

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1827–S1872*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 560–583. **Page S1853**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 150, to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, with amendments. **Page S1853**

#### Measures Considered:

*Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act—Agreement:* Senate continued consideration of H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1829–37, S1837–49**

##### Adopted:

Inhofe Modified Amendment No. 29 (to Amendment No. 26), to prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds to enforce the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure rule of the Environmental Protection Agency against farmers. **Pages S1829, S1837–40**

##### Rejected:

By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 36), Harkin/Cardin Amendment No. 53 (to Amendment No. 26), of a perfecting nature. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, March 13, 2013, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S1829, H1832**

By 45 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 37), Coburn/McCain Amendment No. 66 (to Amendment No. 26), to temporarily freeze the hiring of nonessential Federal employees. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmatives votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S1829–31, S1832**

##### Pending:

Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1829**

Toomey Amendment No. 115 (to Amendment No. 26), to increase by \$60,000,000 the amount ap-

propriated for Operation and Maintenance for the Department of Defense for programs, projects, and activities in the continental United States, and to provide an offset. **Pages S1840–43, S1846–49**

Durbin Amendment No. 123 (to Amendment No. 115), to change the enactment date. **Pages S1843–46**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adoption of Inhofe Modified Amendment No. 29 (to Amendment No. 26) (listed above), the instruction line on the amendment be modified with the changes that are at the desk. **Page S1872**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 2 p.m., on Monday, March 18, 2013, Senate resume consideration of the bill; that the second-degree filing deadline be at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, March 18, 2013; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26 (listed above), be at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, March 18, 2013. **Page S1872**

#### Appointments:

*World War I Centennial Commission:* The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 112–272, appointed the following individuals to be members of the World War I Centennial Commission: Philip Peckman of Nevada, James Nutter, Sr. of Missouri. **Page S1872**

**Budget Committee Reporting—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adjournment or recess of the Senate, the Budget Committee be authorized to report legislative matters on Friday, March 15, 2013 from 11 a.m. until 12 noon. **Page S1872**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1852**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1852**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Page S1852**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Page S1852**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1852–53**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1853–55**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:****Pages S1855–63****Additional Statements:****Pages S1851–52****Amendments Submitted:****Pages S1863–72****Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S1872****Privileges of the Floor: Page S1872****Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—37) **Page S1832**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:37 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2013. (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)

### BUDGET: 2014

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee ordered favorably reported a concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2023.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 23, to designate as wilderness certain land and inland water within the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in the State of Michigan;

S. 25, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal features of the electric distribution system to the South Utah Valley Electric Service District;

S. 26, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the development of hydroelectric power on the Diamond Fork System of the Central Utah Project;

S. 112, to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the State of Washington, to designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers;

S. 130, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the Powell Recreation District in the State of Wyoming;

S. 157, to provide for certain improvements to the Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska;

S. 222, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to clarify that uncertified

States and Indian tribes have the authority to use certain payments for certain noncoal reclamation projects and acid mine remediation programs;

S. 230, to authorize the Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs;

S. 244, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to modify the Pilot Project offices of the Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project;

S. 247, to establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, with an amendment;

S. 276, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the American Falls Reservoir;

S. 304, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Mississippi 2 parcels of surplus land within the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway;

S. 311, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating sites in the Lower Mississippi River Area in the State of Louisiana as a unit of the National Park System, with an amendment;

S. 347, to establish the First State National Historical Park in the State of Delaware, with an amendment;

S. 352, to provide for the designation of the Devil's Staircase Wilderness Area in the State of Oregon, to designate segments of Wasson and Franklin Creeks in the State of Oregon as wild rivers;

S. 354, to modify the boundary of the Oregon Caves National Monument;

S. 383, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;

S. 393, to designate additional segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, in the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; and

S. 459, to modify the boundary of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota.

### BORDER SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine border security, focusing on measuring progress and addressing challenges, after receiving testimony Doris Meissner, Migration Policy Institute, and Edward Alden, Council on Foreign Relations, both of Washington, D.C.; and David A. Shirk, University

of San Diego Trans-Border Institute, San Diego, California.

