Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, Further Continuing Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1077–S1169

Measures Introduced: Thirty-seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 430–466, and S. Con. Res. 9. **Pages S1119–20**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing Committee Expenditures: Senate agreed to S. Res. 81, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2011, through September 30, 2011, and October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012, and October 1, 2012, through February 28, 2013. **Pages S1078–83**

Further Continuing Appropriations: By 91 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. 29), Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011. **Pages S1088–89**

Measures Considered:

Patent Reform Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 23, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1089–S1114**

Adopted:

Bennet/Udall (CO) Modified Amendment No. 117, to establish additional USPTO satellite offices. **Pages S1089, S1092–93**

Kirk/Pryor Amendment No. 123, to provide a fast lane for small businesses within the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to receive information and support regarding patent filing issues. **Pages S1089, S1093**

Menendez Modified Amendment No. 124, to provide for prioritized examination for technologies important to American competitiveness. **Pages S1089, S1111–12**

Rejected:

By 58 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 30), Lee Amendment No. 115, to express the sense of the Senate in support of a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to). **Pages S1089, S1107–11**

Pending:

Leahy Amendment No. 114, to improve the bill. **Page S1089**

Bennet Amendment No. 116, to reduce the fee amounts paid by small entities requesting prioritized examination under Three-Track Examination. **Page S1089**

Feinstein Amendment No. 133, to strike the first inventor to file requirement. **Pages S1093–98, S1104–07, S1112–14**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the Tuesday, March 1, 2011 adoption of the Leahy-Grassley Modified Amendment No. 121, that the amendment be further modified. **Page S1109**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Thursday, March 3, 2011. **Page S1167**

Appointments:

Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 112th Congress: Senator Klobuchar. **Page S1167**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in executive order 13288 on March 6, 2003, with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the

Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–6)

Page S1118

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

4 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

13 Army nominations in the rank of general.

11 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy, and Public Health Service. **Pages S1165–67, S1167–69**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Walter A. Barrows, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Railroad Retirement Board for a term expiring August 28, 2014.

Nannette Jolivette Brown, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Wilma Antoinette Lewis, of the District of Columbia, to be Judge for the District Court of the Virgin Islands for a term of ten years.

Nancy Torresen, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

S. Amanda Marshall, of Oregon, to be United States Attorney for the District of Oregon for the term of four years.

Thomas Gray Walker, of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Felicia C. Adams, of Mississippi, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi for the term of four years.

Clayton D. Johnson, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Alfred Cooper Lomax, of Missouri, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Missouri for the term of four years.

Charles F. Salina, of New York, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of New York for the term of four years.

David V. Brewer, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute for a term expiring September 17, 2013.

A routine list in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. **Page S1167**

Messages from the House: **Page S1118**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1118–19**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1120–21**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1121–45**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1117–18**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1145–64**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1165**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—30) **Pages S1089, S1111**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:45 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1167.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of State and Foreign Operations, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy.

THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of American manufacturing, focusing on maintaining America's competitive edge, after receiving testimony from Representative Hoyer; and Gary Locke, Secretary of Commerce.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BUDGET

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

PREVENTING HEALTH CARE FRAUD

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine preventing health care fraud, focusing on new tools and approaches to combat old challenges, after receiving testimony from Peter Budetti, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General, both of the Department of Health and Human Services.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BUDGET

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine national security and foreign policy priorities in the fiscal year 2012 International Affairs Budget, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

STREAMLINING THE NOMINATIONS PROCESS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine eliminating bottlenecks, focusing on streamlining the nominations process, after receiving testimony from Clay Johnson III, Commission to Reform the Federal Appointments Process, Austin, Texas; Max Stier, Partnership for Public Service, Washington, D.C.; and Robert Dove, former Parliamentarian of the United States Senate, Falls Church, Virginia.

MILITARY'S TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine preventing abuse of the Military's Tuition Assistance Program, focusing on the military's oversight of schools receiving Tuition Assistance funds and the extent of military coordination with accrediting agencies and the Department of Education in its oversight activities, after receiving testimony from Senator Harkin; Robert L. Gordon III, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy; George A. Scott, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; and Kathryn McMurtry Snead, Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, Atlanta, Georgia.

IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improving employment opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities, after receiving testimony from Lynnae Ruttledge, Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services Administration, Department of Education; Sharon Lewis, Commissioner, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; Joan K. Evans, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services Director, Cheyenne; Randy Lewis, Walgreens, Co., Deerfield, Illinois; David Egan, Booz Allen Hamilton, Vienna, Virginia; and William E. Kiernan, University of Massachusetts Boston Institute for Community Inclusion.

MISSING CHILDREN

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine helping law enforcement find missing children, after receiving testimony from Kevin L. Perkins, Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; Patty Wetterling, Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, St. Paul, Minnesota; Ernie Allen, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Alexandria, Virginia; James J. Keightly, Keightly and Ashner LLP, Washington, D.C.; and Thea M. Pirnat, Fairfax County Police Criminal Investigations Bureau Child Exploitation Unit, Fairfax, Virginia.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Goodwin Liu, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Kevin Hunter Sharp, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, who was introduced by Senators Alexander and Corker, Roy Bale Dalton, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, who was introduced by Senators Nelson (FL) and Rubio, and Claire C. Cecchi, and Esther Salas, both to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, both introduced by Senators Lautenberg and Menendez, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on the Independent Budget, after receiving testimony from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary, Robert A. Petzel, Under Secretary for Health, Michael Walcoff, Acting Under Secretary for Benefits, Steve L. Muro, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Roger W. Baker, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, and W. Todd Grams, Acting Assistant Secretary for Management, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Carl Blake, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Joseph A. Violante, Disabled American Veterans, Raymond C. Kelley, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Tim Tetz, The American Legion, all of Washington, D.C.; Christina M. Roof, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland; and Maryann D. Hooker, Delaware VA Medical Center, Wilmington, on behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFL–CIO).

ENDING ELDER ABUSE

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ending elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation, including challenges state Adult Protective Services programs face in identifying, investigating, and resolving elder abuse cases, after receiving testimony from Kay E. Brown, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Kathleen M. Quinn, National Adult Protective Services Association, and Marie-Therese Connolly, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, both of Washington, D.C.; Mark Lachs, New York Presbyterian Health Care System, New York, New York; Bonnie Brandl, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Late Life, Superior, Colorado; and Mickey Rooney, Los Angeles, California.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 24 public bills, H.R. 867–890; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 136–139 were introduced. **Pages H1523–24**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1525**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 525, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health (H. Rept. 112–22);

H.R. 528, to require the submission of a report to the Congress on parasitic disease among poor Americans (H. Rept. 112–23); and

H.R. 570, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists and allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–24).

Page H1523

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Yoder to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1457**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:32 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1462**

Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act of 2011—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 129, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4, to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of $600 or more to corporations, by a yea-and-nay vote of 252 yeas to 175 nays, Roll No. 157, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 243 yeas to 185 nays, Roll No. 156.

Pages H1465–73, H1480–81

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2011: The House passed H.R. 662, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, by a recorded vote of 421 ayes to 4 noes, Roll No. 160.

Pages H1473–80, H1482–94

Rejected the Polis motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 181 ayes to 246 noes with 2 voting "present", Roll No. 159. **Pages H1491–93**

Agreed to:

Mica amendment (printed in H. Rept. 112–20) that makes three technical changes to correct drafting errors in the bill (by a yea-and-nay vote of 422 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 158).

Pages H1490–91

H. Res. 128, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of

256 yeas to 169 nays, Roll No. 155, after the previous question was ordered without objection.

Pages H1473–80

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow. **Page H1481**

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Communication: Read a letter from Chairman Mica wherein he transmitted a copy of a resolution, related to the General Services Administration's FY 2011 Capital Investment and Leasing Program, adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on February 16, 2011. **Pages H1481–82**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the continuation beyond March 6, 2011 of the national emergency with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Rept. 112–12). **Page H1501**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1462.

Senate Referral: S. 388 was held at the desk.

