

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1401–S1432

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2156–2165, and S. Res. 389. **Page S1422**

Measures Passed:

Counterfeit Drug Penalty Enhancement Act: Senate passed S. 1886, to prevent trafficking in counterfeit drugs, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S1431**

Durbin (for Leahy/Grassley) Amendment No. 1808, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1431**

National Asbestos Awareness Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 389, designating the first week of April 2012 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”. **Pages S1431–32**

Measures Considered:

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1407–10, S1413–17**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 1761, of a perfecting nature. **Page S1407**

Reid Amendment No. 1762 (to Amendment No. 1761), to change the enactment date. **Page S1407**

Reid motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1763, to change the enactment date. **Page S1407**

Reid Amendment No. 1764 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1763), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1407**

Reid Amendment No. 1765 (to Amendment No. 1764), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1407**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 25), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion

to close further debate on Reid Amendment No. 1761 (listed above). **Page S1410**

Subsequently, Senator Reid entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on Reid Amendment No. 1761 (listed above). **Page S1410**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, be withdrawn. **Page S1410**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Wednesday, March 7, 2012. **Page S1432**

Senate Briefing—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate recess from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., on Wednesday, March 7, 2012, to allow for a Senators only briefing. **Page S1432**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 95 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 26), Mary Elizabeth Phillips, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. **Pages S1410–13, S1432**

By 93 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. EX. 27), Thomas Owen Rice, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington. **Pages S1410–13, S1432**

Messages from the House: **Page S1420**

Measures Referred: **Page S1420**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S1420**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1420–22**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S1422**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1422–23**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1423–25**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1418–20**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1425–30**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1430–31**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—27) **Pages S1410, S1413**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:58 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 7, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1432.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND THE FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Central Command and United States Special Operations Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General James N. Mattis, USMC, Commander, United States Central Command, and Admiral William H. McRaven, USN, Commander, United States Special Operations Command, both of the Department of Defense.

JOB GROWTH AND CAPITAL FORMATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine spurring job growth through capital formation while protecting investors, including S. 1965, to jump-start economic recovery through the formation and growth of new businesses, S. 1933, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, S. 1824, to amend the securities laws to establish certain thresholds for shareholder registration under that Act, S. 1544, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to exempt a certain class of securities from such Act, and S. 1970, to amend the securities laws to provide for registration exemptions for certain crowdfunded securities, after receiving testimony from Lynn E. Turner, former Chief Accountant, Securities and Exchange Commission, Mountain View, California; William D. Waddill, OncoMed Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Redwood City, California, on behalf of the Biotechnology Industry Organization; Jay R. Ritter, University of Florida Warrington College of Business Administration, Gainesville; Kathleen Shelton Smith, Renaissance Capital, LLC, Greenwich, Connecticut; and Timothy Rowe, Cambridge Innovation Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine perspectives on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General David W. Barno, USA (Ret.), Center for a New American Security, Michael O'Hanlon, Brookings Institution, and James Jay Carafano, Heritage Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.

INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science and Space concluded a hearing to examine keeping America competitive through investments in research and development, after receiving testimony from John P. Holdren, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; Patrick D. Gallagher, Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology; Subra Suresh, Director, National Science Foundation; and Mason Peck, Chief Technologist, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

FOREST SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Tom Tidwell, Chief, and Susan Spear, Acting Director of Budget, both of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

TAX REFORM OPTIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax reform options, focusing on incentives for capital investment and manufacturing, after receiving testimony from Jane G. Gravelle, Senior Specialist in Economic Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Ike Brannon, American Action Forum, Robert D. Atkinson, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, and J. D. Foster, Heritage Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.; and Michelle Hanlon, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, Cambridge.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for international development priorities, after receiving testimony from Rajiv Shah, Administrator, United States Agency for International Development.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Blunt, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the

nominations of Mark A. Robbins, of California, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Roy Wallace McLeese III, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, who was introduced by Representative Norton, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

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: 6 public bills, H.R. 4144–4149; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 571, 573 were introduced. **Page H1209**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1209–10**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Supplemental report on H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies (H. Rept. 112–406, Pt. 2) and

H. Res. 572, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3606) to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies (H. Rept. 112–409). **Page H1209**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Jenkins to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1155**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:01 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1162**

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

Applying the countervailing duty provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 to nonmarket economy countries: H.R. 4105, to apply the countervailing duty provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 to nonmarket economy countries, by a yea-and-nay vote of 370 yeas to 39 nays, Roll No. 96.

