Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Senate met at 11:30:26 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 12:00:46 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 30, 2013.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 57 public bills, H.R. 1764–1820; and 13 resolutions, H.J. Res. 42; H. Con. Res. 36; and H. Res. 185–195 were introduced. **Pages H2390–96**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2396–97**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Hultgren to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2355**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H2377**

Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act: The House passed H.R. 527, to amend the Helium Act to complete the privatization of the Federal helium reserve in a competitive market fashion that ensures stability in the helium markets while protecting the interests of American taxpayers, by a yea-and-nay vote of 394 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 128. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, April 25th. **Pages H2357–64, H2374–77**

Rejected the Schneider motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 186 ayes to 211 noes, Roll No. 127. **Pages H2375–76**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–9 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill. **Page H2357**

Agreed to:

Collins (GA) amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 113–47) that ensures that excess funds are used to reduce the annual Federal budget deficit; **Pages H2360–61**

Holt amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 113–47) that considers the long-term future of the Federal Helium Reserve by requiring an assessment of how closing the Federal Helium Reserve could influence helium availability, including options for insuring a reliable helium supply in coming decades; and **Pages H2363–64**

Thornberry amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 113–47) that affirms the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to allow private entities to connect to and store helium in the Federal Helium Reserve for an appropriate fee. **Page H2364**

Rejected:

Dent amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 113–47) that sought to ensure the continued supply of helium for end users while requiring the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to honor existing contracts for the supply and delivery of helium; and affirm that the Federal government would honor existing contracts that are set to expire October 1, 2015 (by a recorded vote of 87 ayes to 312 noes, Roll No. 126). **Pages H2361–63, H2374**

H. Res. 178, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to yesterday, April 25th.

Clerk Designation: Read a letter from the Clerk wherein she designated Robert Reeves, Deputy

Clerk, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts in case of her temporary absence or disability. **Page H2364**

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

Providing the Secretary of Transportation with the flexibility to transfer certain funds to prevent reduced operations and staffing of the Federal Aviation Administration: H.R. 1765, to provide the Secretary of Transportation with the flexibility to transfer certain funds to prevent reduced operations and staffing of the Federal Aviation Administration, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 361 yeas to 41 nays, Roll No. 125. **Pages H2364–74**

Agreed by unanimous consent that in the engrossment of H.R. 1765, the Clerk strike "account" on page 2, line 14, and insert "accounts". **Page H2379**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30, 2013; and that the order of the House of January 3, 2013, regarding morning hour debate, not apply on that day. **Page H2377**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H2357.

Senate Referral: S. 853 was held at the desk. **Page H2357**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2373, H2374, H2375–76 and H2376–77. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the United States Forest Service Budget. Testimony was heard from Tom Tidwell, Chief, United States Forest Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Food and Drug Administration Budget. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Health and Human Services officials: Margaret Hamburg, M.D., Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration; James Tyler, Chief Financial Officer, Food and Drug Administration; and Norris W. Cochran, Deputy Assistant Secretary.

READINESS POSTURE OF THE U.S. NAVY AND THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled "The Readiness Posture of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marine Corps". Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral William R. Burke USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations Warfare Systems (N9), U.S. Navy; Vice Admiral Philip Hart Cullom, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics (N4), U.S. Navy; Lieutenant General William M. Faulkner, USMC, Deputy Commandant Installations and Logistics, U.S. Marine Corps; and Lieutenant General Richard T. Tryon, USMC, Deputy Commandant Plans Policies and Operations, U.S. Marine Corps.

FISCAL YEAR 2014 ARMY MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2014 Army Modernization Programs". Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General James O. Barclay III, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–8, Department of Defense; and Lieutenant General William N. Phillips, Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army.

DOES HIPAA HELP OR HINDER PATIENT CARE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Does HIPAA Help or Hinder Patient Care and Public Safety?". Testimony was heard from Leon Rodriguez, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

ISLAMIST EXTREMISM IN CHECHNYA: A THREAT TO THE U.S. HOMELAND?

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats; and Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a joint hearing entitled "Islamist Extremism in Chechnya: A Threat to the U.S. Homeland?". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CUTTING DHS DUPLICATION AND WASTEFUL SPENDING: IMPLEMENTING PRIVATE SECTOR BEST PRACTICES AND WATCHDOG RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a hearing entitled "Cutting DHS Duplication and Wasteful Spending: Implementing Private Sector Best Practices and Watchdog Recommendations". Testimony

was heard from Cathleen Berrick, Managing Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Anne Richards, Assistant Inspector General for Audits, Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation held a hearing on H.R. 1169, ''Naval Air Station Fallon Housing and Safety Development Act''; H.R. 1299, the ''White Sands Missile Range Security Enhancement Act''; H.R. 1574, to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to rename the site a park; H.R. 1673, the ''Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Security Enhancement Act''; H.R. 1676, the ''Johnson Valley National Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area Establishment Act''; H.R. 1672, the ''Limestone Hills Training Area Withdrawal Act''; and H.R. 1691, the ''Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range Security Enhancement Act''. Testimony was heard from Representatives Amodei, McCarthy, Cook, and Daines; Ned Farquhar, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Roger Natsuhara, Acting Assistant Secretary to the Navy, Energy, Installations and Environment; Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installation, Energy and the Environment; and a public witness.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 1548, the ''Native American Energy Act''. Testimony was heard from Michael Black, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

REVIEW OF FEDERAL HYDRAULIC FRACTURING RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy; and Subcommittee on Environment held a joint hearing entitled ''A Review of Federal Hydraulic Fracturing Research Activities''. Testimony was heard from Kevin Teichman, Senior Advisor, Office of Research and Development, Environmental Protection Agency; Guido DeHoratiis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oil and Gas (Acting), Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; David P. Russ, Regional Director, Northeast Region, Geological Survey, Department of Interior; and public witnesses.

CHALLENGES FACING THE NEXT COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing entitled ''Challenges Facing the Next Commissioner of Social Security''. Testimony was heard from Patrick P. O'Carroll, Jr., Inspector General, Social Security Administration; and Daniel Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Tuesday April 30

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 2 p.m.

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