

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 5326, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3051–S3106

Measures Introduced: Ninety-seven bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3076–3172, and S. Res. 453–458. **Pages S3084–87**

Measures Passed:

Civil Air Patrol Congressional Gold Medal: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 418, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S3071–73**

Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act: Senate passed H.R. 4967, to prevent the termination of the temporary office of bankruptcy judges in certain judicial districts. **Pages S3102–03**

Commemorating and Acknowledging Law Enforcement Officers: Senate agreed to S. Res. 456, commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who have been killed or injured in the line of duty. **Page S3103**

Founding of Department of Agriculture Sesquicentennial: Senate agreed to S. Res. 458, commemorating May 15, 2012, as the sesquicentennial of the founding of the Department of Agriculture. **Pages S3103–04**

Measures Considered:

Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2072, to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States. **Pages S3051–71**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to

the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, May 10, 2012, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nominations of George Levi Russell III, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and John J. Tharp, Jr., of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Page S3104**

Russell and Tharp Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, May 14, 2012, Senate will begin consideration of the following nominations: George Levi Russell III, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and John J. Tharp, Jr., of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois; that there be 60 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S3104**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Deborah Ruth Malac, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Liberia.

Fernando Torres-Gil, of California, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2014.

Thomas Skerik Sowers II, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Public and Intergovernmental Affairs).

5 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. **Pages S3104–06**

Messages from the House: **Page S3082**

Measures Referred: **Page S3082**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S3082**

Executive Communications: **Pages S3082–84**

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S3087–88
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S3088–91
Additional Statements: Page S3081
Amendments Submitted: Pages S3091–93
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S3093

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:11 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 14, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3104.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense received a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Pacific Command Programs from Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, USN, Commander, United States Pacific Command, Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine current readiness of U.S. forces in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General Lloyd J. Austin III, Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army, Admiral Mark Ferguson, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, General Joseph F. Dunford, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, and General Philip M. Breedlove, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Patricia K. Falcone, of California, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, Marietta S. Robinson, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, who was introduced by Senator Levin, and William P. Doyle, of Pennsylvania, and Richard A. Lidinsky, Jr., of Maryland, both to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, who were both introduced by Senator Mikulski, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

HELIUM STEWARDSHIP ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2374, to amend the Helium Act to ensure the expedient and responsible draw-down of the Federal Helium Reserve in a manner that protects the interests of private industry, the scientific, medical, and industrial communities, commercial users, and Federal agencies, after receiving testimony from Timothy R. Spisak, Deputy Assistant Director, Minerals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Moses Chan, National Research Council of the National Academies Committee on Understanding the Impact of Selling the Helium Reserve, Park, Pennsylvania; Tom Rauch, GE Healthcare, Waukesha, Wisconsin; David Joyner, Air Liquide Helium America, Inc., Houston, Texas; and Walter L. Nelson, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Allentown, Pennsylvania.

MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENTS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Medicare physician payments, focusing on understanding the past so we can envision the future, after receiving testimony from Gail R. Wilensky, Project HOPE, Tom Scully, Alston and Bird LLP, and Mark McClellan, Brookings Institute, all of Washington, D.C.; and Bruce C. Vladeck, Nexera, Inc., New York, New York.

NATO

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, focusing on Chicago and beyond, after receiving testimony from Philip H. Gordon, Assistant Secretary of State; James Townsend, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense; and Charles A. Kupchan, Council on Foreign Relations, Ian J. Brzezinski, Atlantic Council, and Hans Binnendijk, National Defense University, all of Washington, D.C.

HELPING THE MIDDLE CLASS BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine helping the middle class balance work and family, after receiving testimony from Ann O'Leary, Center for the Next Generation, San Francisco, California; Judith L. Lichtman, National Partnership for Women and Families, Washington, D.C.; Juanita Phillips, Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation, Huntsville, Alabama, on behalf of the Society for Human Resource Management; and Kimberly Ortiz, Bronx, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 29 public bills, H.R. 5708-5736; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 108; H. Con. Res. 123; and H. Res. 649-655, were introduced. **Pages H2644–46**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2647–48**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2621, to establish the Chimney Rock National Monument in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112-473);

H.R. 2745, to amend the Mesquite Lands Act of 1986 to facilitate implementation of a multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River in Clark County, Nevada, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112-474); and

H.R. 3874, to provide for the conveyance of eight cemeteries that are located on National Forest System land in Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota, with amendments (H. Rept. 112-475).

Page H2644

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H2571, H2636**

Provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013: The House passed H.R. 5652, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013, by a recorded vote of 218 ayes to 199 noes with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 247.

Pages H2583–H2633

Rejected the Loeb sack motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Budget with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a ye-and-nay vote of 170 yeas to 232 nays with 11 answering "present", Roll No. 246.

Pages H2630–32

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112-21 shall be considered as adopted.

Pages H2583

H. Res. 648, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 233 ayes to 183 noes, Roll No. 245, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 177 nays, Roll No. 244.

Pages H2573–83

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013: The House passed H.R. 5326, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Re-

lated Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, by a ye-and-nay vote of 247 yeas to 163 nays, Roll No. 249. Consideration of the measure began on Tuesday, May 8th. **Pages H2633–36**

Rejected the Nadler motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a ye-and-nay vote of 181 yeas to 233 nays, Roll No. 248. **Pages H2633–35**

H. Res. 643, the rule providing for consideration of the measure, was agreed to Tuesday, May 8th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, May 11th and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, May 15th for morning hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business. **Page H2638**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H2583.

Senate Referral: S. 2224 was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. **Page H2643**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four ye-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2582, H2582–83, H2632, H2632–33, H2635, and H2635–36. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee completed markup of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes. The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee completed markup of H.R. 5651, the "Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012". The bill was ordered reported, without amendment.

THE COSTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF DODD-FRANK SECTION 1502: IMPACTS ON AMERICA AND THE CONGO

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade held a hearing entitled "The Costs and Consequences of Dodd-

Frank Section 1502: Impacts on America and the Congo”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 4369, the “Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2012”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ADDRESSING INSPECTOR GENERAL VACANCIES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Where Are All the Watchdogs? Addressing Inspector General Vacancies”. Testimony was heard from Daniel Werfel, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget; Phyllis Fong, Inspector General, Department of Agriculture; and Brian Miller, Inspector General, General Services Administration.

SUPPORTING AMERICAN JOBS AND THE ECONOMY THROUGH EXPANDED ENERGY PRODUCTION

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hear-

ing entitled “Supporting American Jobs and the Economy through Expanded Energy Production: Challenges and Opportunities of Unconventional Resources Technology”. Testimony was heard from Charles McConnell, Assistant Secretary of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; Anu Mittal, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Samantha Mary Julian, Director, Office of Energy Development, State of Utah; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, May 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: The Majority Leader will be recognized. At 4:30 p.m., Senate will begin consideration of the nominations of George Levi Russell III, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and John J. Tharp, Jr., of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and vote on confirmation of the nominations at approximately 5:30 p.m. Following which, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2072, Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Friday, May 11

House Chamber

Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 11 a.m.

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