### INDEXING THE MINIMUM WAGE

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine keeping up with a changing economy, focusing on indexing the minimum wage, after receiving testimony from Brad Avakian, Oregon Labor Commissioner, Portland; Arindrajit Dube, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Lew Prince, Vintage Vinyl, St. Louis, Missouri; Melvin Sickler, Auntie Anne's Pretzels and Cinnabon, Williamstown, New Jersey, on behalf of the National Restaurant Association; David Rutigliano, SBC Restaurant Group, Trumbull, Connecticut, on behalf of the Connecticut Restaurant Association; and Carolle Fleurio, Jonesboro, Georgia.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported S. 150, to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, with amendments.

### ACCESS TO CAPITAL AND DISASTER RECOVERY

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine helping small businesses weather economic challenges and natural disasters, focusing on a review of legislative proposals on access to capital and disaster recovery, including S. 289, to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration, S. 415, to clarify the collateral requirement for certain loans under section 7(d) of the Small Business Act,

to address assistance to out-of-State small business concerns, S. 511, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to enhance the Small Business Investment Company Program, S. 537, to require the Small Business Administration to make information relating to lenders making covered loans publicly available, S. 550, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, after receiving testimony from John Needham, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Office of the Inspector General, James Rivera, Associated Administrator, Office of Disaster Assistance, and Jeanne Hult, Associate Administrator, Office of Capital Access, all of the United States Small Business Administration; James L. King, New York State Small Business Development Center, Albany; Ralph Hardt, Jagemann Stamping Company, Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Howard Kunreuther, and Erwann O. Michel-Kerjan, both of the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School Risk Management and Decision Processes Center, Philadelphia; Ashley Fingarson, National Federation of Independent Business, and David B. Muhlhausen, The Heritage Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.; Sengal Selassie, Brightwood Capital Advisors, LLC, New York, New York; and Jim Rich, Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Beaumont, Texas.

### 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.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 59 public bills, H.R. 1148–1206; 1 private bill, H.R. 1207; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 35–36; H. Con. Res. 24; and H. Res. 117–118, were introduced.

Pages H1425–28

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H1430–31

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

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

Page H1401

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H1402

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Ezekiel Pipher, Heartland Evangelical Free Church, Central City, Nebraska.

Pages H1402–03

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a recorded vote of 289 ayes to 125 noes with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 72.

Pages H1403, H1415

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:34 p.m. and reconvened at 3:45 p.m.

Pages H1406–07

**Investigative Subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics:** Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Democratic Leader, in which she designated the following Members of the House of Representatives to be available to serve on Investigative Subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics during the 113th Congress: Representatives Carney, Connolly, Hahn, Higgins, Jeffries, Keating, Perlmutter, Sewell (AL), Speier, and Titus.

**Page H1407**

**Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills Act—Rule for Consideration:** The House agreed to H. Res. 113, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 803, to reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of the Nation to put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century, by a recorded vote of 226 ayes to 191 noes, Roll No. 71, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 70.

**Pages H1407–15**

**Quorum Calls Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1413–14, H1414, and H1415. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **EXAMINING LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENTS TO TITLE VII OF THE DODD-FRANK ACT**

*Committee on Agriculture:* Full Committee held a hearing on Examining Legislative Improvements to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act. Testimony was heard from Gary Gensler, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and public witnesses.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS OUTSIDE AND PUBLIC WITNESSES**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing for Public and Outside Witnesses. Testimony was heard from public and outside witnesses.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—USDA FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on USDA Food and Nutrition Service. Testimony was heard from Audrey Rowe, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FY 2014 BUDGET APPLIED ENERGY FUNDING**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy FY 2014 Budget Applied Energy Funding. Testimony was heard from Pete Lyons, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy; and Christopher Smith, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OVERSIGHT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Department of Justice Oversight. Testimony was heard from Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—SUPREME COURT OVERSIGHT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Supreme Court of the United States Oversight. Testimony was heard from Anthony Kennedy, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; and Stephen Breyer, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—MANAGEMENT ISSUES AT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development held a hearing on Management Issues at Department of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development. Testimony was heard from Calvin Scovel III, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; David Montoya, Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Mathew Scire, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; and Philip Herr, Managing Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office.

