Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6205–S6259

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2722–2734. Pages S6242–43

Measures Reported:

  S. 1570, to provide flexibility to allow greater aquifer recharge, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–155)
  S. 2044, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to establish an Aging Infrastructure Account, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to provide additional funds under that Act, to establish a review of flood control rule curves pilot project within the Bureau of Reclamation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–156)
  S. 2731, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy. Page S6241

Measures Passed:

  Condemning the Horrific Attack in Dayton, Ohio: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 367, condemning the horrific attack in Dayton, Ohio, and expressing support and prayers for all those impacted by that tragedy, and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S6254

Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act: Senate passed S. 1678, to express United States support for Taiwan’s diplomatic alliances around the world, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

United States-Japan Alliance: Senate agreed to S. Res. 183, reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond.

United States-Tunisia Partnership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 236, reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms.

Argentine Israeliite Mutual Association Jewish Community Center Attack: Senate agreed to S. Res. 277, remembering the 25th Anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Israeliite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the 85 victims of the attack.

Measures Considered:

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 3055, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: Pages S6206–20

  Pending:
  Shelby Amendment No. 948, in the nature of a substitute.
  McConnell (for Shelby) Amendment No. 950, to make a technical correction.

State Relief and Empowerment Waivers—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S.J. Res. 52, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Health and Human Services relating to “State Relief and Empowerment Waivers”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that debate time for the joint resolution expire at 12:15 p.m., on Wednesday, October 30, 2019, and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Monday, October 28, 2019, ripen following disposition of the joint resolution.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, October 30, 2019.

Messages from the House:

Measures Referred:

Pages S6240

Page S6240
Measures Read the First Time:  Page S6240
Enrolled Bills Presented:  Pages S6240–41
Executive Communications:  Page S6241
Executive Reports of Committees:  Pages S6241–42
Additional Cosponsors:  Pages S6243–45
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:  Pages S6245–47
Additional Statements:  Pages S6239–40
Amendments Submitted:  Pages S6247–54
Authorities for Committees to Meet:  Page S6254
Privileges of the Floor:  Page S6254

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:41 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, October 30, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S6235.)

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Lisa W. Hershman, of Indiana, to be Chief Management Officer, who was introduced by Senator Young, Dana S. Deasy, of Virginia, to be Chief Information Officer, and Robert John Sander, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 1,780 nominations in the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps.

BOEING 737 MAX

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine aviation safety and the future of Boeing's 737 MAX, after receiving testimony from Robert L. Sumwalt, III, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; Christopher A. Hart, Chairman, Joint Authorities Technical Review; and Dennis Muilenburg, The Boeing Company, Chicago, Illinois.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Roxanne Cabral, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kelly C. Degnan, of California, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Robert S. Gilchrist, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania, and Yuri Kim, of Guam, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

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: 19 public bills, H.R. 4894–4912; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 659–662, were introduced.  Pages H8594–95
Additional Cosponsors:  Pages H8595–97
Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows: H.R. 3398, to provide low-income individuals with opportunities to enter and follow a career pathway in the health professions, to extend and expand demonstration projects, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–265).  Page H8594

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Pocan to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.  Page H8543

Recess: The House recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.  Page H8548

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rabbi Evan Hoffman, Congregation Anshe Sholom, New Rochelle, New York.  Page H8548

Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act, Grand Canyon Centennial Protection Act, and Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 656, providing for consideration of the
bill (H.R. 823) to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1373) to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2181) to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 590, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 589.

Pages H8550–52, H8558–59

Affirming the United States record on the Armenian Genocide: The House agreed to H. Res. 296, affirming the United States record on the Armenian Genocide, by a yea-and-nay vote of 405 yeas to 11 nays with 3 answering “present”, Roll No. 591.

Pages H8559–68, H8583–84

H. Res. 655, the rule providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 296) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 588, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 587.

