

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the Conference Report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, Budget Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2611–S2658

Measures Introduced: Twelve bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1188–1199, and S. Res. 167–169. **Page S2650–51**

Measures Reported:

S. 136, to amend chapter 21 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that fathers of certain permanently disabled or deceased veterans shall be included with mothers of such veterans as preference eligibles for treatment in the civil service. (S. Rept. No. 114–35)

S. 579, to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–36) **Page S2650**

Measures Passed:

International Women's Day: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 97, supporting the goals of International Women's Day, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S2656**

Corker/Rubio Amendment No. 1199, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2656**

Corker (for Lee) Amendment No. 1201 (to the language proposed by Amendment No. 1200), to amend the preamble. **Page S2656**

Corker/Rubio Amendment No. 1200, to amend the preamble. **Page S2656**

Day of Recognition for Ebola Orphans: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 155, establishing May 2, 2015, as a Day of Recognition for Ebola Orphans to express support for the children and families affected by the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa by promoting awareness of the children of West Africa who have been orphaned by the 2014 Ebola epi-

demic, celebrating those who have recognized and are working to fulfill the needs of those children, and encouraging the people of the United States to continue to support the people of West Africa, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2658**

Dr. Warren Weinstein: Senate agreed to S. Res. 169, expressing condolences to the family of Dr. Warren Weinstein, and commemorating the life and work of Dr. Warren Weinstein. **Page S2658**

Measures Considered:

Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S2644**

Pending:

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2644**

Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1179 (to Amendment No. 1140), to require submission of all Persian text included in the agreement. **Page S2644**

Blunt Amendment No. 1155 (to Amendment No. 1140), to extend the requirement for annual Department of Defense reports on the military power of Iran. **Page S2644**

Vitter Modified Amendment No. 1186 (to Amendment No. 1179), to require an assessment of inadequacies in the international monitoring and verification system as they relate to a nuclear agreement with Iran. **Page S2644**

Cotton Amendment No. 1197 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 1140), of a perfecting nature. **Page S2644**

Cotton (for Rubio) Amendment No. 1198 (to Amendment No. 1197), to require a certification

that Iran's leaders have publically accepted Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state. **Page S2644**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, May 7, 2015.

Page S2644

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of Corker/Cardin Amendment No. 1140. **Page S2644**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 6, 2015. **Page S2658**

Veto Messages:

National Labor Relations Board Veto Message: Senate continued consideration of the veto message to accompany S.J. Res. 8, 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 case procedures. **Pages S2613, S2644**

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

By 96 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 172), Senate tabled the veto message to accompany the joint resolution. **Page S2644**

Conference Reports:

Budget Resolution—Conference Report: By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 171), Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025. **Pages S2613–44**

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

By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 170), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany the concurrent resolution. **Page S2613**

Messages from the House: **Page S2649**

Measures Referred: **Page S2649**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2649–50**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2651–52**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2652–54**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2648–49**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2654–55**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S2655–56

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—172) **Pages S2613, S2643–44, S2644**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:01 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2658.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

U.S. GRAIN STANDARDS ACT

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the U.S. Grain Standards Act, after receiving testimony from Bill Gordon, American Soybean Association, Worthington, Minnesota; David Ayers, American Association of Grain Inspection and Weighing Agencies, Urbana, Illinois; Tim Paurus, CHS Inc., Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, on behalf of the National Grain and Feed Association; and Steve Campbell, Louis Dreyfus Commodities, Kansas City, Missouri, on behalf of the North American Export Grain Association.

APPROPRIATIONS: SEC AND CFTC

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after receiving testimony from Mary Jo White, Chairwoman, Securities and Exchange Commission; and Tim Massad, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security concluded a hearing to examine surface transportation reauthorization, focusing on the importance of a long term reauthorization, after receiving testimony from Utah State Senator Curt Bramble, Salt Lake City, on behalf of the National Conference of State Legislatures; Mayor Brian C. Wahler, Piscataway Township, New Jersey, on behalf of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities; and Nick Yaksich, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, and Janet Kavinoky, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, both of Washington, D.C.

WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Federal government's role in wildfire management, the impact of fires on communities, and potential improvements to be made in fire operations, after receiving testimony from Tom Tidwell, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Robert Eisele, County of San Diego, Santee, California; Stephen J. Pyne, Arizona State University, Tempe; Sharon M. Hood, University of Montana, Missoula; and Bruce Hallin, Salt River Project, Phoenix, Arizona.