### **APPROPRIATIONS—SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN A FISCALLY CONSTRAINED ENVIRONMENT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Social Security Administration's Management Challenges in a Fiscally Constrained Environment. Testimony was heard from Carolyn Colvin, Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration.

## APPROPRIATIONS—IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Immigration Enforcement Oversight. Testimony was heard from the following officials of Immigration and Custom Enforcement: Daniel H. Ragsdale, Deputy Director; Gary Mead, Executive Associate Director, Enforcement and Removal Operations; and John Morton, Director.

## BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled “Is Base Realignment and Closure Appropriate at this Time?”. Testimony was heard from John Conger, Acting Deputy Director of Defense for Installations and Environment, Department of Defense; Kathleen Ferguson, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Installations, Environment and Logistics, Department of Defense; Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy, and the Environment), Department of Defense; and Roger Natsuhara, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy Energy, Installations and Environment, Department of Defense.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

*Committee on the Budget:* Full Committee held a markup on the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. The Resolution was ordered reported, as amended.

## LOWER-SKILLED GUEST WORKER PROGRAMS IN TODAY'S ECONOMY

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Examining the Role of Lower-Skilled Guest Worker Programs in Today's Economy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## CHEMICAL FACILITIES ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM: A PROGRESS UPDATE

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing entitled “The Chemical Facilities Anti-terrorism Standards Program: A Progress Update”. Testimony was heard from Rand Beers, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; David Wulf, Director, Infrastructure Security Compliance Division, Department of Homeland Security; Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

## OVERSIGHT OF THE FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY (FIRSTNET) AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) and Emergency Communications”. Testimony was heard from Sam Ginn, Chairman, First Responder Network Authority; Ray Lehr, Director, Statewide Communications Interoperability Program, Maryland Department of Information Technology; Chris McIntosh, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, Office of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security, Office of the Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia; David Turetsky, Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; and public witnesses.

## GAO'S ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL AND THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL RESEARCH

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Who is Too Big to Fail? GAO's Assessment of the Financial Stability Oversight Council and the Office of Financial Research”. Testimony was heard from Richard Berner, Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury; Amias Gerety, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Financial Stability Oversight Council, Department of the Treasury; and A. Nicole Clowers, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office.

## U.S. ENERGY SECURITY: ENHANCING PARTNERSHIPS WITH MEXICO AND CANADA

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled “U.S. Energy Security: Enhancing Partnerships with Mexico and Canada”. Testimony was heard from Representative Terry; and public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 115, the Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution; and hearing on Committee Resolution for Franked Mail Allowances for Certain Committees; and Disposition of Election Contest in the 28th District of Texas. H. Res. 115 was ordered reported, without amendment; Committee Resolution 113–5 was agreed to without amendment; and the disposition of the contested election in the 28th Congressional District of Texas was agreed to.

## TSA'S EFFORTS TO ADVANCE RISK-BASED SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled "TSA's Efforts to Advance Risk-Based Security". Testimony was heard from John S. Pistole, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1067, to enact title 36, United States Code, "Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, and Organizations", as positive law; H.R. 1068, to enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park System", as positive law; H.R. 258, the "Stolen Valor Act of 2013"; and, H.R. 1073, the "Nuclear Terrorism Conventions Implementation and Safety of Maritime Navigation Act of 2013". The following bills were ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 1067; H.R. 1068; H.R. 1073; and H.R. 258.

## ABUSIVE PATENT LITIGATION: THE IMPACT ON AMERICAN INNOVATION AND JOBS, AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled "Abusive Patent Litigation: The Impact on American Innovation and Jobs, and Potential Solutions". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## SEPARATION OF NUCLEAR FAMILIES UNDER U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security held a hearing entitled "The Separation of Nuclear Families under U.S. Immigration Law". Testimony was heard from public witnesses. The Subcommittee adopted favorably the following items: Rules of Procedure and Statement of Policy for Private Immigration Bills; Rules of Procedure for Private Claims Bills; and Statement of Policy on Federal Charters.

