

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1817–S1872

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2206–2214, and S. Res. 400. **Pages S1847–48**

Measures Considered:

Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S1824–31, S1832–39, S1840–42

Pending:

Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1833, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1824**

Reid Amendment No. 1834 (to Amendment No. 1833), to change the enactment date. **Page S1824**

Reid Amendment No. 1835 (to Amendment No. 1834), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1824**

Reid (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 1836 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1833), to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States. **Pages S1824, S1837–39**

Reid Amendment No. 1837 (to Amendment No. 1836), to change the enactment date. **Page S1824**

Reid motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1838, to change the enactment date. **Page S1824**

Reid Amendment No. 1839 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1838), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1824**

Reid Amendment No. 1840 (to Amendment No. 1839), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1824**

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

By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 51), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1833. **Pages S1840–41**

By 55 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 52), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on Reid (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 1836 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1833). **Pages S1841–42**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. **Page S1872**

House Messages:

Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1839–40**

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill. **Page S1839**

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 1940, to change the enactment date. **Page S1839**

Reid Amendment No. 1941 (to Amendment No. 1940), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1839**

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1942, to change the enactment date. **Pages S1839–40**

Reid Amendment No. 1943 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1942), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1840**

Reid Amendment No. 1944 (to Amendment No. 1943), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1840**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, March 22, 2012. **Page S1839**

Honoring Senator Mikulski—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached proving that the time from 2:30 p.m. until 3 p.m., on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, be as if in morning business to acknowledge the milestone reached by Senator Mikulski as the longest serving woman in Congress. **Page S1872**

Messages from the House: **Page S1846**

Measures Referred: **Page S1846**

Measures Placed on the Calendar:
Pages S1817, S1846

Executive Communications: **Pages S1846–47**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S1848**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1848–50

Additional Statements: **Pages S1844–46**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1850–71**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S1871–72

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1872**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—52) **Pages S1840–42**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:21 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1872.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force, and General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, both of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded open and closed hearings to examine cybersecurity research and development in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Zachary J. Lemnios, Assistant Secretary for Research

and Engineering, and Kaigham J. Gabriel, Acting Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, both of the Department of Defense; Michael Wertheimer, Director of Research, National Security Agency; and James Peery, Director, Information Systems and Analysis Center, Sandia National Laboratories.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, and Jeremy C. Stein, of Massachusetts, both to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Jeremiah O'Hear Norton, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for the remainder of the term expiring July 15, 2013, who was introduced by Senator Coats, and Richard B. Berner, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, and Christy L. Romero, of Virginia, to be Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, both of the Department of the Treasury, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

COMMERCIAL AIRLINE SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded an oversight hearing to examine commercial airline safety, after receiving testimony from Margaret Gilligan, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration, and Calvin L. Scovel III, Inspector General, both of the Department of Transportation; William R. Voss, Flight Safety Foundation, Alexandria, Virginia; Gregory Belenky, Washington State University Sleep and Performance Research Center, Spokane; and Carl Kuwitzky, Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations, and Thomas L. Hendricks, Airlines for America, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Adam E. Sieminski, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, Marcilynn A. Burke, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Anthony T. Clark, of North Dakota, who was introduced by Senator Hoeven, and John Robert Norris, of Iowa, who was introduced by Senators Grassley and Harkin, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

MERCURY AND AIR TOXICS STANDARDS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for power plants, after receiving testimony from Regina McCarthy, Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; Robert M. Summers, Maryland Department of the Environment Secretary, Baltimore; Robert K. James, Avon Lake City Council Member, Avon Lake, Ohio; William Lambert, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland; Harry Alford, National Black Chamber of Commerce, Washington, D.C.; and Vickie Patton, Environmental Defense Fund, Boulder, Colorado.

TAX FRAUD BY IDENTITY THEFT

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth concluded a hearing to examine tax fraud by identity theft, part 2, focusing on status, progress, and potential solutions, after receiving testimony from Steven T. Miller, Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement, Internal Revenue Service, and Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, both of the Department of the Treasury; Ronald A. Cimino, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Criminal Matters, Tax Division, Department of Justice; Sal Augeri, Tampa Police Department, Tampa, Florida; Bernard F. McKay, American Coalition for Taxpayer Rights (ACTR), Washington, D.C.; and Kirsten Trusko, Network Branded Prepaid Card Association, Montvale, New Jersey.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Carlos Pascual, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Energy Resources, John Christopher Stevens, of California, to be Ambassador to Libya,

and Jacob Waller, of Delaware, to be Ambassador to the Tunisian Republic, who was introduced by Senator Coons, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL AND MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine a review of the Office of Special Counsel and Merit Systems Protection Board, after receiving testimony from Susan Tsui Grundmann, Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board; and Carolyn Lerner, Special Counsel, United States Office of Special Counsel.