CLEAN POWER PLAN

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety concluded a hearing to examine the legal implications of the Clean Power Plan, after receiving testimony from Oklahoma Attorney General E. Scott Pruitt, Oklahoma City; West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey, Charleston; Kelly Speakes-Backman, Maryland Public Service Commission Commissioner, Baltimore; and Roger R. Martella, Jr., Sidley Austin LLP, and Lisa Heinzerling, Georgetown University Law Center, both of Washington, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUDGET

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of State, after receiving testimony from Catherine M. Russell, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues, John D. Feeley, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, and Virginia Bennett, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, all of the Department of State.

PRECISION MEDICINE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine precision medicine for patients, after receiving testimony from Francis S. Collins, Director, National Institutes of Health, Karen B. DeSalvo, National Coordinator, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, and Jeffrey Shuren, Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, all of the Department of Health and Human Services.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of David J. Shulkin, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs, who was introduced by Senator Casey, and LaVerne Horton Council, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Information and Technology), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES QUOTA PROCESS MANAGEMENT

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Caucus concluded a hearing to examine improving management of the controlled substances quota process, after receiving testimony from Marcia Crosse, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; Captain Valerie Jensen, Associate Director, Drug Shortages Program, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and Joseph T. Rannazzisi, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 2233–2242; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 49; and H. Res. %1–252 were introduced.

Pages H2798–99

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2799–H2800

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe

military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–102). **Page H2798**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Messer to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2797**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Anthony Craig, Diocese of Duluth, Pequot Lakes, Minnesota. **Page H2797**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2797.

Senate Referral: S. 665 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. **Page H2797**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no yea-and-nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine global health problems, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel R. Elliott III, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Mario Cordero, of California, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Fish and Wildlife Service, and S. 1036, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to provide certain Western States assistance in the development of statewide conservation and management plans or the protection and recovery of sage-grouse species, S. 855, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to permit Governors of States to regulate intrastate endangered species and intrastate threatened species, S. 736, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require disclosure to States of the basis of deter-

minations under such Act, to ensure use of information provided by State, tribal, and county governments in decision making under such Act, S. 655, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to make a final determination on the listing of the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, S. 468, to provide a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the Forest Service to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees to conserve and restore the habitat of the greater sage-grouse and the mule deer, S. 293, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to establish a procedure for approval of certain settlements, S. 292, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the Internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, S. 112, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require the Secretary of the Interior to publish and make available for public comment a draft economic analysis at the time a proposed rule to designate critical habitat is published, and S. 1081, to end the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy, to hold oversight hearings to examine multilateral and bilateral international development programs and policies, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on the role of consumer information in college choice, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 280, to improve the efficiency, management, and interagency coordination of the Federal permitting process through reforms overseen by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, S. 1180, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to modernize the integrated public alert and warning system of the United States, S. 750, to achieve border security on certain Federal lands along the Southern border, S. 282, to provide taxpayers with an annual report disclosing the cost and performance of Government programs and areas of duplication among them, S. 1109, to require adequate information regarding the tax treatment of payments under settlement agreements entered into by Federal agencies, S. 1172, to improve the process of presidential transition, S. 434, to strengthen the accountability of individuals involved in misconduct affecting the integrity of background investigations, to update guidelines for security clearances, to prevent conflicts of interest relating to contractors providing background investigation fieldwork services and investigative support services, H.R. 623, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, S. 179, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW, in

Chisholm, Minnesota, as the “James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building”, S. 994, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the “Staff Sergeant Joseph D’Augustine Post Office Building”, H.R. 651, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 820 Elmwood Avenue in Providence, Rhode Island, as the “Sister Ann Keefe Post Office”, and the nominations of David Michael Bennett, of North Carolina, Mickey D. Barnett, of New Mexico, Stephen Crawford, of Maryland, and James C. Miller, III, of Virginia, each to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine ensuring an informed citizenry, focusing on examining the Administration’s efforts to improve open government, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dale A. Drozd, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Lawrence Joseph Vilardo, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York, and LaShann Moutique DeArcy Hall, and Ann Donnelly, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, 2:15 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the impact of federal labor and safety laws on the U.S. seafood industry, 2:30 p.m., SR-428A.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine aging in place, focusing on advances in technology that help seniors live independently, 2 p.m., SH-216.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 6

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Friday, May 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 1191, Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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