## AMERICA'S ONSHORE ENERGY RESOURCES: CREATING JOBS, SECURING AMERICA, AND LOWERING PRICES

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled "America's Onshore Energy Resources: Creating Jobs, Securing America, and Lowering Prices". Testimony was heard from Michael McKee, County Commissioner, Uintah County, Utah; and public witnesses.

## LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environment Regulation held a hearing on H.R. 588, the "Vietnam Veterans Donor Acknowledgment Act of 2013"; H.R. 716, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the city of Vancouver, Washington, and for other purposes; and H.R. 819, the "Preserving Access to Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area Act". Testimony was heard from Representatives Herrera Beutler, Jones, and Young (AK); and Herbert C. Frost, Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Warren Judge, Board of Commissioners, Dare Count, North Carolina; and public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 756, the "Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2013"; and H.R. 967, the "Advancing America's Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2013". The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 756 and H.R. 967.

## TOP CHALLENGES FOR SCIENCE AGENCIES

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled "Top Challenges For Science Agencies: Reports from the Inspectors General—Part 2". Testimony was heard from Gregory H. Friedman, Inspector General, Department of Energy, Office of Inspector General; Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Inspector General; Mary L. Kendall, Deputy Inspector General, Department of the Interior, Office of Inspector General.

## REGULATING THE REGULATOR—REDUCING BURDENS ON SMALL BUSINESS

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing entitled "Regulating the Regulators-Reducing Burdens on Small Business". Testimony was heard from Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration; and public witnesses.

## IMPLEMENTING MAP-21: PROGRESS REPORT FROM DOT MODAL ADMINISTRATORS

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled "Implementing MAP-21: Progress Report from DOT Modal Administrators". Testimony was

heard from Victor M. Mendez, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration; Peter M. Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration; Anne S. Ferro, Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and David L. Strickland, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

#### **LOWERING THE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled "Lowering the Rate of Unemployment for the National Guard and Reserve: Are We Making Progress?". Testimony was heard from MG Terry M. Haston, Adjutant General, Tennessee National Guard; Maj Ty Shepard, Director, California National Guard Employment Initiative; Ronald G. Young, Director, Family and Employer Program and Policy, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

#### **EXAMINING PATIENT WAIT TIMES AT VA**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Waiting for Care: Examining Patient Wait Times at VA". Testimony was heard from William Schoenhard, FACHE, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

#### **FINANCING CHALLENGES FACING THE SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee Social Security held a hearing entitled "Financing Challenges Facing the Social Security Disability Insurance Program". Testimony was heard from Joyce M. Manchester, Chief, Long-Term Analysis Unit, Health, Retirement, and Long-Term Analysis Division Congressional Budget Office.

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

*House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Full Committee held a business meeting on Member Access request. This was a closed meeting.

#### **ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES**

*House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Full Committee held hearing entitled "Ongoing Intelligence Activities". This was a closed hearing.

## *Joint Meetings*

### **FEDERAL DEBT CRISIS**

*Joint Economic Committee:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine solving the Federal debt crisis, after receiving testimony from former Senator Judd Gregg; Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, and Alice M. Rivlin, Brookings Institution, both of Washington, D.C.; and Simon Johnson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, Cambridge.

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### **NEW PUBLIC LAWS**

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D175)

H.R. 307, to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response. Signed on March 13, 2013. (Public Law 113-5)

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### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2013**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### **Senate**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine JPMorgan Chase whale trades, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

#### **House**

*Committee on Appropriations,* March 15, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, hearing on Sandy Disaster Relief Recovery Oversight, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* March 15, Full Committee, hearing on the posture of the U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* March 15, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Unaffordable: Impact of Obamacare on Americans' Health Insurance Premiums", 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Ways and Means,* March 15, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's (MedPAC) annual March Report to the Congress", 9:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

2 p.m., Monday, March 18

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Friday, March 15

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 933, Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, at approximately 5:30 p.m.

The filing deadline for second-degree amendments to Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, and to H.R. 933, will be at 4:30 p.m.

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Complete consideration of H.R. 803—Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills Act.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

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