Pages H8552–58

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

Protect Against Conflict by Turkey Act: H.R. 4695, amended, to impose sanctions with respect to Turkey, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 592;

Pages H8566–76, H8584–85

Help America Run Act: H.R. 1623, amended, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for the treatment of payments for child care and other personal use services as an authorized campaign expenditure;

Pages H8576–79

SFC Sean Cooley and SPC Christopher Horton Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program Act: H. Res. 107, amended, establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Members of the House of Representatives of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury;

Pages H8580–83, H8585

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Members of the House of Representatives of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who die in the line of duty or certain veterans who die from service-connected disabilities.”; and

Page H8585

Expositions Provide Opportunities Act of 2019: H.R. 4842, amended, to authorize the Secretary of State to provide funds for a United States pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai.

Pages H8585–87

Senate Referral: S. 134 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Page H8593

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8559.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8557, H8557–58, H8558–59, H8559, H8583–84, and H8584–85. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FUTURE OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE HEARING: THEORIES OF VICTORY

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Future of Defense Task Force Hearing: Theories of Victory”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 4674, the “College Affordability Act”.

REPURPOSING THE C-BAND TO BENEFIT ALL AMERICANS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Repurposing the C-Band to Benefit all Americans”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROTECTING THE RFS: THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION’S ABUSE OF SECRET WAIVERS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a hearing entitled “Protecting the RFS: The Trump Administration’s Abuse of Secret Waivers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REAUTHORIZATION BRAND USA AND THE U.S. SAFE WEB ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce held a hearing entitled “Reauthorization Brand USA and the U.S. SAFE WEB Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY: A REVIEW OF DISCRIMINATION IN LENDING AND HOUSING

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Financial Services and the LGBTQ+ Community: A Review of Discrimination in Lending and Housing”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 4458, the “Cybersecurity and Financial System Resilience Act”; H.R. 4634, the “Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019”; H.R. 4841, the “Prudential Regulator Oversight Act”; and H.R. 4863, the “United States Export Finance Agency Act of 2019”.

THE FY20 BUDGET: EXAMINING THE ADMINISTRATION’S POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR A TURBULENT MIDDLE EAST

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism held a hearing entitled “The FY20 Budget: Examining the Administration’s Policy Objectives for a Turbulent Middle East”. Testimony was heard from David Schenker, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State; and Michael T. Harvey, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for the Middle East, U.S. Agency for International Development.

ONE YEAR LATER: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TSA MODERNIZATION ACT


ANTITRUST AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY: COMPETITION IN LABOR MARKETS

Committee on The Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law held a hearing entitled “Antitrust and Economic Opportunity: Competition in Labor Markets”. Testimony was heard from Noah Phillips, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission; Doha Mekki, Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; Rahul Rao, Assistant Attorney General, Washington State Office of the Attorney General; and public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING


THE IMPACT OF CURRENT IMMIGRATION POLICIES ON SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Committee on The Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship held a hearing entitled “The Impact of Current Immigration Policies on Service Members and Veterans, and their Families”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 139, the “Springfield Race Riot National Historic Monument Act”; H.R. 486, the “Chicano Park Preservation Act”; H.R. 3250, the “Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools Act of 2019”; H.R. 3824, the “Cahokia Mounds Mississippian Culture National Historical Park Act”; and H.R. 4139, to provide for the boundary of the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Park to be adjusted, to authorize the donation of land to the United States for addition to that historic park, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Representatives Rodney Davis of Illinois, Vargas, Danny K. Davis of Illinois, Vela, and Bost; R. David Vela, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Juan Mendez III, Mayor, Brownsville, Texas; and public witnesses.

A SEA OF PROBLEMS: IMPACTS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION ON OCEANS AND WILDLIFE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing entitled “A Sea of Problems: Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Oceans and Wildlife”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRUMP’S WRONG TURN ON CLEAN CARS: THE EFFECTS OF FUEL EFFICIENCY ROLLBACKS ON THE CLIMATE, CAR COMPANIES AND CALIFORNIA

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “Trump’s Wrong Turn on Clean Cars: The Effects of Fuel Efficiency Rollbacks on the Climate, Car Companies and...
California”. Testimony was heard from Senator Whitehouse; Samuel Liccardo, Mayor, San José, California; and public witnesses.

