TWITTER: EXAMINING THE CONTENT FILTERING PRACTICES OF SOCIAL MEDIA GIANTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Facebook, Google and Twitter: Examining the Content Filtering Practices of Social Media Giants”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on H.R. 5171, the “Ski Fee Retention Act”; H.R. 5262, to redesignate the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area as the Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; H.R. 5347, the “Lyon County Economic Development and Environmental Remediation Act”; H.R. 5532, the “Reconstruction Era National Historical Park Act”; H.R. 5923, the “Walnut Grove Land Exchange Act”; H.R. 5979, the “Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument Act”; H.R. 6013, the “Migratory Bird Framework and Hunting Opportunities for Veterans Act”; and H.R. 6146, to authorize, direct, expedite, and facilitate a land exchange in Yavapai County, Arizona, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Chairman Bishop of Utah, and Representatives Tipton, Sean Patrick Maloney of New York, Amodei, Clyburn, Westerman, Rogers of Kentucky, and Gosar; Randy Garrison, Vice Chairman, Yavapai County Board of Supervisors, Arizona; and public witnesses.

A NEW HORIZON IN U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS: FROM AN AMERICAN EMBASSY IN JERUSALEM TO POTENTIAL RECOGNITION OF ISRAELI SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “A New Horizon in U.S.-Israel Relations: From an American Embassy in Jerusalem to Potential Recognition of Israeli Sovereignty over the Golan

Heights”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRIBAL ENERGY RESOURCES: REDUCING BARRIERS TO OPPORTUNITY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a hearing entitled “Tribal Energy Resources: Reducing Barriers to Opportunity”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 559, the “MERIT Act of 2017”; H.R. 6391, to reauthorize and modify the authority of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and for other purposes; H.R. 5300, the “Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2018”; H.R. 4913, the “Sgt. Maj. Wardell B. Turner Post Office Building”; H.R. 5395, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Main Street in Dansville, New York, as the “Staff Sergeant Alexandria Gleason-Morrow Post Office Building”; H.R. 5868, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 Claremont Avenue in Ashland, Ohio, as the “Bill Harris Post Office”; H.R. 6020, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 325 South Michigan Avenue in Howell, Michigan, as the “Sergeant Donald Burgett Post Office Building”; H.R. 6059, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 51 Willow Street in Lynn, Massachusetts, as the “Thomas P. Costin, Jr. Post Office Building”; H.R. 6116, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 362 North Ross Street in Beaverton, Michigan, as the “Colonel Alfred Asch Post Office”; H.R. 6167, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5707 South Cass Avenue in Westmont, Illinois, as the “James William Robinson Jr. Memorial Post Office Building”; and H.R. 5935, to designate the facility at the United States Postal Service located at 1355 North Meridian Drive in Harristown, Illinois, as the “Logan S. Palmer Post Office”. H.R. 559 was ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 6391, H.R. 5300, H.R. 4913, H.R. 5395, H.R. 5868, H.R. 5935, H.R. 6020, H.R. 6059, H.R. 6116, and H.R. 6167 were ordered reported, without amendment.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT A CARBON TAX WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE UNITED STATES ECONOMY

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H. Con. Res. 119, expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the

United States economy. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7–3, a rule providing for the consideration of H. Con. Res. 119 under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution. The rule provides that the concurrent resolution shall be considered as read and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the concurrent resolution. Testimony was heard from Representatives Walorski, Blumenauer, Polis, and McKinley.

THE FUTURE OF FOSSIL: ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES LEADING THE WAY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy; and Subcommittee on Environment held a joint hearing entitled “The Future of Fossil: Energy Technologies Leading the Way”. Testimony was heard from Roger Aines, Senior Scientist, Atmospheric, Earth and Energy Division, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; Jason Begger, Executive Director, Wyoming Infrastructure Authority; and public witnesses.

ACHIEVING GOVERNMENT-WIDE VERIFICATION OF SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Achieving Government-Wide Verification of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses”. Testimony was heard from Thomas J. Leney, Executive Director, Small and Veteran Business Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs; Robb Wong, Associate Administrator, Office of Government Contracting and Business Development, Small Business Administration; William Gould, Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, Small Business Administration; and a public witness.

