

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2519–S2557

Measures Introduced: Twenty-seven bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2301–2327, and S. Res. 427–431. **Pages S2545–46**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2013.” (S. Rept. No. 112–156)

S. 743, to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 112–155)

S. 2322, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. (S. Rept. No. 112–157)

S. 2323, making appropriations for Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. (S. Rept. No. 112–158) **Page S2545**

Measures Passed:

Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1021, to prevent the termination of the temporary office of bankruptcy judges in certain judicial districts, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2556–57**

Reid (for Coons) Amendment No. 2084, to address bankruptcy filing fee increases, future reauthorizations. **Pages S2556–57**

75th Anniversary of the Founding of Ducks Unlimited: Senate agreed to S. Res. 430, recognizing the 75th anniversary of the founding of Ducks Unlimited, Incorporated, the achievements of the organization in habitat conservation, and the support of the organization for the waterfowling heritage of the United States. **Page S2557**

Measures Considered:

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1925, to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994. **Pages S2519–38**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 12 p.m., on Monday, April 23, 2012; provided further, that following the Republican Leader, or his designee, being recognized to make a motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 36, Senate continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1925, at 4 p.m.

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21st Century Postal Service Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that the cloture motions with respect to Reid (for Lieberman) Modified Amendment No. 2000 to S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service, and to S. 1789, be withdrawn; the motion to recommit be withdrawn; that the pending amendments Reid Amendment No. 2013 (to Amendment No. 2000, and Reid Amendment No. 2015 (to the language proposed to be stricken (by Amendment No. 2000))), be withdrawn and that the following amendments be the only amendments in order to S. 1789 or Reid (for Lieberman) Modified Amendment No. 2000: McCain Amendment No. 2001; Tester Amendment No. 2056; Coburn Amendment No. 2060; McCain Amendment No. 2033, Wyden-Feinstein Amendment No. 2020; Coburn Amendment No. 2058; McCaskill-Merkley Amendment No. 2031; Coburn Amendment No. 2061; Snowe Amendment No. 2080; Udall (NM) Amendment No. 2043; Durbin Amendment No. 2082; Akaka Amendment No. 2034; Bennet-Blunt Amendment No. 2047; Corker Amendment No. 2083; Mikulski Amendment No. 2003; Akaka Amendment No. 2049; Paul Amendment No. 2025; Manchin Amendment No. 2079; Paul Amendment No. 2026; Bingaman Amendment No. 2076; Paul Amendment No. 2027; Cardin Amendment No. 2040; Paul Amendment No. 2028;

Carper Amendment No. 2065; Paul Amendment No. 2029; Carper Amendment No. 2066; Paul Amendment No. 2039; Casey Amendment No. 2042; Paul Amendment No. 2038; Landrieu Amendment No. 2072; DeMint Amendment No. 2046; McCaskill Amendment No. 2030; Coburn Amendment No. 2059; Pryor Amendment No. 2036; Rockefeller Amendment No. 2073; Rockefeller Amendment No. 2074; Schumer Amendment No. 2050; Tester Amendment No. 2032; and Warner Modified Amendment No. 2071; that on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate vote on or in relation to the amendments in the order listed; that there be two minutes equally divided in the usual form prior to each vote; that all after the first vote be 10 minute votes; that the amendments be subject to a 60 affirmative vote threshold; that there be no other amendments in order to the bill, the substitute amendment, as modified, or the amendments listed; and there be no points of order or motions in order to any of these amendments, the substitute amendment, or the bill, other than budget points of order and the applicable motions to waive; and that upon disposition of the amendments, the substitute amendment, as modified and amended, if amended, be agreed to; provided further, the bill, as amended, then be read a third time and Senate vote on passage of the bill, as amended; and that the vote on passage of the bill be subject to a 60 affirmative vote threshold. **Pages S2538, S2557**

National Labor Relations Board—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 2 p.m., on Monday, April 23, 2012, the Republican Leader, or his designee, be recognized to move to proceed to the consideration of S.J. Res. 36, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to representation election procedures; that there be up to four hours of debate on the motion to proceed, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees; that the first two hours of debate, equally divided, occur from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., on Monday, April 23, 2012, and the final two hours of debate, equally divided, occur from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., on Tuesday, April 24, 2012; that at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, 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, the joint resolution be read a third time and Senate vote on passage of

the joint resolution; and all other provisions of the statute governing consideration of the joint resolution remain in effect. **Pages S2538–39**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2012 National Drug Control Strategy; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (PM–46) **Pages S2543–44**

Wimes Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5 p.m., on Monday, April 23, 2012, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Brian C. Wimes, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri; that there be 30 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 nomination; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S2557**

Messages from the House: **Page S2544**

Measures Referred: **Page S2544**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S2544, S2557**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2544–45**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2545**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2546–47**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2547–54**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2542–43**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2554–55**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2555–56**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:16 p.m., until 12 p.m. on Monday, April 23, 2012. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2557.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill (S. 2323) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013;

An original bill (S. 2322) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Housing, and

Urban Development and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013; and

The fiscal year 2013 302(b) Allocations.

