

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2985–S3015

Measures Introduced: Thirty-two bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1553–1584, S. Res. 214–217, and S. Con. Res. 18.

Pages S3004–05

Measures Reported:

S. 151, to deter criminal robocall violations and improve enforcement of section 227(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–41)

Page S3004

Measures Passed:

Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 1370, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain military survivor benefits as earned income for purposes of the kiddie tax, and the bill was then passed.

Page S2985

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the papers relative to S. 1370, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain military survivor benefits as earned income for purposes of the kiddie tax, be held at the desk; that if the House of Representatives passes a bill identical to the text of S. 1370, passed by the Senate, the House bill be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; and that upon passage of the House bill, S. 1370 be indefinitely postponed.

Page S2985

Recognizing Global Positioning System: Senate agreed to S. Res. 216, recognizing the contributions made by the men and women of the Air Force who are responsible for operating and maintaining the Global Positioning System constellation and affirming the importance of continuous availability, accuracy, efficiency, robustness, reliability, and resiliency of the Global Positioning System constellation.

Page S3012

Appointments:

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 101–509, the re-appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Deborah Skaggs Speth of Kentucky. **Page S3012**

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 101–509, the re-appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Sheryl B. Vogt of Georgia. **Page S3012**

Nielson Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Howard C. Nielson, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah. **Page S2995**

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

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 119), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2995**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. **Pages S3012–13**

Clark Nomination—Cloture: By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 120), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Stephen R. Clark, Sr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. **Pages S2995–96**

Nichols Nomination—Cloture: By 55 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 121), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Carl J. Nichols, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. **Page S2996**

Bell Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Kenneth D. Bell, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina. **Page S2996**

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

By 56 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 122), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S2996–99**

Nielson, Clark, Nichols, and Bell Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the confirmation votes on the nominations of Howard C. Nielson, Jr., Stephen R. Clark, Sr., Carl J. Nichols, and Kenneth D. Bell occur at 4:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. **Pages S3012–13**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 118), Daniel P. Collins, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Pages S2987–94, S2994, S3015**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Gary Richard Brown, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Stephanie A. Gallagher, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland.

Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Eric Ross Komitee, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Lewis J. Liman, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Mary S. McElroy, of Rhode Island, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island.

Martha Maria Pacold, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mary M. Rowland, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Steven C. Seeger, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

John L. Sinatra, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York.

Mary Kay Vyskocil, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service.

Pages S3013–15

Messages from the House:

Page S3002

Measures Referred: **Pages S3002–03**

Measures Held at the Desk: **Page S3003**

Executive Communications: **Page S3003**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S3003–04**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3005–08**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3008–09**

Additional Statements: **Page S3002**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3012**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—122) **Pages S2995–96**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:41 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S3012–13.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine climate change and the agriculture sector, after receiving testimony from Debbie Lyons-Blythe, Blythe Family Farms, LLC, White City, Kansas, on behalf of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association; Frank Mitloehner, University of California Department of Animal Science, Davis; Matt Rezac, Rezac Farms, Weston, Nebraska; and former Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack, United States Dairy Export Council, Arlington, Virginia.

AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel approved for full committee consideration

those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

COMBATING ILLICIT FINANCING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine combating illicit financing by anonymous shell companies through the collection of beneficial ownership information, after receiving testimony from Kenneth A. Blanco, Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and Grovetta N. Gardineer, Senior Deputy Comptroller for Bank Supervision Policy and Community Affairs, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, both of the Department of the Treasury; and Steven M. D'Antuono, Acting Deputy Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities to advance renewable energy and energy efficiency efforts in the United States, after receiving testimony from Daniel R. Simmons, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and Martin Keller, Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, both of the Department of Energy; Dan Conant, Solar Holler, Shepherdstown, West Virginia; Jason Hartke, Alliance to Save Energy, Washington, D.C.; and Bruno C. Grunau, Cold Climate Housing Research Center, Fairbanks, Alaska.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Pamela Bates, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for

Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador, and Christopher Landau, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the United Mexican States, both of the Department of State, Jennifer D. Nordquist, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and Eliot Pedrosa, of Florida, to be United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

GAO ANNUAL DUPLICATION REPORT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management concluded a hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office's annual duplication report, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office.

DIGITAL ADVERTISING ECOSYSTEM

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the digital advertising ecosystem and the impact of data privacy and competition policy, after receiving testimony from Avi Goldfarb, University of Toronto Rotman School of Management, Toronto, Canada; Fiona Scott Morton, Yale School of Management, New Haven, Connecticut; Brian O'Kelley, AppNexus Inc., New York, New York; Johnny Ryan, Brave, London, United Kingdom; and Jan M. Rybnicek, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Washington, D.C.

