

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1873–S1953

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2215–2222, S.J. Res. 38, and S. Res. 401–403. **Page S1932**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing testimony, document production, and legal representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 403, to authorize testimony, document production, and legal representation in *United States v. Richard F. “Dickie” Scruggs*. **Pages S1944–45**

Measures Considered:

Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1884–S1919**

Pending:

Reid (for Merkley) Amendment No. 1884, to amend the securities laws to provide for registration exemptions for certain crowdfunded securities. **Pages S1884, S1886–96**

Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1931 (to Amendment No. 1884), to improve the bill. **Pages S1884–86**

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

By 76 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. 53), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S1884**

Reid motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1838, to change the enactment date, fell when cloture was invoked on the bill. **Page S1884**

Reid Amendment No. 1839 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1838), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid motion to recommit the bill to the Com-

mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 1838, fell. **Page S1884**

Reid Amendment No. 1840 (to Amendment No. 1839), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 1839 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 1838), fell. **Page S1884**

Chair sustained a point of order that Reid (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 1836 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1833), to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, was not germane, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S1884**

Reid Amendment No. 1837 (to Amendment No. 1836), to change the enactment date, fell when Reid (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 1836 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1833), fell. **Page S1884**

Chair sustained a point of order that Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1833, in the nature of a substitute, was not germane, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S1884**

Reid Amendment No. 1834 (to Amendment No. 1833), to change the enactment date, fell when Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1833, fell. **Page S1884**

Reid Amendment No. 1835 (to Amendment No. 1834), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 1834 (to Amendment No. 1833), fell. **Page S1884**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 22, 2012, that the time until 12:30 p.m. be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; that at 12:30 p.m., the post-cloture time be considered expired and Senate vote on or in relation to the following: Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1931 (to Amendment No. 1884), Reid (for Merkley) Amendment No. 1884, as amended, if amended, and passage of the bill, as amended, if amended; that there be two minutes equally divided in the usual form in-between the votes. **Page S1919**

Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached provided that upon disposition of H.R.

3606, Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act, Senate resume consideration of the House Message to accompany S. 2038, Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act; that there be four minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form prior to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur in the House Message to accompany S. 2038; that if cloture is invoked on the motion to concur; that all post-cloture time be yielded back; the motion to concur with an amendment be withdrawn; and the motion to concur be agreed to; that all after the first vote be ten minute votes; and that the filing deadline for second-degree amendments to Reid motion to concur with respect to S. 2038, be at 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 22, 2012. **Page S1945**

Bill Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that H.R. 306, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge, be discharged from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. **Page S1945**

Senator Mikulski Tributes—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that there be printed as a Senate document a compilation of materials from the *Congressional Record* in tribute to Senator Barbara Mikulski, and that Members have until Thursday, March 29, 2012, to submit such tributes. **Page S1945**

Nuffer, Abrams, and Contreras Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that following disposition of the House Message to accompany S. 2038, Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, Senate resume consideration of the following nominations: David Nuffer, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, Ronnie Abrams, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Rudolph Contreras, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia; that there be two minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote without intervening action or debate on confirmation of the nominations of David Nuffer, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, Ronnie Abrams, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Rudolph Contreras, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, in that order; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S1944**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Rainey Ransom Brandt, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

John S. Leonardo, of Arizona, to be United States Attorney for the District of Arizona for the term of four years.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, and Navy.

Pages S1946–53

Messages from the House: **Page S1930**

Measures Referred: **Page S1930**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1930–32**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1932–33**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1933–42

Additional Statements: **Pages S1929–30**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1942–43**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S1943–44**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1944**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—53) **Page S1884**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:10 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 22, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1945.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

U.S. AIR TRAVEL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine balancing prosperity and security, focusing on challenges for United States air travel in a 21st century global economy, after receiving testimony from John Pistole, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Thomas Winkowski, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Customs and Border Protection, and Doug Smith, Assistant Secretary for Private Sector, all of the Department of Homeland Security; David T. Donahue, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services; Roger Dow, U.S. Travel Association, Thomas L. Hendricks, Airlines of America, and Sara Nelson, Association of Flight Attendants—CWA, all of Washington, D.C.; Charles M. Barclay,