STUDENT DEBT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts concluded a hearing to examine student debt, focusing on providing fairness for struggling students, including S. 1102, to amend title 11, United States Code, with respect to certain exceptions to discharge in bankruptcy, after receiving testimony from Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway, Frankfort; Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, and Danielle Jokela, both of Chicago, Illinois; G. Marcus Cole, Stanford University, Stanford, California; Deanne Loonin, National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), Boston, Massachusetts; and Neal McCluskey, Cato Institute, Washington, D.C.

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: 14 public bills, H.R. 4214–4227; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 109; and H. Res. 589–590, 592 were introduced.

Pages H1426–27

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H1428

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 591, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system (H. Rept. 112–416) and

H.R. 4014, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to information provided to the

Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (H. Rept. 112–417). **Page H1426**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Tipton to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1393**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:44 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1398**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Andrew Walton, Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1398**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Washington, Mr. Inslee, the whole number of the House is 432. **Page H1398**

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

Excess Federal Building and Property Disposal Act: H.R. 665, amended, to establish a pilot program for the expedited disposal of Federal real property, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 114. **Pages H1401–05, H1410–11**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:34 p.m. and reconvened at 1:47 p.m. **Page H1405**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Sarbanes, wherein he resigned from the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology and Natural Resources. **Page H1411**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Fudge, wherein she resigned from the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. **Page H1411**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 590, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H1411**

Removing restrictions from a parcel of land situated in the Atlantic District, Accomack County, Virginia: The House passed H.R. 2087, to remove restrictions from a parcel of land situated in the Atlantic District, Accomack County, Virginia, by a recorded vote of 240 yeas to 164 noes, Roll No. 117. **Pages H1405–10, H1411–20**

Rejected the Loretta Sanchez motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 180 yeas to 226 noes, Roll No. 116. **Pages H1418–19**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Page H1415**

Rejected:

Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of March 19, 2012) that sought to require independent valuation of the land prior to any restrictions being removed. The amendment requires valuations of the land for the years 1776, 1865, 2013, 2017, 2032, and 2212 and

Pages H1416–17

Grijalva amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of March 19, 2012) that sought to require Accomack County, VA, to pay fair market value for the land and to require an appraisal of the land prior to sale (by a recorded vote of 178 yeas to 226 noes, Roll No. 115). **Pages H1415–16, H1417**

H. Res. 587, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 170 nays, Roll No. 113, after the previous question was ordered without objection.

Page H1410

A point of order was raised against the consideration of H. Res. 587 and it was agreed to proceed with consideration of the resolution by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 172 nays, Roll No. 112.

Pages H1406–08

Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members of the House to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies: Representatives Boehner, Cantor, and Pelosi. **Page H1420**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1407–08, H1410, H1410–11, H1417, H1418–19, H1419. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Smithsonian Institution. Testimony was heard from Wayne Clough, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from the following department

officials: Michael Scuse, Acting Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; Bruce Nelson, Administrator, Farm Service Agency; Suzanne E. Heinen, Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Services; William Murphy, Administrator, Risk Management Agency; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Commerce. Testimony was heard from John Bryson, Secretary, Department of Commerce.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for National Archives. Testimony was heard from David S. Ferriero, Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for U.S. Mission to the United Nations. Testimony was heard from Susan Rice, Ambassador, U.S. Mission to the United Nations.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the National Institutes of Health. Testimony was heard from Francis S. Collins, Director of National Institutes of Health; Thomas R. Insel, Director, National Institute of Mental Health, Acting Director, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences; and public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for National Park Service. Testimony was heard from Jon Jarvis, Director, National Park Service; Bruce Sheaffer, Comptroller, National Park Service; and Peggy O'Dell, Deputy Director, National Park Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held

a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Department of Energy, Office of Science. Testimony was heard from Bill Brinkman, Under Secretary for Science (Acting), Office of Science.

APPROPRIATIONS—OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Office of Management and Budget. Testimony was heard from Jeffrey Zients, Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Testimony was heard from Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Administrator.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on the recent developments in Afghanistan. Testimony was heard from General John Allen, USMC, Commander, International Security Assistance Force; and James N. Miller, Jr., Acting Under Secretary of Defense and Principal Under Secretary of Defense Policy.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBER OPERATIONS PROGRAM FY 2013 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request for Information Technology and Cyber Operations Programs. Testimony was heard from Teresa Takai, Chief Information Officer, Department of Defense; General Keith Alexander, USA, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, Department of Defense; and Madelyn Creedon, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs, Department of Defense.