THE VA ACCOUNTABILITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT: ONE YEAR LATER

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The VA Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act: One Year Later”. Testimony was heard from Peter O’Rourke, Acting Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

COMBATING FRAUD IN MEDICARE: A STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Combating Fraud in Medicare: A Strategy for Success”. Testimony was heard from Seto J. Bagdoyan, Director, Forensic Audits and Investigative Service, Government Accountability Office; Gloria L. Jarmon, Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and Alec Alexander, Director, Center for Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

MODERNIZING STARK LAW TO ENSURE THE SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION FROM VOLUME TO VALUE IN THE MEDICARE PROGRAM

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Modernizing Stark Law to Ensure the Successful Transition from Volume to Value in the Medicare Program”. Testimony was heard from Eric Hargan, Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

RUSSIA’S OCCUPATION OF GEORGIA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Russia’s occupation of Georgia and the erosion of the international order, after receiving testimony from David Bakradze, Ambassador of Georgia to the United States, Luke Coffey, Heritage Foundation, and Damon M. Wilson, Atlantic Council, all of Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine sharks, 10:15 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine trade and commerce at United States ports of entry, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brian J. Bulatao, of Texas, to be an Under Secretary (Management), and Denise Natali, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (Conflict and Stabilization Operations), both of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Administration's government reorganization proposal, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 2154, to approve the Kickapoo Tribe Water Rights Settlement Agreement, S. 3060, to repeal section 2141 of the Revised Statutes to remove the prohibition on certain alcohol manufacturing on Indian lands, and S. 3168, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make Reclamation Water Settlements Fund permanent, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine promoting justice for victims of crime, focusing on the Federal investment in DNA analysis, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine supporting economic stability and self-sufficiency as Americans with disabilities and their families age, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Cryptocurrencies: Oversight of New Assets in the Digital Age", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled "Powering America: The Role of Energy Storage in the Nation's Electricity System", 9 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Trade Commission", 9:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 6351, the "Advancing U.S. Civil Nuclear Competitiveness and Jobs Act"; and H.R. 6378, the "Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2018", 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing entitled "The Future of Money: Digital Currency", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled "Current Developments in Central Asia", 3 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5171, the "Ski Area Fee Retention Act"; H.R. 5347, the "Lyon County Economic Development and Environmental Remediation Act"; H.R. 5532, the "Reconstruction Era National Historical Park Act"; H.R. 5556, the "Environmental Compliance Cost Transparency Act of 2018"; H.R. 5923, the "Walnut Grove Land Exchange Act"; H.R. 5979, the "Mill Springs Battlefield National

Monument Act"; H.R. 6038, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota; H.R. 6039, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, and for other purposes; H.R. 6040, the "Contra Costa Canal Transfer Act"; and H.R. 6146, the "Cottonwood Land Exchange Act of 2018", 10:45 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs, hearing entitled "Regulatory Divergence: Failure of the Administrative State", 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Department of Energy Veterans' Health Initiative Act; and legislation on Chemical Assessment Improvement Act, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 6348, the "Small Business Access to Capital and Efficiency Act"; H.R. 6347, the "7(a) Real Estate Harmonization Act"; H.R. 6330, the "Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018"; H.R. 6369, the "Expanding Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses Act of 2018"; H.R. 6367, "Incentivizing Fairness in Subcontracting Act of 2018"; legislation on the Clarity on Small Business Participation in Category Management Act of 2018; H.R. 6316, the "Small Business Advocacy Improvements Act of 2018"; and H.R. 6368, the "Encouraging Small Business Innovators Act", 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled "Are We Ready? Recovering from 2017 Disasters and Preparing for the 2018 Hurricane Season", 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled "An Update on the Implementation of the Forever GI Bill: Is VA Ready for August 1st?", 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3309, the "Social Security Online Tools Innovation Act"; and H.R. 6377, the "Save Community Newspaper Act of 2018", 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled "The Effects of Tariffs on U.S. Agriculture and Rural Communities", 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine the state of transatlantic relations, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 18

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Andrew S. Oldham, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2 p.m.

Following disposition of the Oldham nomination, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Ryan Wesley Bounds, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Complete consideration of H.R. 6147—Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019. Begin consideration of H. Con. Res. 119—Expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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