Pages H1166–73, H1178

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in memory of the late Honorable Donald

M. Payne, a Representative from the State of New Jersey. **Page H1179**

In Memory of the late Honorable Donald Payne of New Jersey: The House agreed to H. Res. 571, expressing the condolences of the House on the death of the Honorable Donald M. Payne, a Representative from the State of New Jersey. **Page H1179**

Whole Number of the House: The Chair announced to the House that, in light of the passing of Representative Payne of New Jersey, the whole number of the House is adjusted to 433. **Page H1179**

Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydro-power Development and Rural Jobs Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 2842, to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law. Further proceedings were postponed.

Pages H1173–78, H1179–90

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Page H1186**

Agreed to:

Tipton amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of March 5, 2012) that strikes “2011” and inserts “2012” in section 1. **Page H1187**

Rejected:

Ellison amendment (No. 3 printed in the Congressional Record of March 5, 2012) that sought to state that section 2 of the bill and the amendments made by section 2 should not take effect unless the Secretary finds that such section and amendments, if in effect, shall not result in a net loss of jobs.

Pages H1188–90

Proceedings Postponed:

Napolitano amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of March 5, 2012) that seeks to strike the exemption for small conduit hydro-power development from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. **Pages H1187–88**

H. Res. 570, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 177 nays, Roll No. 97. **Pages H1179–80**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1178 and H1179–80. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 6:48 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 571, it stands adjourned in memory of the late Honorable Donald Payne.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Agency for International Development. Testimony was heard from Rajiv Shah, Administrator, USAID.

APPROPRIATIONS—BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Bureau of Land Management. Testimony was heard from Robert Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management; and Karen Mouritsen, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Ed Avalos, Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Gregory L. Parham, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; Alan Christian, Acting Administrator, Grain, Inspection Packers and Stockyards; Robert Keeney, Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—AIR FORCE BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Air Force. Testimony was heard from Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force; and General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff, Air Force.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the National Science Foundation. Testimony was heard from Subra Suresh, Director, National Science Foundation.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. COAST GUARD BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Coast Guard. Testimony was heard from Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr., Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.

APPROPRIATIONS—SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Committee on Financial Services held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Securities and Exchange Commission. Testimony was heard from Mary L. Schapiro, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Nuclear Nonproliferation and Naval Reactors and National Nuclear Security Administration. Testimony was heard from the following National Nuclear Security Administration officials: Thomas D'Agostino, Administrator; Anne Harrington, Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation; and Admiral Kirkland Donald, Director, Naval Reactors.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Geological Survey. Testimony was heard from Marcia K. McNutt, Director, U.S. Geological Survey; Suzzette Kimball, Deputy Director, U.S. Geological Survey; and Carla Burzyk, Director, Office of Budget, Planning, and Integration, U.S. Geological Survey.

APPROPRIATIONS—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Health and Human Services. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

APPROPRIATIONS—BUREAU OF PRISONS

Committee on Appropriations: Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget request for the Bureau of Prisons. Testimony was heard from Charles E. Samuels, Jr., Director, Bureau of Prisons.

U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND AND U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Budget Requests from U.S. Southern Command and U.S. Northern Command. Testimony was heard from General Douglas M. Fraser, USAF Commander, U.S. Southern Command; and General Charles H. Jacoby, Jr., Commander, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command.