Page H1462

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1479, H1480, H1480–81, H1490–91, H1493, H1493–94. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on Patent and Trademark Office FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from David Kappos, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, held a hearing on Department of Defense Budget Review. Testimony was heard from Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense; ADM Michael Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Robert Hale, Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on Department of Energy, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation and Naval Reactors FY 2012 Budget Requests. Testimony was heard from Thomas D'Agostino, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Anne Harrington, Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation; and ADM Kirkland H. Donald, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government Appropriations held a hearing on the Election Assistance Commission. Testimony was heard from Curtis Crider, Inspector General, Election Assistance Commission.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security Appropriations held a hearing on Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on Major Management Challenges at the EPA. Testimony was heard from David C. Trimble, Acting Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; and Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General, EPA.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from GEN James N. Mattis, Commander, Central Command, USMC.

FY 2012 BUDGET—ARMY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the FY 2012 national defense authorization budget request from the Department of the Army. Testimony was

heard from John McHugh, Secretary of the Army; and GEN George W. Casey, Jr., Chief of Staff, USA.

STRATEGIC FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on the status of U.S. Strategic Forces. Testimony was heard from Gen. Robert Kehler, Commander, Strategic Command, USAF; James N. Miller, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, DOD; and public witnesses.

MEDICAID AND MEDICARE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''Waste, Fraud, and Abuse: A Continuing Threat to Medicare and Medicaid.'' Testimony was heard from the following Department of Health and Human Services officials: John Spiegel, Director of Medicare Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Gerald T. Roy, Deputy Inspector General for Investigations, Office of the Inspector General; Omar Perez, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Office of Inspector General; and Kathleen King, Director, Health Care Division, GAO.

MONETARY POLICY AND THE ECONOMY

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing on monetary policy and the state of the economy. Testimony was heard from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

SMALL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled ''The Effect of Dodd-Frank on Small Financial Institutions and Small Businesses.'' Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INEFFECTIVE FORECLOSURE MITIGATION

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing entitled ''Legislative Proposals to End Taxpayer Funding for Ineffective Foreclosure Mitigation Programs.'' Testimony was heard from Neil M. Barofsky, Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, Office of the Inspector General; David Stevens, Assistant Secretary for Housing and Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration, HUD; Mercedes M. Marquez, Assistant Secretary, Community Planning and Development, HUD; and Katie Jones, Analyst in Housing Policy, CRS, Library of Congress.

AL-QAEDA IN THE ARABIAN PENNINSULA

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence held a hearing entitled ''Terrorist Threat to the U.S. Homeland—Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).'' Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMMITTEE FUNDING

Committee on House Administration: Continued a hearing on Committee Funding for the 112th Congress.

FY 2012 BUDGET—FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES; AND THE OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs held an oversight hearing on the Department of the Interior spending for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Insular Affairs and the President's Fiscal Year 2012 budget request for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Insular Affairs. Testimony was heard from Togiola Tulafono, Governor of American Samoa; Tom Bussanich, Director, Budget and Grants Management Division, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; and Rowan Gold, Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY'S WATER RESOURCES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held an oversight hearing on examining the spending, priorities and the missions of the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Survey's Water Resources program. Testimony was heard from the following Department of the Interior officials: Mike L. Connor, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation; and William Werkheiser, Associate Director for Water, Geological Services.

LEAVING IRAQ

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense, and Foreign Operations held a hearing on U.S. Military Leaving Iraq: Is the State Department Ready? Testimony was heard from Patrick Kennedy, Under Secretary for Management, Department of States; Alexander Vershbow, Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs, DOD; Frank Kendall, Principal Under Secretary of Defense Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, DOD; Stuart Bowen, Jr. Inspector General, Iraq Reconstruction; and the following Commission on Wartime Contracting officials: Grant Green, Commissioner; and Michael Thibault, Co-Chair.

LOOMING CRISIS AT USPS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service

and Labor Policy held a hearing on Pushing the Envelope: The Looming Crisis at USPS. Testimony was heard from Patrick Donahoe, Postmaster General and CEO, Postal Services; Ruth Goldway, Postal Regulatory Commission; Phil Herr, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

FY 2012 BUDGET—NASA

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Held a hearing on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Charles F. Bolden, Jr., Administrator, NASA.

