

**VETERANS' PROGRAMS BUDGET**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for Veterans' Programs, after receiving testimony from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary, Robert A. Petzel, Under Secretary for Health,

Allison A. Hickey, Under Secretary for Benefits, Steve L. Muro, Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Stephen W. Warren, Executive in Charge for Information and Technology, and Helen Tierny, Executive in Charge for the Office of Management, and Acting Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 16 public bills, H.R. 4208–4223; 1 private bill, H.R. 4224; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 514 and 516, were introduced. **Pages H2360–61**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2361–62**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 515, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3189) to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer, relinquishment, or other impairment of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4015) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare sustainable growth rate and improve Medicare payments for physicians and other professionals, and for other purposes; and providing for proceedings during the period from March 17, 2014, through March 21, 2014 (H. Rept. 113–379). **Page H2360**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Ros-Lehtinen to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2305**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2308**

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Jason Parks, Refuge Church, Huntsville, Alabama. **Page H2308**

**ENFORCE the Law Act of 2014:** The House passed H.R. 4138, to protect the separation of powers in the Constitution of the United States by ensuring that the President takes care that the laws be faithfully executed, by a recorded vote of 233 ayes to 181 noes, Roll No. 124. **Pages H2319–40**

Rejected the Ruiz motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 187 ayes to 228 noes, Roll No. 123. **Pages H2338–39**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–43 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Page H2329**

Agreed to:

Cicilline amendment (No. 4 printed in part A of H. Rept. 113–378) that provides for transparent accounting of the costs of litigation, by requiring the Comptroller General of the United States to issue quarterly reports to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees on the costs of civil actions, including any attorney fees, brought pursuant to this Act. **Pages H2334–35**

Rejected:

Conyers amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 113–378) that sought to exclude from the bill's scope any executive actions taken to combat discrimination or to protect civil rights (by a recorded vote of 188 ayes to 227 noes, Roll No. 120); **Pages H2330–31, H2335–36**

Nadler amendment (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 113–378) that sought to clarify that nothing in the act limits or otherwise affects the constitutional authority of the executive branch to exercise prosecutorial discretion (by a recorded vote of 190 ayes to 225 noes, Roll No. 121); and **Pages H2331–32, H2336–37**

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 3 printed in part A of H. Rept. 113–378) that sought to protect the ability of the Executive Branch to comply with judicial decisions interpreting the Constitution or Federal laws (by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 122). **Pages H2332–34, H2337**

H. Res. 511, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4138) and (H.R. 3973), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 229 ayes to 192 noes, Roll No. 119, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 118. **Pages H2311–19**

**Faithful Execution of the Law Act of 2014:** The House began consideration of H.R. 3973, to amend

section 530D of title 28, United States Code. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 13th. **Pages H2340–48**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–42 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2340**

Pending:

Ellison amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 113–378) that seeks to waive reporting requirements provided in the bill if sufficient funds are not available to generate the increased volume of reports. **Pages H2347–48**

H. Res. 511, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4138) and (H.R. 3973), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 229 ayes to 192 noes, Roll No. 119, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 118. **Pages H2311–19**

**Discharge Petition:** Representative Schneider presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of H. Res. 490, to provide for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3546) to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 8).

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to Iran is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2014—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 113–97). **Page H2348**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2319.

**Senate Referral:** S. J. Res. 32 was referred to the Committee on House Administration. **Page H2359**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2318, H2319, H2335–36, H2336–37, H2337, H2338–39, and H2339–40. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### APPROPRIATIONS—UNITED STATES COAST GUARD FY 2015 BUDGET

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on United States Coast Guard FY 2015 Budget. Testimony was heard from Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr., Commandant, United States Coast Guard.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF STATE FY 2015 BUDGET

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on Department of State FY 2015 Budget. Testimony was heard from John Kerry, Secretary, Department of State.

### APPROPRIATIONS—INSTALLATIONS, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND BRAC BUDGET AND OVERSIGHT FY 2015 BUDGET

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies held a hearing on Installations, Environment, Energy and BRAC Budget and Oversight FY 2015 Budget. Testimony was heard from John Conger, Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Defense for Installations and Environment; Dennis V. McGinn, Assistant Secretary, Navy, Energy Installations and Environment; Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary, Army, Installations, Energy and Environment; and Kathleen I. Ferguson, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, performing duties as Assistant Secretary, Air Force for Installations, Environment, and Logistics.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY 2015 BUDGET

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development held a hearing on Department of Transportation FY 2015 Budget. Testimony was heard from Anthony Foxx, Secretary, Department of Transportation.

### FISCAL YEAR 2015 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Navy. Testimony was heard from General James F. Amos, USMC; Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; and Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy.

### INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET REQUEST FOR SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing on Independent Assessments of the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request for Seapower and Projection Forces. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.