American Association of Airport Executives, Alexandria, Virginia; and Steven Hacker, International Association of Exhibitions and Events, Dallas, Texas.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Army, after receiving testimony from John M. McHugh, Secretary of the Army, and General Raymond T. Odierno, Chief of Staff, United States Army, both of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, after receiving testimony from Thomas P. D'Agostino, Undersecretary for Nuclear Security, and Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Service and General Government concluded a hearing to examine strengthening market oversight and integrity, focusing on fiscal year 2013 resource needs of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after receiving testimony from Gary Gensler, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine military construction, environmental, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Dorothy Robyn, Deputy Under Secretary for Installations and Environment, Katherine G. Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installation, Energy, and Environment, Jackalyne Pfannenstiel, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment, and Terry A. Yonkers, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment, and Logistics, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine military space programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, including challenges the Department of Defense faces in realizing benefits of satellite acquisition improvements, after receiving testimony from Madelyn R. Creedon, Assistant Secretary for Global Strategic Affairs, John A. Zangardi, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, and Space, Robert S. Winokur, Director, Oceanography, Space and Maritime Domain, Awareness Division, OPNAV N2/N6, Information Dominance, General William L. Shelton, Commander, Air Force Space Command, and Lieutenant General Richard P. Formica, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, and Army Forces Strategic Command, all of the Department of Defense; and Cristina T. Chaplain, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Tracey Ann Jacobson, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo, Richard B. Norland, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Kenneth Merten, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Mark A. Pekala, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, and Jeffrey D. Levine, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

RETOOLING GOVERNMENT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine retooling government for the 21st century, focusing on the President's reorganization plan and reducing duplication, and opportunities for improvement and considerations for reconstructing, including S. 2129, to provide for reforming and consolidating agencies of the Federal Government to improve efficiency and effectiveness, after receiving testimony from Daniel Werfel, Controller, Office of Management and Budget; and Patricia A. Dalton, Chief Operating Officer, Government Accountability Office.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

CONVICING THE GUILTY AND EXONERATING THE INNOCENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent, including S. 250, to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, after receiving testimony from Craig Watkins, Dallas County District Attorney, Dallas, Texas; Joshua Marquis, Clatsop County District Attorney, Astoria, Oregon; and Thomas Haynesworth, Richmond, Virginia.

VERIZON AND CABLE DEALS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights con-

cluded a hearing to examine Verizon and cable deals, after receiving testimony from Randal S. Milch, Verizon Communications Inc., and Tim Wu, Columbia Law School, both of New York, New York; David L. Cohen, Comcast Corporation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Charles F. Rule, Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft LLP, Steven K. Berry, RCA, and Joel Kelsey, Free Press, all of Washington, D.C.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), Non Commissioned Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans of America, Wounded Warrior Project, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, and The Retired Enlisted Association, after receiving testimony from Tom Tarantino, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and Dawn Halfaker, Wounded Warrior Project, both of Washington, D.C.; William R. Hutton, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Springfield, Virginia; David Fletcher, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, H. Gene Overstreet, Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States, and Arthur Cooper, Retired Enlisted Association, all of Alexandria, Virginia; and John Rowan, Vietnam Veterans of America, Silver Spring, Maryland.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 9, 14, 4228–4238; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 593 were introduced. **Pages H1496–97**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1497–98**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 4119, to reduce the trafficking of drugs and to prevent human smuggling across the Southwest Border by deterring the construction and use of border tunnels (H. Rept. 112–418, Pt. 1). **Page H1496**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Ellmers to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1429**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1437**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Dr. Carl Hickerson, Springfield Baptist Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1437**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 308 yeas to 101 nays with 3 answering "present", Roll No. 121. **Pages H1438, H1452–53**

Permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony: The House agreed to discharge and agree to H. Con. Res. 108, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page H1442**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, March 22nd. **Page H1442**

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

United States Marshals Service 225th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 886, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 409 yeas to 2 nays with 2 voting "present", Roll No. 120. **Pages H1442–43, H1452**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:48 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m. **Page H1450**

Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 5, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 22nd. **Pages H1443–50, H1450–52, H1453–90**

H. Res. 591, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 233 yeas to 182 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 119, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 231 yeas to 179 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 118.

Pages H1443–50, H1450–52

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeas-and-nays votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1450–51, H1451–52, H1452, H1452–53. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DUPLICATIVE FEDERAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing entitled "To Identify Duplicative Federal Rural Development Programs". Testimony was heard from Dallas P. Tonsager, Under Secretary, Rural Development, Department of Agriculture; and William B. Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office.

APPROPRIATIONS—NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Projects held a hearing on the FY 2013 Budget for Department of State, Near Eastern Affairs. This was a closed hearing.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Testimony was heard from Charles F. Bolden, Jr., Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Veterans Employment and Training Programs. Testimony was heard from Lt. Col Ismael Ortiz USMC (Ret.), Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

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: Catherine E. Woteki, Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; Edward Knipping, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service; Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Acting Administrator, National Institute of Food and Agriculture; Mary Bohman, Administrator, Economic Research Service; Cynthia Clark, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the U.S. Central Command and the International Security Assistance Force. This was a closed hearing.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Energy. Testimony was heard from Dave Huiizenga, Assistant Secretary (Acting), Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy; and Glenn Podonsky, Chief Health, Safety, and Security Officer, Office of Health, Safety, and Security, Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Internal Revenue Service. Testimony was heard from Douglas H. Shulman, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service.