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 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: 32 public bills, H.R. 2856–2887; and 4 resolutions, H.

Con. Res. 40; and H. Res. 391–393, were introduced. **Pages H4063–64**

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H4065–66

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

Supplemental Report on H.R. 1947, to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act (H. Rept. 116–76, Part 2). **Page H4063**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Lawrence to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4013**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:01 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H4019**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor R. Perez Gatling, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Virginia Beach, VA. **Page H4019**

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 354, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States. **Page H4024**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:32 p.m. and reconvened at 2:27 p.m. **Page H4030**

Consumers First Act and Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019—Rule for consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 389, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1500) to require the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to meet its statutory purpose, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1994) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage retirement savings, by a yea-and-nay vote of 230 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 221, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 220. **Pages H4024–30, H4030–31**

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

Whole Veteran Act: H.R. 2359, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Veterans Affairs advancing of whole health transformation; **Pages H4032–34**

Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act: H.R. 1812, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to certain individuals; **Pages H4034–35**

Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William Bill Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of

2019: H.R. 2326, amended, to amend the Social Security Act, to amend the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012, and to direct the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Labor, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to take certain actions to improve transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who separate, retire, or are discharged from the Armed Forces; **Pages H4035–39**

Support for Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act: H.R. 2333, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators; **Pages H4039–41**

Fostering Intergovernmental Health Transparency in Veteran Suicides Act: H.R. 2340, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide to Congress notice of any suicide or attempted suicide of a veteran in a Department of Veterans Affairs facility; **Pages H4041–42**

Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2019: H.R. 1200, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans; **Pages H4042–43**

Veterans' Care Quality Transparency Act: H.R. 2372, amended, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services; **Pages H4043–45**

Veterans' Education, Transition, and Opportunity Prioritization Plan Act of 2019: H.R. 2045, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration and the Under Secretary for Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition of the Department of Veterans Affairs; **Pages H4045–48**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes." **Page H4048**

Amending title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of

chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act: H.R. 1947, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act;

Pages H4048–51

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act, and for other purposes.”

Page H4051

Permission to File Report: Agreed by unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be authorized to file a supplemental report on H.R. 1947, to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act.

Page H4049

Consensus Calendar: Representative Courtney presented to the clerk a motion to place on the Consensus Calendar the bill H.R. 748, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage, it having accumulated 290 cosponsors.

Page H4063

Senate Referral: S. 163 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Page H4061

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H4024.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4030–31 and H4031. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Committee Meetings

TO REVIEW ANIMAL PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing entitled “To Review Animal Pest and Disease Prevention and Response Capabilities”. Testimony was heard from Greg Ibach, Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup on the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020; and the Defense Appropriations Bill, FY 2020. The Defense Appropriations Bill, FY 2020, and the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020 were ordered reported, as amended.

MILITARY AND VETERAN SUICIDE: UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM AND PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel; and Subcommittee on Health of the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Military and Veteran Suicide: Understanding the Problem and Preparing for the Future”. Testimony was heard from Elizabeth P. Van Winkle, Executive Director, Office of Force Resiliency, Department of Defense; Captain Mike Colston, M.D., U.S. Navy, Director, Mental Health Policy and Oversight, Department of Defense; Keita Franklin, National Director of Suicide Prevention, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Michael W. Fischer, Chief Readjustment Counseling Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT: OPENING DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Eliminating Barriers to Employment: Opening Doors to Opportunity”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNDERMINING MERCURY PROTECTIONS: EPA ENDANGERS HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Undermining Mercury Protections: EPA Endangers Human Health and the Environment”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IMPROVING DRUG PRICING TRANSPARENCY AND LOWERING PRICES FOR AMERICAN CONSUMERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Improving Drug Pricing Transparency and Lowering Prices for American Consumers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HOUSING IN AMERICA: OVERSIGHT OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Housing in America: Oversight of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development”. Testimony was heard from Dr. Benjamin S. Carson, M.D., Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

UNDERMINING DEMOCRACY: KREMLIN TOOLS OF MALIGN POLITICAL INFLUENCE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy held a hearing entitled “Undermining Democracy: Kremlin Tools of Malign Political Influence”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE TSA WORKFORCE CRISIS: A HOMELAND SECURITY RISK

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “The TSA Workforce Crisis: A Homeland Security Risk”. Testimony was heard from John V. Kelly, Acting Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

GROWING AND DIVERSIFYING THE CYBER TALENT PIPELINE

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Innovation held a hearing entitled “Growing and Diversifying the Cyber Talent Pipeline”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Election Assistance Commission”. Testimony was heard from the following U.S. Election Assistance Commission officials: Christy McCormick, Commissioner and Chairwoman; Benjamin Hovland, Commissioner and Vice Chair; Don Palmer, Commissioner; and Thomas Hicks, Commissioner.

