

McCain/Blumenthal Amendment No. 4039 (to Amendment No. 3896), to extend and expand eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs and to establish consistent criteria and standards relating to the use of amounts under the Medical Community Care account of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Pages S2956–58**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding rule XXII, at 11:15 a.m., on Thursday, May 19, 2016, that all post-cloture time be considered expired on McConnell (for Blunt) Modified Amendment No. 3900 (to Amendment No. 3896) (listed above); that if cloture is invoked on Collins Amendment No. 3896 (listed above), McConnell (for Cornyn) Modified Amendment No. 3899 (to Amendment No. 3896) (listed above), and McConnell (for Nelson/Rubio) Amendment No. 3898 (to Amendment No. 3896) (listed above), be withdrawn, that it be in order for Senator Collins, or her designee, to call up Amendment No. 3970, and that there be no second-degree amendments in order to Amendment No. 3970, or to McConnell (for Lee) Amendment No. 3897 (to Amendment No. 3896) (listed above). **Page S2969**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 19, 2016, with the time until 11:15 a.m., equally divided between the two managers, or their designees.

**Page S2999**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–49) **Page S2972**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

9 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Coast Guard and Foreign Service. **Pages S3000–01**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Frances Marie Tydingco-Gatewood, of Guam, to be Judge for the District Court of Guam for the term of ten years.

Carole Schwartz Rendon, of Ohio, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio for the term of four years.

34 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Foreign Service. **Page S2999**

**Messages from the House:** **Pages S2972–73**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S2973**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S2973**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S2973–76**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S2976–78**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S2971–72**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S2978–97**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S2997–98**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S2998**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:14 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2016. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S2998–99.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Telephone Consumer Protection Act at 25, focusing on effects on consumers and business, after receiving testimony from Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller, Indianapolis; Becca Wahlquist, Snell and Wilmer L.L.P., Los Angeles, California, on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform; Margot Saunders, National Consumer Law Center, and Monica Desai, Squire Patton Boggs, both of Washington, D.C.; and Richard Lovich, American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management, Burbank, California.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2816, to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program;

S. 2795, to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1479, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to modify provisions relating to grants;

S. 921, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a nonregulatory program to build on and

help coordinate funding for restoration and protection efforts of the 4-State Delaware River Basin region;

H.R. 3114, to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities;

S. 2754, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 300 Fannin Street in Shreveport, Louisiana, as the “Tom Stagg Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, with amendments;

General Services Administration resolutions; and

The nomination of Jane Toshiko Nishida, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine assessing the security of critical infrastructure, focusing on threats, vulnerabilities, and solutions, after receiving testimony from Major General Donald P. Dunbar, Wisconsin Adjutant General, Madison; Thomas L. Farmer, Partnership for Critical Infrastructure Security Cross-Sector Council, and Scott I. Aaronson, Edison Electric Institute, on behalf of the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council, both of Washington, D.C.; and Ted Koppel, *Lights Out: A Cyberattack, a Nation Unprepared, Surviving the Aftermath*, Potomac, Maryland.

### EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT IMPLEMENTATION

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Every Student Succeeds Act implementation, focusing on perspectives from education stakeholders, after receiving testimony from Tony Evers, Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Madison; Lily Eskelsen Garcia, National Education Association, Randi Weingarten, American Federation of Teachers, Nora E. Gordon, Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, and Janet Murguia, National Council of La Raza, all of Washington, D.C.; Thomas Ahart, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, Iowa; and Denise Marshall, Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Towson, Maryland.

### INDIAN AFFAIRS LEGISLATION

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2785, to protect Native children and promote public safety in Indian country, S. 2916, to provide that the pueblo of Santa Clara may lease for 99 years certain restricted land, and S. 2920, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act

to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, after receiving testimony from Michael Black, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Tracy Toulou, Director, Office of Tribal Justice, Department of Justice; Michael Chavarria, Santa Clara Pueblo, Espanola, New Mexico; Dana Buckles, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation, Poplar, Montana; and Alfred L. Urbina, Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, Tucson.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Donald Karl Schott, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Baldwin, Paul Lewis Abrams, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Stephanie A. Finley, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, Claude J. Kelly III, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and Winfield D. Ong, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana, who was introduced by Senators Coats and Donnelly, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### RANSOMWARE

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism concluded a hearing to examine ransomware, focusing on understanding the threat and exploring solutions, including S. 2931, to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect Americans from cybercrime, after receiving testimony from Richard W. Downing, Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; Charles C. Hucks, Jr., Horry County Schools, Conway, South Carolina; Adam Meyers, CrowdStrike, Inc., Washington, D.C.; and Charles Blauner, Citigroup, Inc., Warren, New Jersey, on behalf of the American Bankers Association.

### SMALL BUSINESS AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine small business and the Affordable Care Act, including S. 1697, to provide an exception from certain group health plan requirements to allow small businesses to use pre-tax dollars to assist employees in the purchase of policies in the individual health insurance market, S. 379, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand and modify the credit for employee health insurance expenses of small employers, S. 1099, to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide States with flexibility in determining

the size of employers in the small group market, and S. 1996, to streamline the employer reporting process and strengthen the eligibility verification process for the premium assistance tax credit and cost-sharing subsidy, after receiving testimony from Richard Frank, Assistant Secretary of Health and Human

Services for Planning and Evaluation; Tom Kunkel, Full House Marketing and Print, Edgewood, Maryland; Mike Brey, Hobby Works, Laurel, Maryland; and Kevin Kuhlman, National Federation of Independent Business, Washington, D.C.

## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 10 public bills, H.R. 5272–5281; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 132; and H. Res. 737–740 were introduced. **Page H2844**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2845–46**

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

H.R. 5077, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–573).

**Page H2844**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Webster (FL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2703**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:02 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2709**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Patricia Venegas, Without Spot or Wrinkle Ministries, La Verne, California. **Page H2709**

**Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, a seminal moment in Ireland's journey to independence:** The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 716, as amended by Representative King (NY), commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, a seminal moment in Ireland's journey to independence. **Pages H2712–13**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "Recognizing the deep and abiding friendship between the United States and Ireland and recommending actions to further strengthen those ties." **Page H2713**

**National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017:** The House passed H.R. 4909, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and to prescribe military per-

sonnel strengths for such fiscal year, by a recorded vote of 277 ayes to 147 noes, Roll No. 216. Consideration began yesterday, May 17th.

**Pages H2721–28, H2730–86, H2812–13**

Rejected the Clyburn motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a recorded vote of 181 ayes to 243 noes, Roll No. 215. **Pages H2809–12**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes." **Page H2813**

Agreed to:

Poe (TX) amendment (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 114–569), as modified, that was debated on May 17th that inserts a proposed new text for Sec. 1048 (by a recorded vote of 243 ayes to 180 noes, Roll No. 205); **Pages H2731–32**

Pearce amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 114–571) that transfers, in accordance with BRAC 1988, specified lands of the former Fort Wingate Depot Activity in McKinley County, New Mexico to the Department of the Interior to be held in trust for the Zuni Tribe and the Navajo Nation;

**Pages H2735–37**

Thornberry en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in H. Rept. 114–571: Schweikert (No. 4) that directs that the Secretary of Defense may coordinate unmanned Aerial System training missions along our southern border in support of the Department of Homeland Security's counter narcotic trafficking efforts; Davis (CA) (No. 13) that allows dual military couples who adopt to split 36 days of leave according to family needs; Costello (PA) (No. 15) that requires the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to report to Congress on extending student loan protections for active duty borrowers under the Servicemember Civil Relief Act; Hastings