APPROPRIATIONS—FY 2013 BUDGET REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

APPROPRIATIONS—HOMELAND SECURITY FACILITIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Department of Homeland Security Facilities. Testimony was heard from Rafael Borrás, Under Secretary, Management Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; and Tara O'Toole, Under Secretary, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Testimony was heard from Shaun Donovan, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

APPROPRIATIONS—FY 2013 BUDGET ISSUES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Issues. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for Small Business Administration. Testimony was heard from Karen G. Mills, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on the Defense Health Program budget overview. Testimony was heard from Jonathan Woodson, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs; Lieutenant General Patricia D. Horoho, USA, Surgeon General, U. S. Army; Vice Admiral Matthew L. Nathan, USN, Surgeon General, U. S. Navy; Lieutenant General Charles Bruce Green, USAF, Surgeon General, U. S. Air Force; and public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee began a markup of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Reviewing the President's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Proposals for the U.S. Department of Labor". Testimony was heard from Hilda L. Solis, Secretary, Department of Labor.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "The Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight and the Anniversary of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act". Testimony was heard from Senator Johnson (WI); Representative Edwards; and Steve Larsen, Director, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Center for Medicare and Medicaid, Department of Health and Human Services.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprise held a hearing on the Swap Data and Clearing House Indemnification Correction Act of 2012. Testimony was heard from, Ethiopis Tafara, Director, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Daniel Berkovitz, General Counsel, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and public witness.

MOTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF A SUBPOENA

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation held a business meeting to consider a motion authorizing the issuance of a subpoena ad testificandum for the appearance of Edith O'Brien. The motion passed without amendment.

RUSSIA 2012

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Russia 2012: Increased Repression, Rampant Corruption, Assisting Rogue Regimes". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD DETERIORATING SITUATION IN IRAQ

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia held a hearing entitled "Halting the Descent: U.S. Policy toward the Deteriorating Situation in Iraq". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IRAN, HEZBOLLAH, AND THE THREAT TO THE HOMELAND

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Iran, Hezbollah, and the Threat to the Homeland". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REAL ID ACT'S MINIMUM STANDARD FOR DRIVER'S LICENSES AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled "Secure Identification: The REAL ID Act's Minimum Standards for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards". Testimony was heard from David Heyman, Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL REGULATIONS AND REGULATORY REFORM UNDER THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing entitled "The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: Federal Regulations and Regulatory Reform under the Obama Administration". Testimony was heard from Cass Sunstein, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs; and public witnesses.

HARNESSING AMERICAN RESOURCES TO CREATE JOBS AND ADDRESS RISING GASOLINE PRICES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Harnessing American Resources to Create Jobs and Address Rising Gasoline Prices: Families and Cost-of-Life Impacts". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EUROPE'S SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISIS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Europe's Sovereign Debt Crisis: Causes, Consequences for the United States and Lessons Learned". Testimony was heard from Timothy F. Geithner, Secretary, Department of the Treasury; and Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

FOIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and Procurement Reform held a hearing entitled "FOIA in the 21st Century: Using Technology to Improve Transparency in Government". Testimony was heard from Miriam Nisbet, Director, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration; Andrew Battin, Director, Office of Information Collection, Environmental Protection Agency; Melanie Ann Pustay, Director, Office of Information Policy, Department of Justice; and public witness.

JOB CREATION ROADMAP

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "A Job Creation Roadmap: How America's Entrepreneurs Can Lead Our Economic Recovery". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INNOVATIVE FINANCING APPROACHES FOR COMMUNITY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled "Review of Innovative Financing Approaches for Community Water Infrastructure Projects—Part II". Testimony was heard from Ron Behm, Mayor, Napoleon, Ohio; Karen Massey, Director, Missouri Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority; David Weihrauch, Water Treatment Plant Manager, City of Oxford, Ohio; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and the U.S. Capitol Police, 2:30 p.m., SD-124.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the situation in Afghanistan; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine international harmonization of Wall Street reform, focusing on orderly liquidation, derivatives, and the Volcker Rule, 9:45 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, to hold hearings to examine S. 303, to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to require the Bureau of Land Management to provide a claimant of a small miner waiver from claim maintenance fees with a period of 60 days after written receipt of 1 or more defects is provided to the claimant by registered mail to cure the 1 or more defects or pay the claim maintenance fee, S. 1129, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing leases and permits, S. 1473, to amend Public Law 99-548 to provide for the implementation of the multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River, Nevada, and to extend the authority to purchase certain parcels of public land, S. 1492, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, S. 1559, to establish the San Juan Islands National Conservation Area in the San Juan Islands, Washington, S. 1635, to designate certain lands in San Miguel, Ouray, and San Juan Counties, Colorado, as wilderness, S. 1687, to adjust the boundary of Carson National Forest, New Mexico, S. 1774, to establish the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Management Area, to designate certain Federal land as wilderness, and to improve the management of noxious weeds in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, S. 1788, to designate the Pine Forest Range Wilderness area in Humboldt County, Nevada, S. 1906, to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, S. 2001, to expand the Wild Rogue Wilderness Area in the State of Oregon, to make additional wild and scenic river designations in the Rogue River area, to provide additional protections for Rogue River tributaries, S. 2015, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the Powell Recreation District in