NAVY, MARINE CORPS AND AIR FORCE TACTICAL AVIATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Force held a hearing on Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force tactical aviation programs. Testimony was heard from Frank Kendall, Acting Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Office of the Secretary of

Defense; David M. Van Buren, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Air Force; Vice Admiral David Venlet, USN, Program Executive Officer for the F-35 Lightning II Program, Department of Defense; Michael J. Sullivan, Director of Acquisition and Sourcing, Government Accountability Office; Vice Admiral W. Mark Skinner, USN, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research, Development, and Acquisition; Lieutenant General Terry G. Robling, USMC, Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Aviation; Rear Admiral Kenneth E. Floyd, USN, Director of the Air Warfare Division, U.S. Navy; Lieutenant General Herbert J. Carlisle, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements, Air Force; and Major General John Posner, USAF, Director of Global Power Programs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition.

ENSURING REGULATIONS PROTECTION ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE AND QUALITY COMPANION CARE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Ensuring Regulations Protect Access to Affordable and Quality Companion Care”. Testimony was heard from Nancy J. Leppink, Deputy Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

AMERICAN ENERGY INITIATIVE: CANADIAN OIL SANDS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled “The American Energy Initiative: A Focus on the Future of Energy Technology with an Emphasis on Canadian Oil Sands”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Hearing to Receive the Annual Testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System”. Testimony was heard from Timothy F. Geithner, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AMIDST ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Fiscal Year 2013 Budget: A Review of U.S. Foreign Assistance Amidst Economic Uncertainty”. Testimony was heard from Rajiv Shah, Administrator, Agency for International Development.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled “Ensuring the Transparency, Efficiency, and Effectiveness of Homeland Security Grants”. Testimony was heard from Elizabeth Harman, Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Corey Gruber, Assistant Administrator, National Preparedness Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Anne Richards, Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; and William O. Jenkins, Jr., Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 3534, the “Security in Bonding Act of 2011”; and H.R. 4078, the “Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act of 2012”. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 3534, and H.R. 4078. The Committee began a markup of H.R. 3862, the “Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2012”.

EFFECTS OF THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2013 BUDGET AND PROPOSALS FOR BLM, FOREST SERVICE’S ENERGY AND MINERALS PROGRAMS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Effects of the President’s FY 2013 Budget and Legislative Proposals for the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service’s Energy and Minerals Programs on Private Sector Job Creation, Domestic Energy and Minerals Production and Deficit Reduction”. Testimony was heard from Bob Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management; Tom Tidwell, Chief, Forest Service; Mike McKee, County Commissioner, Uintah County, Utah; and public witness.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing on the following: H.R. 4027, to clarify authority granted under the Act entitled “An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes”; and H.R. 4194, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Alexander

Creek, Alaska, is and shall be recognized as an eligible Native village under that Act, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Tim Spisak, Deputy Assistant Director, Minerals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

PROPOSED DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forest and Public Lands held a hearing entitled “Proposed Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial”. Testimony was heard from Representative Boswell; Susan Eisenhower, representing the Eisenhower Family; Stephen E. Whitesell, Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; William J. Guerin, Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Construction Programs, Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration; Brig. Gen. Carl W. Reddel, USAF (Ret.), Executive Director, Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission; Bruce Cole, former Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities, and public witnesses.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 SPENDING PRIORITIES AND THE MISSIONS OF THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY’S WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM AND THE FOUR POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing entitled “Examining the Proposed Fiscal Year 2013 Spending Priorities and the Missions of the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey’s Water Resources program and the Four Power Marketing Administrations”. Testimony was heard from Michael L. Connor, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation; Stephen Wright, Administrator, Bonneville Power Administration; Timothy Meeks, Administrator, Western Area Power Administration; James McDonald, Acting Administrator, Southwestern Power Administration; Kenneth Legg, Administrator, Southeastern Power Administration; and Bill Werkheiser, Associate Director for Water, Geological Survey.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY’S STIMULUS SPENDING

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Department of Energy’s Stimulus Spending”. Testimony was heard from Steven Chu, Secretary, Department of Energy.

