

concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 48

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1551, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) Amend the long title so as to read: “An Act to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.”

(2) In section 1(a), strike “Orrin G. Hatch” and insert “Orrin G. Hatch–Bob Goodlatte”.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator RON WYDEN, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Michael Faulkender, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, dated August 1, 2018.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: General Robert B. Abrams, USA, to be General, and to be Commander, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/United States Forces Korea, and Vice Admiral Craig S. Faller, USN, to be Admiral, and to be Commander, United States Southern Command.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Bonnie Glick, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator, and Michael T. Harvey, of Texas, and Mark Montgomery, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the United States Agency for International Development.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “The Every Student Succeeds Act: States Leading the Way.”

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Health Care in Rural America: Examining Experiences and Costs.”

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, August 01, 2018, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

REDESIGNATING A FACILITY OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 3389 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3389) to redesignate a facility of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3389) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3389

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION OF NASA INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION FACILITY.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Independent Verification and Validation Facility in Fairmont, West Virginia, is hereby redesignated as the “Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility”.

TRANSIT RAIL INSPECTION PRACTICES ACT OF 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 3139 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3139) to require State safety oversight agencies to conduct safety inspections of public transportation systems that provide rail fixed guideway public transportation and to direct the Secretary of Transportation to develop risk-based inspection guidance for such agencies, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 3139) was passed, as follows:

S. 3139

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Transit Rail Inspection Practices Act of 2018” or the “TRIP Act”.

SEC. 2. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INSPECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5329 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) consideration, where appropriate, of performance-based and risk-based methodologies.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) PLAN UPDATES.—The Secretary shall update the national public transportation safety plan under paragraph (1) as necessary.”;

(2) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the following:

“(11) EFFECTIVENESS OF ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES AND PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall develop and disseminate to State safety oversight agencies the process and methodology that the Secretary will use to monitor the effectiveness of the enforcement authorities and practices of State safety oversight agencies.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(1) INSPECTIONS.—

“(1) INSPECTION ACCESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A State safety oversight program shall provide the State safety oversight agency established by the program with the authority and capability to enter the facilities of each rail fixed guideway public transportation system that the State safety oversight agency oversees to inspect infrastructure, equipment, records, personnel, and data, including the data that the rail fixed guideway public transportation agency collects when identifying and evaluating safety risks.

“(B) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—A State safety oversight agency, in consultation with each rail fixed guideway public transportation agency that the State safety oversight agency oversees, shall establish policies and procedures regarding the access of the State safety oversight agency to conduct inspections of the rail fixed guideway public transportation system, including access for inspections that occur without advance notice to the rail fixed guideway public transportation agency.

“(2) DATA COLLECTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A rail fixed guideway public transportation agency shall provide the applicable State safety oversight agency with the data that the rail fixed guideway public transportation agency collects when identifying and evaluating safety risks, in accordance with subparagraph (B).

“(B) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—A State safety oversight agency shall establish policies and procedures for collecting data described in subparagraph (A) from a rail fixed guideway public transportation agency, including with respect to frequency of collection, that is commensurate with the size and complexity of the rail fixed guideway public transportation system.

“(3) INCORPORATION.—Policies and procedures established under this subsection shall be incorporated into—

“(A) the State safety oversight program standard adopted by a State safety oversight agency under section 674.27 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation); and

“(B) the public transportation agency safety plan established by a rail fixed guideway public transportation agency under subsection (d).

“(4) ASSESSMENT BY SECRETARY.—In assessing the capability of a State safety oversight agency to conduct inspections as required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure that—

“(A) the inspection practices of the State safety oversight agency are commensurate with the number, size, and complexity of the rail fixed guideway public transportation systems that the State safety oversight agency oversees;

“(B) the inspection program of the State safety oversight agency is risk-based; and

“(C) the State safety oversight agency has sufficient resources to conduct the inspections.

“(5) SPECIAL DIRECTIVE.—The Secretary shall issue a special directive to each State safety oversight agency on the development and implementation of risk-based inspection programs under this subsection.

“(6) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may use any authority under this section, including any enforcement action authorized under subsection (g), to ensure the compliance of a State safety oversight agency or State safety oversight program with this subsection.”.

(b) DEADLINE; EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) SPECIAL DIRECTIVE ON RISK-BASED INSPECTION PROGRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue each special directive required under section 5329(1)(5) of title 49, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(2) INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5329(1) of title 49, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to a State safety oversight agency on and after the date that is 2 years after the date on which the Secretary issues the special directive to the State safety oversight agency under paragraph (5) of such section 5329(1).

(c) NO EFFECT ON INITIAL CERTIFICATION PROCESS.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall be construed to affect the requirements for initial approval of a State safety oversight program, including the initial deadline, under section 5329(e)(3) of title 49, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. FUNDING FOR STATE SAFETY OVERSIGHT PROGRAM GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5336(h)(4) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking “0.5 percent” and inserting “0.75 percent”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VETERANS’ COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4958 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4958) to increase, effective as of December 1, 2018, 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, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4958) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 648, 649, 650, 651, and 652.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the resolutions en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 1551

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 48.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 48) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 1551.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 48) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 26; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Feldman nomination under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.