the State of Wyoming, and S. 2056, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain interests in Federal land acquired for the Scofield Project in Carbon County, Utah, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine prescription drug abuse, focusing on how Medicare and Medicaid are adapting to the challenge, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Scott H. DeLisi, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, Michael A. Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, and Makila James, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland, all of the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine stay-at-work and back-to-work strategies, focusing on lessons from the private sector, 10:15 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Organization, Efficiency, and Financial Management to examine problems in Army military pay, 10 a.m., 2154, Rayburn Building.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 1898, to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, and H.R. 1560, to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 2159, to extend the authorization of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program through fiscal year 2017, and the nominations of Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Robin S. Rosenbaum, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Gershwin A. Drain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and Gregory K. Davis, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine small business investment companies and their role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Blinded Veterans Association, American Veterans (AMVETS), Gold Star Wives, Fleet Reserve Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the Jewish War Veterans, 10 a.m., 345, Cannon Building.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 budget issues, 9 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 budget issues, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Education, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Department of Transportation Major Modes, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget Request for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10:30 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on the Navy's readiness posture, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on hazing in the military, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled "Motor Vehicle Safety Provisions in House and Senate Highway Bills", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled

"The Future of Money: How Mobile Payments Could Change Financial Services", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, hearing entitled "Building One DHS: Why is Employee Morale Low?", 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled "Effect of the President's FY 2013 Budget for the U.S. Geological Survey on Private Sector Job Creation, Hazard Protection, Mineral Resources and Deficit Reduction", 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs, hearing entitled "Empty Hooks: The National Ocean Policy is the Latest Threat to Access for Recreational and Commercial Fisherman", 9:30 a.m. 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, markup of the following: H.R. 3985, the "Building Better Business Partnerships Act of 2012"; H.R. 3987, the "Small Business Protection Act of 2012"; H.R. 4081, the "Contractor Opportunity Protection Act of 2012"; H.R. 4206, the "Contracting Oversight for Small Business Jobs Act of 2012"; and H.R. 4203, the "Women's Procurement Program Improvement Act of 2012", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled "Internal Revenue Service Operations and the 2012 Tax Return Filing Season", 9:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing on ongoing intelligence activities, 9 a.m., HVC-304. This is a closed hearing.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 3606, Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act, with votes on or in relation to Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 1931 (to Amendment No. 1884), Reid (for Merkley) Amendment No. 1884, and passage of the bill at 12:30 p.m.

Following disposition of H.R. 3606, Senate will resume consideration of the House Message to accompany S. 2038, Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur in the House Message to accompany the bill.

Following disposition of the House Message to accompany S. 2038, Senate will resume consideration of the nominations of David Nuffer, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, Ronnie Abrams, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Rudolph Contreras, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and vote on confirmation of the nominations.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 22

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 5—Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Adams, Sandy, Fla., E405
Clay, Wm. Lacey, Mo., E401, E411
Clyburn, James E., S.C., E410
Coffman, Mike, Colo., E409
Critz, Mark S., Pa., E406
Fattah, Chaka, Pa., E405
Frank, Barney, Mass., E402
Gonzalez, Charles A., Tex., E406
Graves, Sam, Mo., E399, E400, E401
Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E410

Holden, Tim, Pa., E399
Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E399
Johnson, Timothy V., Ill., E406, E408, E410
Kinzinger, Adam, Ill., E401
Lee, Barbara, Calif., E409
McCollum, Betty, Minn., E403
McIntyre, Mike, N.C., E400, E406
Michaud, Michael H., Me., E400
Miller, George, Calif., E401, E411
Moran, James P., Va., E402
Olson, Pete, Tex., E400, E403, E409, E411
Poe, Ted, Tex., E403

Reichert, David G., Wash., E407
Richardson, Laura, Calif., E404
Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho, Northern Mariana Islands, E409
Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E407
Schilling, Robert T., Ill., E410
Scott, David, Ga., E405
Sessions, Pete, Tex., E399, E401, E404, E409, E411
Terry, Lee, Nebr., E407
Webster, Daniel, Fla., E402, E405
Wolf, Frank R., Va., E408



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