HELP EFFICIENT, ACCESSIBLE, LOW-COST, TIMELY HEALTHCARE (HEALTH) ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 5, the “Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act of 2011”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 7 to 4, a structured rule providing six hours of general debate equally divided among and controlled by the respective chairs and ranking minority members of the Committees on Energy and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–18 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as original text for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against amendments printed in the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Franks, AZ; Nadler; Jackson Lee, TX; Waters; Johnson, GA; Deutch; Gingrey, GA; Broun, GA; Gosar; and Wasserman Schultz.

OFFICE OF COMMERCIAL SPACE TRANSPORTATION BUDGET FOR FY 2013

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing entitled “An Overview of the Office of Commercial Space Transportation Budget for Fiscal Year 2013”. Testimony was heard from George Nield, Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration; Wilbur C. Trafton (USN Ret.), Chairman, Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee.

NO-COST IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing on no-cost improvements to the child support enforcement (CSE) program. Testimony was heard from Marilyn Stephen, Director, Office of Child Support, Michigan

Department of Human Services; Craig Burlingame, Chief Information Officer, Trial Court Information Services, Massachusetts Court System; and public witnesses.

HOW DISABILITY IS DECIDED

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on how disability is decided. Testimony was heard from Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner, Social Security Administration; Trudy Lyon-Hart, Director, Office of Disability Determination Services, Vermont Agency of Human Services, on behalf of the National Council of Disability Determination Directors; Lisa D. Ekman, Senior Policy Advisor, Health and Disability Advocates on behalf of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Social Security Task Force; Dan Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Leighton Chan, Chief, Rehabilitation Medicine Department, National Institutes of Health.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine balancing prosperity and security, focusing on challenges for United States air travel in a 21st century global economy, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Army, 10:30 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Financial Service and General Government, to hold hearings to examine strengthening market oversight and integrity, focusing on fiscal year 2013 resource needs of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine military construction, environmental, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, 10 a.m., SR-232A.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine military space programs in review of the Defense

Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tracey Ann Jacobson, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo, Richard B. Norland, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Kenneth Merten, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Mark A. Pekala, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, and Jeffrey D. Levine, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia, all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine retooling government for the 21st century, focusing on the President's reorganization plan and reducing duplication, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Homeland Security, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine Verizon and cable deals, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), Non Commissioned Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans of America, Wounded Warrior Project, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, and The Retired Enlisted Association, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture, hearing entitled "To Identify Duplicative Federal Rural Development Programs", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Projects, hearing on the FY 2013 Budget for Department of State, Near Eastern Affairs, 8:30 a.m., HVC-301. This is a closed hearing.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Veterans Employment and Training Programs, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Central Command and the International Security Assistance Force, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol. This is a closed hearing.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Internal Revenue Service, 10 a.m., H–309, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request, 2 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Department of Homeland Security Facilities, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Issues, 1 p.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Small Business Administration, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on the Defense Health Program budget overview, 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, markup of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013, 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Reviewing the President’s Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Proposals for the U.S. Department of Labor”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “The Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight and the Anniversary of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprise, hearing on the Swap Data and Clearing House Indemnification Correction Act of 2012, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, business meeting to consider a motion authorizing the issuance of a subpoena ad testificandum for the appearance of Edith O’Brien, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Russia 2012: Increased Repression, Rampant Corruption, Assisting Rogue Regimes”, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, hearing entitled “Halting the Descent: U.S. Policy toward the Deteriorating Situation in Iraq”, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Iran, Hezbollah, and the Threat to the Homeland”, 9:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled “Secure Identification: The REAL ID Act’s Minimum Standards for Driver’s Licenses and Identification Cards”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing entitled “The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: Federal Regulations and Regulatory Reform under the Obama Administration”, 1:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Harnessing American Resources to Create Jobs and Address Rising Gasoline Prices: Families and Cost-of-Life Impacts”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Europe’s Sovereign Debt Crisis: Causes, Consequences for the United States and Lessons Learned”, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and Procurement Reform, hearing entitled “FOIA in the 21st Century: Using Technology to Improve Transparency in Government”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “A Job Creation Roadmap: How America’s Entrepreneurs Can Lead Our Economic Recovery”, 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Review of Innovative Financing Approaches for Community Water Infrastructure Projects—Part II”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine prerequisites for progress in Northern Ireland, focusing on the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and the current challenges to full implementation of the agreement and the action that is necessary for continued confidence and progress in the peace process, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 21

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 21

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 3606, Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act. From 2:30 p.m. until 3 p.m., Senate will be in a period of morning business to acknowledge the milestone reached by Senator Mikulski as the longest serving woman in Congress.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 5—Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act (Subject to a Rule).

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