

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed National Defense Authorization bills.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S7363–S7404*

**Measures Introduced:** Six bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3651–3656, and S. Res. 608. **Pages S7401–02**

#### Measures Passed:

**National Defense Authorization Act:** By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 221), Senate passed S. 3254, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7381–92**

#### Adopted:

Levin (for Kyl/Udall (NM)) Modified Amendment No. 2927, to establish a congressional advisory panel on revising the governance structure of the National Nuclear Security Administration to permit it to operate more effectively and independently of the Department of Energy. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Akaka) Amendment No. 3019, to amend the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 with respect to the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Toomey) Amendment No. 3062, to require the Government Accountability Office to include in its annual report to Congress a list of the most common grounds for sustaining protests relating to bids for contracts. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Brown (OH)) Modified Amendment No. 3113, to extend treatment of base closure areas as HUBZones for purposes of the Small Business Act. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Rubio/Nelson (FL)) Modified Amendment No. 3175, to limit the availability of funds for retirement or inactivation of Ticonderoga class cruisers or dock landing ships. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Carper) Amendment No. 3241, to repeal or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Carper) Amendment No. 3242, to intensify efforts to identify, prevent, and recover payment error, waste, fraud, and abuse within Federal spending. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Thune) Modified Amendment No. 3277, to express the sense of Congress regarding the reallocation of government spectrum. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Moran/Ayotte) Modified Amendment No. 3285, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Bennet) Modified Amendment No. 3226, to make enhancements to the Troops-to-Teachers program. **Pages S7383–85**

Levin (for Hatch) Modified Amendment No. 3117, to provide that the rating chain for a system program manager may include any senior official located at an Air Logistics Complex where the system program manager is based. **Pages S7383–85**

By 92 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 220), McCain Modified Amendment No. 3262, to require a report on military activities to deny or significantly degrade the use of air power against civilian and opposition groups in Syria. **Pages S7386–89**

Kyl Modified Amendment No. 3123, to require briefings on dialogue between the United States and the Russian Federation on nuclear arms, missile defense, and long-range conventional strike systems. **Pages S7381, S7389**

**National Defense Authorization:** Committee on Armed Services was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and the bill was then passed, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 3254, as amended. **Page S7392**

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses; and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Levin, Lieberman, Reed, Akaka, Nelson (NE), Webb, McCaskill, Udall (CO), Hagan, Begich, Manchin, Shaheen, Gillibrand, Blumenthal, McCain, Inhofe, Sessions, Chambliss, Wicker, Brown (MA), Portman, Ayotte, Collins, Graham, Cornyn, and Vitter. **Page S7392**

***Animal Fighting Spectator Prohibition Act:*** Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of S. 1947, to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7393–97**

Blumenthal Amendment No. 3309, to improve the bill. **Page S7393**

***International parental child abduction:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 543, to express the sense of the Senate on international parental child abduction, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7403–04**

#### Measures Considered:

***Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act—Agreement:*** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 6156, to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to products of the Russian Federation and Moldova and to require reports on the compliance of the Russian Federation with its obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization. **Pages S7392–93**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, December 5, 2012, Senate begin consideration of the bill. **Page S7404**

***Morning Business—Agreement:*** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 5, 2012, Senate be in a period of morning business for up to 4 hours with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each except where noted below and the time be divided as follows: Majority controlling the first 30 minutes; Republicans controlling the next 30 minutes; Senator Grassley controlling the next 45 minutes; Majority controlling the next 45 minutes; Republicans controlling the next 45 minutes; and the Majority controlling the following 45 minutes; and that following morning business, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 6156, Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act. **Page S7404**

***Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities Treaty:*** By 61 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 219), two-thirds of the Senators present and not having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of ratification to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 13, 2006, and signed by the United States of America on June 30, 2009 (the “Convention”) (Treaty Doc. 112–7) was not agreed to and the Senate does not advise and consent to the ratification of the treaty. **Pages S7365–79**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Page S7400**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S7400–01**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page S7402**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S7402–03**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S7399–S7400**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Page S7403**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S7403**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—221) **Pages S7379, S7389, S7392**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 6:30 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 5, 2012. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S7404.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

***Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:*** Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Polly Ellen Trottenberg, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, who was introduced by Senators Boxer and Schumer, Mark Doms, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs, Mignon L. Clyburn, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, and Joshua D. Wright, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, 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:** 5 public bills, H.R. 6628–6632; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 143 and H. Res. 924, were introduced.

