Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001 is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2014—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 113–155).

Page H7663

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7624.

Senate Referrals: S. 1214 was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform; S. 2539, S. 2117, S. 2511, and S. 2440 were held at the desk. Page H7672

Discharge Petition: Representative Polis presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of H. Res. 678, a resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (S. 815) to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity (Discharge Petition No. 11).

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7635, H7635–36, H7636–37, H7660, H7661–62, H7662. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Committee Meetings

IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 4022 OF THE AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 2014

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing to review the implementation of Section 4022 of the Agricultural Act of 2014: pilot projects to reduce dependency and increase work requirements and work effort under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Testimony was heard from Tom Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on the following legislation: H.R. 4959, the ''EEOC Transparency and Accountability Act''; H.R. 5422, the ''Litigation Oversight Act of 2014''; and H.R. 5423, the ''Certainty in Enforcement Act of 2014''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled ''A hearing on H.R. 4526, the 21st Century Energy Workforce Development Jobs Initiative Act of 2014''. Testimony was heard from LaDoris ''Dot'' Harris, Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF FCC BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled ''Oversight of FCC Budget and Management''. Testimony was heard from Jon Wilkins, Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission; and David Hunt, Inspector General, Federal Communications Commission.

CROSS BORDER DATA FLOWS: COULD FOREIGN PROTECTIONISM HURT U.S. JOBS?

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled ''Cross Border Data Flows: Could Foreign Protectionism Hurt U.S. Jobs?''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''Oversight of the Financial Stability Oversight Council''. Testimony was heard from Patrick Pinschmidt, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Financial Stability Oversight Council; and A. Nicole Clowers, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office.

GLOBAL EFFORTS TO FIGHT EBOLA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled ''Global Efforts to Fight Ebola''. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Health and Human Services officials: Anthony S. Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health; Luciana Borio, Director, Office of Counterterrorism and Emerging Threats, Office of the Chief Scientist, Food and Drug Administration; and Beth P. Bell, Director, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Nancy Lindborg, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a markup on H. Res. 714, reaffirming the peaceful and collaborative resolution of maritime and jurisdictional disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea as provided for by universally recognized principles of international law, and reaffirming the strong support of the United States Government for freedom of navigation and other internationally lawful uses of sea and airspace in the Asia-Pacific region. H. Res. 714 was forwarded to the Full Committee, without amendment.

A NEW ERA OF U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS?

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled ''A New Era of U.S.-China Relations?''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

WORLDWIDE THREATS TO THE HOMELAND

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Worldwide Threats to the Homeland''. Testimony was heard from Jeh Johnson, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security; James B. Comey, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; and Matthew G. Olsen, Director, National Counterterrorism Center.

CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE 17

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing on Chapter 12 of Title 17. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5233, the ''Trade Secrets Protection Act of 2014''. H.R. 5233 was ordered reported, as amended.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 5066, the ''Data Preservation Act of 2014''; and H.R. 5176, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Michael Nedd, Assistant Director, Energy, Minerals, and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a markup on the following legislation: H.R. 5142, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Jackson Street in Rich Square, North Carolina, as the ''Chief Joseph E. White, Jr. Post Office Building''; H.R. 5331, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the ''Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building''; H.R. 5386, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the ''Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office''; H.R. 5468, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1103 USPS Building 1103 in Camp Pendleton, California, as the ''Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office''; H.R. 5229, the ''Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act of 2014''; and H.R. 5492, the ''Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2014''. H.R. 5492 was ordered reported, as amended. The following legislation was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 5229, H.R. 5468, H.R. 5142, H.R. 5331, and H.R. 5386.

THE IRS TARGETING SCANDAL: CHANGING STORIES OF MISSING E-MAILS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing entitled ''The IRS Targeting Scandal: Changing Stories of Missing E-mails''. Testimony was heard from John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

MEMBERS' DAY ON PROPOSED RULES CHANGES FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a Members' Day hearing on proposed rules changes for the 114th Congress. Testimony was heard from the following: Chairman Goodlatte and Representatives Scalise, Young of Alaska, Lummis, McClintock, Amash, Griffith of Virginia, Stivers, Woodall, Cooper, Norton, Larson of Connecticut, Honda, Speier, Cicilline, and Swalwell of California.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S CLIMATE PLAN: FAILURE BY DESIGN

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Administration's Climate Plan: Failure by Design''. Testimony was heard from John Holdren, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; and Janet McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency.

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Oversight held a meeting on a resolution authorizing the Chairman to issue subpoenas. The subcommittee approved the resolution.

IS THE FCC RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF SMALL BUSINESS AND RURAL AMERICA?

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Is the FCC Responding to the Needs of Small Business and Rural America?''. Testimony was heard from Thomas Wheeler, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on the following legislation: General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; H.R. 5449, the ''Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act of 2014''; H.R. 5146, to designate the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the ''Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse''; H.R. 5448, the ''John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2014''; H.R. 5266, to reauthorize the National Estuary Programs, and for other purposes; H.R. 4926, to designate the ''James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway'' and the ''James L. Oberstar National Scenic Byway'' in the State of Minnesota. The following legislation was ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 5266 and H.R. 4926. The following legislation was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 5449, H.R. 5448, and H.R. 5146. The General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were approved.

SCHEDULING MANIPULATION AND VETERAN DEATHS IN PHOENIX: EXAMINATION OF THE OIG'S FINAL REPORT

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Scheduling Manipulation and Veteran Deaths in Phoenix: Examination of the OIG's Final Report''. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Veterans Affairs officials: Richard J. Griffin, Acting Inspector General; Robert A. McDonald, Secretary; and Lisa Thomas, Chief of Staff, Veterans Health Administration; Katherine L. Mitchell, Medical Director, Iraq and Afghanistan Post-Deployment Center, Phoenix VA Health Care System; and a public witness.

DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS OFFERED BY PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYERS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing on defined benefit pension plans offered by private sector employers. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HEARING 1

Select Committee on Benghazi: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Hearing 1'', relating to Accountability Review Board implementation. Testimony was heard from Greg Starr, Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine assessing and enhancing protections in consumer financial services, 11 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider GSA resolutions, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nomination of Carolyn Watts Colvin, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2019, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled ''Ukraine Freedom Support Act'', S. 2778, to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards totaling up to $10,000,000 for information on the kidnapping and murder of James Foley and Steven Sotloff, S. Res. 530, expressing the sense of the Senate on the current situation in Iraq and the urgent need to protect religious minorities from persecution from the Sunni Islamist insurgent and terrorist group the Islamic State, formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), as it expands its control over areas in northwestern Iraq, S. Res. 541, recognizing the severe threat that the Ebola outbreak in West Africa poses to populations, governments, and economies across Africa and, if not properly contained, to regions across the globe, and expressing support for those affected by this epidemic, S. Res. 540, recognizing September 15, 2014, as the International Day of Democracy, affirming the role of civil society as a cornerstone of democracy, and encouraging all governments to stand with civil society in the face of mounting restrictions on civil society organizations, and the nominations of Donald L. Heflin, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde, Craig B. Allen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, Stafford Fitzgerald Haney, of New Jersey, to