FY 2012 BUDGET—SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing on the Small Business Administration FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Karen Mills, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

FY 2012 BUDGET—EPA

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on Review of the FY 2012 Budget and Priorities of the Environmental Protection Agency: Impacts on Jobs, Liberty, and the Economy. Testimony was heard from Nancy Stoner, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, EPA; and Mathy Stanislaus, Assitant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, EPA.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the implementation of Title VII of the "Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act", 2:30 p.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–138.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the Office of Compliance, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of General Martin E. Dempsey, USA for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chief of Staff, United States Army, Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the USDA Forest Service, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine navigating a turbulent global economy, focusing on implications for the United States, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 193, to extend the sunset of certain provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act, S. 49, to amend the Federal antitrust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads, S. 222, to limit investor and homeowner losses in foreclosures, and the nominations of Caitlin Joan Halligan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Mae A. D'Agostino, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, Jimmie V. Reyna, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, John A. Kronstadt, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Vincent L. Briccetti, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Arenda L. Wright Allen, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Michael Francis Urbanski, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Timothy J. Feighery, of New York, to be Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine exploring minority access to capital and contracting opportunities, 10 a.m., SR–428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations, on NASA FY 2012 Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations, oversight hearing on FY 2012 Budget Oversight, 9:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Agencies Appropriations, oversight of the State Department and foreign operations programs, 1 p.m., HT–2, the Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on the FY 2012 national defense authorization budget requests from the U.S. Central Command and the U.S. Special Operations Command, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on Are We Ready? An Independent Look at the Required Readiness Posture of U.S. Forces, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing on Examining Recent Regulatory and Enforcement Actions of the Mine Safety and Health Administration, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled ''Made in America: Innovations in Job Creation and Economic Growth,'' 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''FY 2012 HHS Budget and the Implementation of Public Laws 111–148 and 111–152,'' 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to consider the following measures: the HAMP Termination Act; the FHA Refinance Program Termination Act; the NSP Termination Act; and the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program Termination Act, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on Reforming the United Nations: Lessons Learned, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled ''The President's FY 2012 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security,'' 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Natural Resources, oversight hearing on Department of the Interior Spending and the President's Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Proposal, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, hearing on the Refuse of the Federal Spending Binge: How U.S. Taxpayers are Paying Double for Failing Government Programs, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, hearing on the Department of Energy FY 2012 Research and Development Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Veterans Employment and Training Service's Budget and State Grant Program, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, to meet for organizational purposes; followed by a hearing on Small Businesses and Tax Reform, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, on Ongoing Intelligence Activities, 10 a.m., 304–HVC.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, March 3

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 11 a.m.), Senate will continue consideration of S. 23, Patent Reform Act, and there will be a period of morning business from 2 to 4 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 3

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 4—Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act of 2011 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Ackerman, Gary L., N.Y., E393
Barton, Joe, Tex., E401
Bordallo, Madeleine Z., Guam, E404
Broun, Paul C., Ga., E401
Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E398
Coffman, Mike, Colo., E403, E404
Denham, Jeff, Calif., E396
Duncan, John J., Tenn., E394
Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E393, E403
Frank, Barney, Mass., E396
Harper, Gregg, Miss., E398
Hensarling, Jeb, Tex., E402
Himes, James A., Conn., E400
Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E393
Hunter, Duncan, Calif., E395
Israel, Steve, N.Y., E399, E402
Kildee, Dale E., Mich., E400
Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E393, E398
Lee, Barbara, Calif., E397
Lewis, John, Ga., E397
Nunnelee, Alan, Miss., E399
Poe, Ted, Tex., E402
Rahall, Nick J., II, W.Va., E395
Rangel, Charles B., N.Y., E394
Richardson, Laura, Calif., E403
Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana, Fla., E394
Ross, Mike, Ark., E397
Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E400
Sessions, Pete, Tex., E398
Smith, Adam, Wash., E395, E401
Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E399

Congressional Record

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