APPROPRIATIONS: FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Food and Drug Administration, after receiving testimony from Margaret A. Hamburg, Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Sean J. Stackley, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, Vice Admiral Kevin M. McCoy, USN, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, Vice Admiral John T. Blake, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Integration of Capabilities and Resources (N8), Vice Admiral William R. Burke, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Warfare Systems (N9), Lieutenant General Richard P. Mills, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, all of the Department of Defense.

SEA LEVEL RISE IMPACTS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impacts of sea level rise on domestic energy and water infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Waleed Abdalati, Chief Scientist, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Benjamin H. Strauss, Climate Central, Princeton, New Jersey; Anthony C. Janetos, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Joint Global Change Research Institute, College Park, Maryland; Leonard Berry, Florida Atlantic University Florida Center for Environmental Studies, Jupiter; and Adam Freed, New York City Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability, New York, New York.

SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Syria, focusing on United

States policy options, after receiving testimony from Tamara Cofman Wittes, Brookings Institution Saban Center for Middle East Policy, Murhaf Jouejati, National Defense University NESACenter for Strategic Studies, and Jon B. Alterman, Center for Strategic and International Studies, all of Washington, DC.

OSHA STANDARD-SETTING PROCESS DELAYS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine delays in OSHA's standard-setting process and the impact on worker safety, after receiving testimony from Revae Moran, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Tom Ward, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Woodhaven, Michigan; Michael Silverstein, University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine, Seattle; and Randy S. Rabinowitz, OMB Watch, and David G. Sarvadi, Keller and Heckman LLP, on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, both of Washington, DC.

INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AMENDMENTS

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1684, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, after receiving testimony from James M. Olguin, Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council, Ignacio, Colorado; Tex G. Hall, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation of the Fort Berthold Reservation, New Town, North Dakota; Michael Finley, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Nespelem, Washington; Irene C. Cuch, Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, Fort Duchesne, Utah; and Wilson Groen, Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Company, Window Rock, Arizona.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of William J. Kayatta, Jr., of Maine, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, John Thomas Fowlkes, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Kevin McNulty, and Michael A. Shipp, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Stephanie Marie Rose, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 71 public bills, H.R. 4400–4470; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 117; and H. Res. 623–629 were introduced. **Pages H2029–31**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2033–34**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1335, to revise the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Gettysburg Train Station, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–449);

H.R. 2240, to authorize the exchange of land or interest in land between Lowell National Historical Park and the city of Lowell in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–450);

H.R. 2362, to facilitate economic development by Indian tribes and encourage investment by Turkish enterprises (H. Rept. 112–451); and

H.R. 3452, to provide for the sale of approximately 30 acres of Federal land in Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Salt Lake County, Utah, to permit the establishment of a minimally invasive transportation alternative for skiers, called “SkiLink”, to connect two ski resorts in the Wasatch Mountains, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–452). **Page H2029**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller (MI) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1979**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Gerald Baker, St. Ann Catholic Church, Morganfield, Kentucky. **Page H1979**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 290 yeas to 118 nays with 3 answering “present”, Roll No. 174. **Pages H1979, H1989–90**

Small Business Tax Cut Act: The House passed H.R. 9, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a deduction for domestic business income of qualified small businesses, by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 173 nays with 1 answering “present”, Roll No. 177. **Pages H1981–89, H1990–S2010**

Rejected the Deutch motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a recorded vote of 179 yeas to 229 noes, Roll No. 176. **Pages H2008–10**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee

on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Pages H1981, H1990**

Rejected:

Levin amendment in the nature of a substitute (printed in H. Rept. 112–447) that replaces the deduction in the underlying bill with a deduction for small businesses for the amounts they spend on capital investments in 2012 (by a yea-and-nay vote of 175 yeas to 236 nays, Roll No. 175). **Pages H2003–08**

H. Res. 620, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 234 yeas to 178 noes, Roll No. 173, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 234 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 172. **Pages H1981–89**

Agreed to the Sessions amendment to the rule by voice vote. **Page H1981**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted the 2012 National Drug Control Strategy—referred to the Committees on Armed Services, Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform, Transportation and Infrastructure, Veterans’ Affairs, and Ways and Means and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 112–98). **Pages H2027–28**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1988, H1989, H1989–90, H2007–08, H2009–10, H2010. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a markup of Appropriations Bill FY 2013. The bill was forwarded without amendment.