CREATING THE CLEAN ENERGY WORKFORCE

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Innovation and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “Creating the Clean Energy Workforce”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1497, the “Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019”; H.R. 4719, the “FISH SAFE Act”; and H. Con. Res. 37, expressing support for designation of October 28 as “Honoring the Nation’s First Responders Day”. H.R. 1497 and H.R. 4719 were ordered reported, as amended. H. Con. Res. 37 was ordered reported, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 4852, the “GIVE Act”; H.R. 4356, the “Protecting Families of Fallen Servicemembers Act”; H.R. 4183, the “Identifying Barriers and Best Practices Study Act”; H.R. 4360, the “VA Overpayment Accountability Act”; H.R. 3996, the “VA Design-Build Construction Enhancement Act of 2019”; H.R. 1424, the “Fallen Warrior Battlefield Cross Memorial Act”; H.R. 3224, the “Deborah Sampson Act”; H.R. 4771, to permit appellants to appear in disability compensation cases before the Board of Veterans Appeals by picture and voice transmission from locations other than VA facilities; H.R. 2227, the “Gold Star Spouses and Spouses of Injured Servicemembers Leasing Relief Expansion Act of 2019”; and H.R. 3530, the “Improving Confidence in Veterans Care Act”. H.R. 4771, H.R. 2227, H.R. 4183, H.R. 3530, and H.R. 3224 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 4852, H.R. 4356, H.R. 4360, H.R. 3996, H.R. 1424, were ordered reported, without amendment.

PROTECTING WHISTLEBLOWERS AND PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY: IS VA DOING ITS JOB?

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Protecting Whistleblowers and Promoting Accountability: Is VA Doing Its Job?”. Testimony was heard from Tamara Bonzanto, Assistant Secretary for Accountability and Whistleblower Protection, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Michael Missal, Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.
Supply Chains in a Global Economy”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Solutions for the U.S. Power Sector”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2153, the “Keeping Girls in School Act”; H. Res. 189, recognizing the importance of sustained United States leadership to accelerating global progress against maternal and child malnutrition and supporting United States Agency for International Development’s commitment to global nutrition through its multi-sectoral nutrition strategy; H. Res. 230, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States condemns all forms of violence against children globally and recognizes the harmful impacts of violence against children; H.R. 1771, the “Divided Families Reunification Act”; H. Res. 410, encouraging reunions of divided Korean-American families; H. Res. 349, reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond; H.R. 4754, the “Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019”; S. 178, the “Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2019”; H. Res. 585, reaffirming support for the Good Friday Agreement and other agreements to ensure a lasting peace in Northern Ireland; H.R. 554, the “Saudi Educational Transparency and Reform Act of 2019”; H.R. 2881, the “Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2019”; H.R. 3763, the “Promoting United States International Leadership in 5G Act of 2019”; H. Res. 446, reaffirming German-American friendship and cooperation under the Wunderbar Together-Germany and the U.S. initiative; H.R. 1819, the “War Crimes Rewards Expansion Act”; H.R. 4802, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards under the Department of State’s reward program relating to information regarding individuals or entities engaged in activities in contravention of United States or United Nations sanctions, and for other purposes; H.R. 4862, the “United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act”; H. Res. 649, expressing the support of the United States for the grassroots development programs the Inter-American Foundation has undertaken for the past 50 years; and H. Res. 546, disapproving the Russian Federation’s inclusion in future Group of Seven summits until it respects the territorial integrity of its neighbors and adheres to the standards of democratic societies, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Global Terrorism: Threats to the Homeland, Part II”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Sexual Harassment at the Department of the Interior”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.


Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “The Administration’s Decision to Deport Critically Ill Children and Their Families”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H. Res. 660, directing certain committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its Constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America, and for other purposes [Original Jurisdiction Markup], 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.


Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Boeing 737 MAX: Examining the Design, Development, and Marketing of the Aircraft”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.


Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled “Preparing for Blue Water Claims—VA Status Update on Implementation”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis: Opportunities in Agriculture”, 2:30 p.m., 210 Cannon.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Wednesday, October 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of S.J. Res. 52, State Relief and Empowerment Waivers, and vote on the joint resolution at 12:15 p.m.

Following disposition of S.J. Res. 52, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Shelby Amendment No. 948, to H.R. 3055, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Wednesday, October 30

House Chamber


Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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