MILITARY PERSONNEL BUDGET OVERVIEW

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on military personnel budget overview—service personnel chiefs' perspectives. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, U.S. Army; Vice Admiral Scott R. Van Buskirk, USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, U.S. Navy; Sheryl E. Murray, Assistant Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps; and Lieutenant General Darrell D. Jones, USAF, Deputy Chief Staff, Manpower and Personnel, U.S. Air Force.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for Missile Defense. Testimony was heard from Bradley H. Roberts, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Lieutenant General Patrick O'Reilly, USA, Director, Missile Defense Agency; David G. Ahern, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Portfolio Systems Acquisition, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics; and J. Michael Gilmore, Di-

rector, Operational Test and Evaluation, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a markup of the following: H.R. 452, the "Medicare Decisions Accountability Act of 2011"; H.R. 3309, the "Federal Communications Commission Process Reform Act"; and H.R. 3310, the "Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act". The bills were ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup of "Approval of Views and Estimates of the Committee on Financial Services on matter to be set forth in the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013". The legislation was passed, as amended.

TERRORIST AND THE VISA OVERSTAY PROBLEM

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled "From the 9/11 Hijackers to Amine el-Khalifi: Terrorists and the Visa Overstay Problem". Testimony was heard from John Cohen, Deputy Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, Department of Homeland Security; Peter T. Edge, Deputy Associate Director, Homeland Security Investigation, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security; and David Dohahue, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs, Department of Homeland Security.

CHEMICAL FACILITIES ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies held a hearing entitled "The Chemical Facilities Anti-Terrorism Standards Program: Addressing Its Challenges and Finding a Way Forward". Testimony was heard from Rand Beers, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; Penny J. Anderson, Director, Infrastructure Security Compliance Division, Office of Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security; David Wulf, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Security Compliance Division, Office of Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of H.R. 4119, the “Board Tunnel Prevention Act of 2012”. The bill was ordered reported without amendment.

EFFECTS OF THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2013 BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS FOR THE OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on “Effect of the President’s FY2013 Budget and Legislative Proposals for the Office of Surface Mining on Private Sector Job Creation, Domestic Energy Production, State Programs and Deficit Reduction”. Testimony was heard from Joseph Pizarchik, Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; Gregory E. Conrad, Executive Director, Interstate Mining Compact Commission; and public witnesses.

PRESIDENT’S FY 2013 BUDGET REQUEST FOR NOAA, OIA, AND FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs held a hearing on “Spending for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Office of Insular Affairs, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the President’s Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request for these Agencies”. Testimony was heard from Jane Lubchenco, Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Dan Ashe, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Tom Bussanich, Director of Budget, Office of Insular Affairs.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE AND OFFICE OF SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “2013 Budget Request of the Indian Health Service and of the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians”. Testimony was heard from Yvette Roubideaux, Director, Indian Health Service; Michele F. Singer, Acting Principal Deputy Special Trustee, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

PROS AND CONS OF MAKING THE CENSUS BUREAU’S AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY VOLUNTARY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and the National Archives held a hearing en-

titled “The Pros and Cons of Making the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey Voluntary”. Testimony was heard from Representative Poe, TX; Robert Groves, Director, U.S. Census Bureau; and public witnesses.

REOPENING AMERICAN CAPITAL MARKETS TO EMERGING GROWTH COMPANIES ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 3606, the “Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act of 2011”. The Committee, granted by voice vote, a structured rule providing one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–17 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as original text for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Capito; Schweikert; Frank, MA; and Waters.

BUDGET OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a hearing entitled “An Overview of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Budget for Fiscal Year 2012”. Testimony was heard from Patrick Gallaher, Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology.

BUDGET OVERVIEW OF NOAA AND EPA

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing entitled “An Overview of the National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency Budgets for Fiscal Year 2013". Testimony was heard from Jane Lubchenko, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and Lek Kadeli, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development, Environmental Protection Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS DUBIOUS CONTRACTING PRACTICES: SAVANNAH

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "VA's Dubious Contracting Practices: Savannah". Testimony was heard from Robert L. Neary, Acting Director, Office of Construction and Facilities Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs; and public witnesses.

