

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in Joint Session to receive a State of the Union Address from the President of the United States.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S51–S79

Measures Introduced: One bill and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2034, S.J. Res. 35, and S. Res. 353. **Page S75**

Measures Passed:

Congratulating the North Dakota State University football team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 353, congratulating the North Dakota State University football team for winning the 2011 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title. **Pages S77–78**

Escort Committee—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Presiding Officer of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join a like committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session. **Page S56**

Debt Ceiling Increase—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, January 26, 2012, Senate begin consideration of motion to proceed to consideration of H.J. Res. 98, relating to the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit, as submitted under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code, on January 12, 2012; that the time until noon be for debate on the motion to proceed, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees; that at noon, Senate vote on the adoption of the motion to proceed; that if the motion is successful, then the time for debate with respect to the joint resolution be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution; and that all other provi-

sions of the statute governing consideration of the joint resolution remain in effect. **Page S77**

Bill Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1791, to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse”, and the bill be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. **Page S78**

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

Transmitting the report on the State of the Union delivered to a Joint Session of Congress on January 24, 2012; which was ordered to lie on the table. (PM–37) **Pages S68–73**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jessica Lynn Wright, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

James N. Miller, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Frank Kendall III, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

Erin C. Conaton, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Jeremy C. Stein, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2004.

Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve

System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2000.

Marietta S. Robinson, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2010.

Adam E. Sieminski, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration.

Anthony T. Clark, of North Dakota, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the term expiring June 30, 2016.

James J. Jones, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Director General of the Foreign Service.

Pamela A. White, of Maine, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti.

John Christopher Stevens, of California, to be Ambassador to Libya.

Tracey Ann Jacobson, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo.

Scott H. DeLisi, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda.

Deborah S. Delisle, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

Constance B. Tobias, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals for a term of six years. **Pages S78–79**

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Scott C. Doney, of Massachusetts, to be Chief Scientist of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which was sent to the Senate on January 26, 2011.

Timothy Charles Scheve, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight

Board for a term expiring September 14, 2015, which was sent to the Senate on January 26, 2011.

Gineen Maria Bresso, of Florida, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2013, which was sent to the Senate on March 17, 2011.

Gloria Wilson Shelton, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term of fifteen years, which was sent to the Senate on June 22, 2011. **Page S79**

Messages from the House: **Page S73**

Measures Referred: **Page S73**

Executive Communications: **Pages S73–75**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S75–77**

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Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S77**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S77**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:23 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S78.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

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.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 3811–3823; and 4 resolutions, H.Res. 523–526 were introduced. **Page H158**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H159–60**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 522, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1173) to repeal the CLASS program (H. Rept. 112–375). **Page H158**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Paulsen to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H117**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:36 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H127**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Kate Braestrup, Maine Warden Service, Lincolnville, Maine. **Page H127**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011: H.R. 2070, amended, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the nation on June 6, 1944, the morning of D-Day, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas to 26 nays, Roll No. 8; **Pages H131–32, H149–50**

War Memorial Protection Act: H.R. 290, to amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols; **Pages H132–34**

Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2012: H.R. 3800, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program; and **Pages H135–137**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the passage of a fiscal year 2013 Federal budget is of national importance: H. Res. 516, to express the sense of the House of Representatives that the passage of a fiscal year 2013 Federal budget is of national importance, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas to 1 nay with 1 answering “present”, Roll No. 7. **Pages H143–48, H149**

Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House agreed to the Capps motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3630 by a yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 9. **Pages H137–43, H150–51**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:06 p.m. and reconvened at 4:15 p.m. **Page H148**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Buffalo Soldiers in the National Parks Study Act: H.R. 1022, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks. **Pages H134–35**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, January 25th. **Page H151**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:58 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m. **Page H151**

State of the Union Address: President Barack Obama delivered his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 96. He was escorted into the House Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives Cantor, McCarthy (CA), Hensarling, Sessions, Price (GA), McMorris Rodgers, Carter, Pelosi, Hoyer, Larson (CT), Becerra, Clyburn, Israel, and Sutton and Senators Reid, Durbin, Schumer, Murray, Stabenow, Begich, McConnell, Kyl, Alexander, Barraso, Thune, Cornyn, and Blunt. The President’s message was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 112–76). **Pages H151–56**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on pages H127–28.

Senate Referral: S. 1134 was referred to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, and the Budget. **Page H156**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H149, H149–50, H150. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:24 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSPECTIVES ON FINANCIAL IMPROVEMENT AND AUDIT READINESS EFFORTS

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Department of Defense Perspectives on Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness Efforts. Testimony was heard from Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller); and Elizabeth A. McGrath, Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee began mark-up of the following: H.R. 3582, the “Pro-Growth Budgeting Act of 2011”; H.R. 3578, the “Baseline Reform Act of 2011”; and H.R. 3581, the “Budget and Accounting Transparency Act of 2011.” The following were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 3582, H.R. 3578, and H.R. 3581.