**Page H6622**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Page H6623**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

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

**Page H6589**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

**Page H6594**

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Glen Bohannon, College Acres Baptist Church, Wilmington, North Carolina.

**Page H6594**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 290 yeas to 106 nays with 2 answering "present", Roll No. 615.

**Pages H6594, H6607–08**

**Private Calendar:** On the call of the Private calendar, the House passed H.R. 1857, for the relief of Bartosz Kumor; H.R. 824, for the relief of Daniel Wachira; H.R. 823, for the relief of Maria Carmen Castro Ramirez and J. Refugio Carreno Rojas; H.R. 794, for the relief of Allan Bolor Kelley; H.R. 357, for the relief of Corina de Chalup Turcinovic; and H.R. 316, for the relief of Esther Karinge. Additionally, the House passed over without prejudice S. 285, for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke.

**Pages H6597–99**

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

***American Energy Manufacturing Technical Corrections Act:*** H.R. 6582, amended, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals, and to make technical corrections to existing Federal energy efficiency laws to allow American manufacturers to remain competitive, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 398 yeas to 2 nays with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 614.

**Pages H6599–H6606, H6607**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 1:04 p.m. and reconvened at 1:45 p.m.

**Pages H6606–07**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Rejected the Ellison motion to adjourn by a recorded vote of 3 yeas to 393 noes, Roll No. 616.

**Pages H6608–09**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, December 5th.

**Page H6609**

**Discharge Petition:** Representative Walz presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committees on Ways and Means and the Budget from the consideration of H.R. 15, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief to middle-class families (Discharge Petition No. 6).

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6607, H6607–08, and H6608–09. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### TERRORIST EXPLOITATION OF REFUGEE PROGRAMS

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing entitled "Terrorist Exploitation of Refugee Programs." Testimony was heard from Lawrence Bartlett, Director of the Refugee Admissions Office, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Department of State; Barbara Strack, Chief, Refugee Affairs Division, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security; and Dawn Scalici, Deputy Undersecretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

### BARONA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS LAND TRANSFER CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2012

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing on S. 3193, the "Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012." Testimony was heard from Representative Hunter; Michael Black, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; and a public witness.

### REVIEW OF THE PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE TO AND RECOVERY FROM HURRICANE SANDY

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "A Review of the Preparedness, Response To and Recovery From Hurricane Sandy." Testimony was heard from W. Craig Fugate, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Fred Tombar, Senior Advisor to the

Secretary for Disaster Recovery, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Major General Michael Walsh, Deputy Commanding General, Civil and Emergency Operations, Army Corps of Engineers; Robert R. Latham, Jr., Executive Director Mississippi Emergency Management Agency; Mark Riley, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, State of Louisiana; and David Popoff, Emergency Management Coordinator, Galveston County, Texas.

### CHALLENGES OF TRANSITIONING VETERANS RECORDS TO PAPERLESS TECHNOLOGY

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled "Wading through Warehouses of Paper: The Challenges of Transitioning Veterans Records to Paperless Technology." Testimony was heard from Jim Neighbors, Director of DoD/VA Collaboration Office, Department of Defense; Scott Levins, Director of the National Personnel Records Center, National Archives and Records Administration; Alan Bozeman, Director, Veterans Benefits Management System, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine Hurricane Sandy, focusing on response and recovery and progress and challenges, 10 a.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine assessing developments in Mali, focusing on restoring democracy and reclaiming the north, 9 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* business meeting to consider S. 3472, to amend the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 to provide improvements to such Act, the nomination of Erica Lynn Groshen, of New York, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, and any pending nominations, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

#### House

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia, hearing entitled "Iranian Influence in the South Caucasus and the Surrounding Region," 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Full Committee, markup of H.R. 6364, the "Frank Buckles World War I Memorial Act"; H.R. 752, the "Molalla River Wild and Scenic Rivers Act"; and S. 3193, the "Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012," 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,* Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled "The Impact of International Technology Transfer on American Research and Development," 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 5

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Wednesday, December 5

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 4 hours), Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 6156, Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act.

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** To be announced.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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