INDEPENDENT PAYMENT ADVISORY BOARD AND MEDICARE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on how the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) will impact the Medicare program, its beneficiaries, and health care providers. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: To hold hearings to examine healthy food initiatives, local production, and nutrition, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Navy, 10:30 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: To hold hearings to examine the situation in Syria; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session, 9 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: To hold hearings to examine priorities, plans, and progress of the nation's space program, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine the President's

proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, to hold hearings to examine S. 29, to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area, S. 1150, to establish the Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, S. 1191, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Naugatuck River Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut, S. 1198, to reauthorize the Essex National Heritage Area, S. 1215, to provide for the exchange of land located in the Lowell National Historical Park, S. 1589, to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey, S. 1708, to establish the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, H.R. 1141, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System, H.R. 2606, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, S. 2131, to reauthorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, and the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, and S. 2133, to reauthorize the America's Agricultural Heritage Partnership in the State of Iowa, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: To hold hearings to examine the President's 2012 trade agenda, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on the Judiciary: To hold hearings to examine lending discrimination practices and foreclosure abuses, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: To hold joint hearings to examine a legislative presentation from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Special Committee on Aging: To hold hearings to examine opportunities for savings, focusing on removing obstacles for small business, 2 p.m., SD-562.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing on budget views and estimates letter of the Committee on Agriculture for the agencies and programs under jurisdiction of the Committee for FY 2013, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Federal Bureau of Investigations, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Army, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Federal Emergency Management Agency, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management/Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement Budget, 1 p.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on Installation, Environment, and BRAC, 2 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2 p.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request for the Treasury Inspector General, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Budget Requests from U.S. Central Command, U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Transportation Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing on assessing mobility airlift capabilities and operational risks under the revised 2012 defense strategy, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Cybersecurity: The Pivotal Role of Communications Networks”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “The American Energy Initiative: Rising Gasoline Prices”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capitol Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled “The Securities Investor Protection Corporation: Past, Present, and Future” 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup of the following: H.R. 2106, the “Syria Freedom Support Act”; H.R. 890, the “Holocaust Insurance Accountability Act of 2011”; H.R. 1410 the “Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2011”; H.R. 3783, the “Countering Iran in the Western Hemisphere Act of 2012”; H.R. 4041, the “Export Promotion Reform Act”; and S. Con. Res. 17, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Taiwan should be accorded observer status in the Inter-

national Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled “The State Department’s Reward Programs: Performance and Potential”, 2 p.m., 2127 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Transportation Security, markup of H.R. 2179, to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to transfer unclaimed money recovered at airport security checkpoints to United Service Organization, Incorporated, and for other purposes, 10:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled “The Prescription Drug Epidemic in America”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement, hearing on H.R. 3808, the “Scott Gardner Act”, 1:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Council on Environmental Quality’s Fiscal Year 2013 Funding Request and the Effects on NEPA, National Ocean Policy and Other Federal Environmental Policy Initiatives”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “An Overview of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Budget for Fiscal Year 2013”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, markup of the following: Views and Estimates on the Small Business Administration’s FY 2013 budget request; H.R. 3850, the “Government Efficiency through Small Business Contracting Act of 2012”; H.R. 3851, the “Small Business Advocate Act of 2012”; H.R. 3893, the “Subcontracting Transparency and Reliability Act of 2012”; H.R. 3980, the “Small Business Opportunity Act of 2012”; H.R. 4118, the “Small Business Procurement Improvement Act of 2012”; and H.R. 4121, the “Early Stage Small Business Contracting Act of 2012”, 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Protecting Maritime Jobs and Enhancing Marine Safety in the Post-Budget Control Act Fiscal Environment: A Review of the Administration’s Fiscal Year 2013 Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Budget Request”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Closely-Held Businesses in the Context of Tax Reform”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 7

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 7

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of S. 1813, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century.

(Senate will recess from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. for a Senators only briefing.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Complete consideration of H.R. 2842—Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act. Begin consideration of H.R. 3606—Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act (Subject to a Rule).

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