OVERSIGHT OF THE REPORT BY SPECIAL COUNSEL ROBERT S. MUELLER, III: FORMER WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL DONALD F. MCGAHN, II

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Report by Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller, III: Former White House Counsel Donald F. McGahn, II”.

EXAMINING THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION AND U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing entitled “Examining the President’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service”. Testimony was heard from Rear Admiral Timothy Gallaudet, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Deputy National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and Margaret Everson, Principle Deputy Director, Exercising the Authority of the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

TRUMP’S WAR ON A MERIT BASED CIVIL SERVICE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “Trump’s War on a Merit Based Civil Service”. Testimony was heard from Margaret Weichert, Deputy Director of Management, Office of Management and Budget, Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management; Triana McNeil, Acting Director of Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Norbert E. Vint, Acting Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management; and public witnesses.

THE NEED FOR RESILIENCE: PREPARING AMERICA’S TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing entitled “The Need for Resilience: Preparing America’s Transportation Infrastructure for Climate Change”. Testimony was heard from Susanne DesRoches, Deputy Director for Infrastructure and Energy, New York City Mayor’s Office of Resiliency and Office of Sustainability; Jason D. Averill, Chief of the Materials and Structural Systems Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology; and public witnesses.

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY: THE SBA’S COMMUNITY ADVANTAGE LOAN PROGRAM

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulation held a hearing entitled “Investing in Community: The SBA’s Community Advantage Loan Program”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET FOR THE COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled “Review of Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Programs”. Testimony was heard from Admiral Karl P. Schultz, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; Master Chief Jason M. Vanderhaden, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard; Rear Admiral Mark H. Buzby, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Administrator, U.S. Maritime Administration; and Michael A. Khouri, Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission.

PROTECTING PATIENTS FROM SURPRISE MEDICAL BILLS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Protecting Patients from Surprise Medical Bills”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Porter and Rogers of Washington; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Missile Defense Agency, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Armed Services: closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020, 9 a.m., SR–222.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine legislation to address the risks associated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 9:45 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold closed hearings to examine the reconciliation process in Afghanistan, 10:15 a.m., SVC–217.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China, S. 249, to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer

status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, S. 1025, to provide humanitarian relief to the Venezuelan people and Venezuelan migrants, to advance a constitutional and democratic solution to Venezuela’s political crisis, to address Venezuela’s economic reconstruction, to combat public corruption, narcotics trafficking, and money laundering, S. 1340, to authorize activities to combat the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, H.R. 31, to require certain additional actions in connection with the national emergency with respect to Syria, S. Res. 74, marking the fifth anniversary of Ukraine’s Revolution of Dignity by honoring the bravery, determination, and sacrifice of the people of Ukraine during and since the Revolution, and condemning continued Russian aggression against Ukraine, S. Res. 81, calling for accountability and justice for the assassination of Boris Nemtsov, S. Res. 135, expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the Senate for the acts of heroism and valor by the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France, and commending those individuals for leadership and bravery in an operation that helped bring an end to World War II, S. Res. 184, condemning the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, offering sincere condolences to the victims, to their families and friends, and to the people and nation of Sri Lanka, and expressing solidarity and support for Sri Lanka, S. Res. 188, encouraging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in the Republic of the Sudan, the nominations of Jeffrey L. Eberhardt, of Wisconsin, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador, Bridget A. Brink, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, Kenneth A. Howery, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden, Matthew S. Klimow, of New York, to be Ambassador to Turkmenistan, and John Jefferson Daigle, of Louisiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde, all of Department of State, a routine list in the Foreign Service, and other pending calendar business, 1:45 p.m., S–116, Capitol.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, with the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel Aaron Bress, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Michael S. Bogren, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, Stephanie Dawkins Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Jason K. Pulliam, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, and David Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: with the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental

Affairs, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold hearings to examine S. 123, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a contract or other agreement with a third party to review appointees in the Veterans Health Administration who had a license terminated for cause by a State licensing board for care or services rendered at a non-Veterans Health Administration facility and to provide individuals treated by such an appointee with notice if it is determined that an episode of care or services to which they received was below the standard of care, S. 221, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Health to report major adverse personnel actions involving certain health care employees to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to applicable State licensing boards, S. 318, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish medically necessary transportation for newborn children of certain women veterans, S. 450, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to expedite the onboarding process for new medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to reduce the duration of the hiring process for such medical providers, S. 514, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, S. 524, to establish the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs, S. 711, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for mental health services from the Department of Veterans Affairs to include members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, S. 746, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities, S. 785, to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 805, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, S. 850, to extend the authorization of appropriations to the Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes of awarding grants to veterans service organizations for the transportation of highly rural veterans, S. 857, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of special pension for Medal of Honor recipients, S. 980, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of services for homeless veterans, S. 1101, to ensure that only licensed health care providers furnish disability examinations under a certain Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, S. 1154, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an advisory committee on the implementation by the Department of Veterans Affairs of an electronic health record, an original bill entitled, "Janey Ensminger Act of 2019", and an

original bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to continue to pay educational assistance or subsistence allowances to eligible persons when educational institutions are temporarily closed, 2:30 p.m., SR-418.

Special Committee on Aging, to hold hearings to examine aging and disability in the 21st century, focusing on how technology can help maintain health and quality of life, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020; and the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2020, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Key Design Components and Considerations for Establishing a Single-Payer Health Care System", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, hearing entitled "Engines of Economic Mobility: The Critical Role of Community Colleges, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Minority-Serving Institutions in Preparing Students for Success", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, hearing entitled "LIFT America: Modernizing Our Infrastructure for the Future", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Annual Testimony of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System, Part II", 8:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Searching for Solutions in Syria: The Trump Administration's Strategy", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2615, the "United States-Northern Triangle Enhanced Engagement Act"; H.R. 2744, the "USAID Branding Modernization Act"; H.R. 598, the "Georgia Support Act"; H.R. 2140, the "Preventing Child Marriage Act"; H.R. 2023, the "Protect European Energy Security Act"; H.R. 2046, the "Energy Diplomacy Act"; H. Res. 129, condemning the Government of Saudi Arabia's continued detention and alleged abuse of women's rights activists; H. Res. 372, expressing concern for the United States-Turkey alliance; H. Res. 345, recognizing widening threats to freedoms of the press and expression around the world, reaffirming the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled "A Review of the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security", 9:30 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2820, the "Dream Act of 2019"; H.R. 2821, the "American Promise Act of 2019"; H.R. 549, the "Venezuela TPS Act of 2019", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R.

182, to extend the authorization for the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission; H.R. 307, the “Preserving America’s Battlefields Act”; H.R. 473, to authorize the Every Word We Utter Monument to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes; H.R. 1088, the “FIRST Act”; H.R. 1130, the “Fort Pillow National Battlefield Park Study Act”; H.R. 1179, the “African-American Burial Grounds Network Act”; H.R. 1248, the “York River Wild and Scenic River Act of 2019”; H.R. 1472, to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park; H.R. 1487, the “Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Study Act”; H.R. 1727, the “Complete America’s Great Trails Act”; H.R. 2369, the “Long Island Aviation History Act”; H.R. 2427, the “Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Reauthorization Act of 2019”; H.R. 2490, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; H.R. 2525, to establish the Steel Valley National Heritage Area in the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, hearing entitled “Responding to the Global Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Facial Recognition Technology (Part 1): Its Impact on our Civil Rights and Liberties”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy, hearing entitled “Examining For-Profit College Oversight and Student Debt”, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security Hearing, hearing entitled “Securing U.S. Election Infrastructure and Protecting Political Discourse”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Immigration and the Small Business Workforce”, 11:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Policies, Recommendations, and Impacts of the President’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled “Disaster Preparedness: DRRRA Implementation and FEMA Readiness”, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Health; and Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, joint hearing entitled “MISSION Critical: Caring for our Heroes”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Improving the Department of Veterans Affairs Effectiveness: Responding to Recommendations from Oversight Agencies”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “Enforcement in the New NAFTA”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, business meeting on Committee Vote on Enforcement Action regarding the Subpoena Issued by the Committee to the Attorney General on May 8, 2019, for Foreign Intelligence, Counterintelligence and Other Information Related to the Special Counsel’s Investigation, 9:30 a.m., HVC–304. This meeting is closed.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the economic impacts of the 2020 Census and business uses of Federal data, 2 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 22

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, May 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Howard C. Nielson, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah. At 4:30 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Howard C. Nielson, Jr., Stephen R. Clark, Sr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Carl J. Nichols, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and Kenneth D. Bell, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 1500—Consumers First Act (Subject to a Rule).

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