SECURITY SITUATION IN THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Recent Developments in the Middle East: The Security Situation in the Syrian Arab Republic. Testimony was heard from Leon E. Panetta, Secretary of Defense; and General Martin Dempsey, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing on H.R. 4345, the “Domestic Fuels Protection Act of 2012”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CAN AMERICAN MANUFACTURING THRIVE AGAIN?

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Where the Jobs Are: Can American Manufacturing Thrive Again?”. Testimony was heard from John Bryson, Secretary, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL RESEARCH

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Budget Hearing—the Office of Financial Research”. Testimony was heard from Michelle Shannon, Chief Operating Officer, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury.

DHS AND DOE NATIONAL LABS: FINDING EFFICIENCIES AND OPTIMIZING OUTPUTS IN HOMELAND SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies held a hearing entitled “The DHS and DOE National Labs: Finding Efficiencies and Optimizing Outputs in Homeland Security Research and Development”. Testimony was heard from Daniel M. Gerstein, Deputy Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security; Huban Gowadia, Deputy Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, Department of Homeland Security; Daniel Morgan, Specialist in Science and Technology Policy Resources, Sciences and Industry Division, Congressional Research Service; Jill Hruba, Vice President, International, Homeland and Nuclear Security, Sandia National Laboratories; and Michael Robert Carter, Senior Scientist, National Ignition Facility and Photon Science Directorate, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

PROSECUTION OF FORMER SENATOR TED STEVENS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “The Prosecution of Former Senator Ted Stevens”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs held

a hearing on H.R. 4043, the “Military Readiness and Southern Sea Otter Conservation Act”. Testimony was heard from Donald Schregardus, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Alexandra Pitts, Deputy Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Fish and Wildlife Service; and public witnesses.

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING IMPACT ON INDIAN TRIBAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “Bureau of Land Management’s Hydraulic Fracturing Rule’s Impact on Indian Tribal Energy Development”. Testimony was heard from Tim Spisak, Deputy Assistant Director Minerals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management; and public witnesses.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE: CLOSING THE TAX GAP AND PREVENTING IDENTITY THEFT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Organization, Efficiency and Financial Management held a hearing entitled “Problems at the Internal Revenue Service: Closing the Tax Gap and Preventing Identity Theft”. Testimony was heard from Steven Miller, Deputy Commissioner of Service and Enforcement, Internal Revenue Service; Nina Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, Internal Revenue Service; J. Russell George, Inspector General, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; and James White, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office.

IMPACT OF TAX POLICIES ON THE COMMERCIAL APPLICATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight; and Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a joint hearing entitled “Impact of Tax Policies on the Commercial Application of Renewable Energy and Technology”. Testimony was heard from Molly F. Sherlock, Specialist in Public Finance, Congressional Research Service; John Parcell, Acting Deputy Tax Legislative Counsel, Department of the Treasury; Michael Pacheco, Vice President, Deployment and Market Transformation, National Renewable Energy Laboratory; and public witnesses.

EQUITY FINANCE: CATALYST FOR SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access held a hearing entitled “Equity Finance: Catalyst for Small Business Growth”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO BETTER TARGET
BENEFITS AND ELIMINATE WASTE,
FRAUD, AND ABUSE**

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing entitled “Use of Technology to Better Target Benefits and Eliminate Waste, Fraud, and Abuse”. Testimony was heard from Donna Roy, Executive Director, National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), Department of Homeland Security; George Sheldon, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; Robert Doar, Commissioner, Human Resources Administration; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
APRIL 20, 2012**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 p.m., Monday, April 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1925, Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. At 2 p.m., the Republican Leader, or his designee, will be recognized to move to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 36, National Labor Relations Board, with two hours of debate. Following which, Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1925, Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. At approximately 5 p.m., Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Brian C. Wimes, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Monday, April 23

House Chamber

Program for Monday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 11 a.m.

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