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN VIETNAM

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights held a hearing entitled “Examining Ongoing Human Rights Abuses in Vietnam.” Testimony was heard from Anh

“Joseph” Cao, former Member of Congress; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 1433, the “Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2011.” The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing on the following: H.R. 919, the “Mohave Valley Land Conveyance Act of 2011”; H.R. 938, the “Frank Buckles World War I Memorial Act”; H.R. 1278, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating the John Hope Franklin Reconciliation Park and other sites in Tulsa, Oklahoma, relating to the 1921 Tulsa race riot as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes”; H.R. 2240, the “Lowell National Historical Park Land Exchange Act of 2011”; H.R. 2489, the “American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2011”; H.R. 3411, to modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior; H.R. 3440, the “Recreational Shooting Protection Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Franks of Arizona, Norton, Poe of Texas, Sullivan, Tsongas, Holt, Benishek, and Flake. Testimony was also heard from Bob Ratcliffe, Deputy Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management; Peter May, Associate Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Adam Baacke, Assistant City Manager and Director of Planning and Development, Lowell, Massachusetts; and public witnesses.

INDEFINITE CAMPING IN MCPHERSON SQUARE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and the National Archives held a hearing entitled “McPherson Square: Who Made the Decision to Allow Indefinite Camping in the Park?” Testimony was heard from Jonathan Jarvis, Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Cathy Lanier, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department, District of Columbia; Paul Quander, Jr., Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, District of Columbia; Mohammad Akhter, M.D., Director, District of Columbia Department of Health; and public witness.

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs held a hearing entitled “How Will the CFPB Function Under Richard Cordray?” Testimony was heard from Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Rules: Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process held a hearing on H.R. 114, the “Biennial Budgeting and Appropriations Act of 2011”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Young of Florida, Price of North Carolina, Whitfield, Ribble, Stivers and public witnesses.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND RETIREMENT SECURITY ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1173, the “Fiscal Responsibility and Retirement Security Act of 2011.” The Committee granted, by voice vote, a modified open rule providing one hour of general debate on the bill, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill as original text for the purpose of amendment and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments that are submitted for printing in the Congressional Record not later than the legislative day of Tuesday, January 31, 2012, or pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each such amendment may be offered only by the Member who cause it to be printed or a designee and each amendment shall be considered as read if printed. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered for amendment for a period not to exceed three hours. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Testimony was heard from Representatives Gingrey of Georgia, Pallone, Boustany, and Deutsch.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-ENERGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a

hearing entitled “A Review of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.” Testimony was heard from Arun Majumdar, Director, Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy; Gregory Friedman, Inspector General, Department of Energy; and Frank Rusco, Director, Energy and Science Issues, Government Accountability Office.

STATE OF VA DISABILITY RATINGS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Rating the Rating Schedule—the State of VA Disability Ratings in the 21st Century.” Testimony was heard from Tom Murphy, Director of Compensation Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; John Campbell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy, Department of Defense; LTG James Terry Scott USA (Ret.), Chairman, Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation; and public witnesses.

SSA DISABILITY WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on combating disability waste, fraud and abuse. Testimony was heard from the following Social Security Administration officials: Carolyn Colvin, Deputy Commissioner; Patrick P. O'Carroll, Jr., Inspector General; Thomas Brady, Special Agent, Office of the Inspector General; and Paul Neske, Detective, St. Louis County Police Department; and public witness.

Joint Meetings

TEMPORARY PAYROLL TAX CUT CONTINUATION ACT

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 3630, to extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight, to hold hearings to examine contract management at Arlington National Cemetery, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, markup on the following: H.R. 1840, to improve consideration by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of the costs and benefits of its regulations and orders; H.R. 2682, the “Business Mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2011”; H.R. 2779, to exempt inter-affiliate swaps from certain regulatory requirements put in place by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; H.R. 2586, the “Swap Execution Facility (SEF) Clarification Act”; H.R. 3336, the “Small Business Credit Availability Act”; H.R. 3527, “Protecting Main Street End-Users from Excessive Regulation”. 9 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “American Jobs Now: A Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3548, the North American Energy Access Act.” 8 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on the following: H.R. 2467, the “Bridgeport Indian Colony Land Trust, Health, and Economic Development Act of 2011”; and S. 292, the “Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act”. 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending, hearing entitled “Volt Vehicle Fire: What Did NHTSA Know and When Did They Know It?” 8 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy, hearing entitled “Retirement Readiness: Strengthening the Federal Pension System.” 8 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine Kazakhstan, focusing on the stability of their government, 2 p.m., 2200, Rayburn Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, January 26

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, January 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will begin consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.J. Res. 98, Debt Ceiling Increase, with a vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution at 12 p.m., and if the motion is successful, Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of the following bill under suspension of the Rules: H.R. 3801—Ultra-light Aircraft Smuggling Prevention Act of 2012.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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