

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7055–S7107.

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2114–2127, and S. Res. 273–276. **Pages S7102–03**

Measures Reported:

S. 750, to achieve border security on certain Federal lands along the Southern border, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–150)

S. 991, to establish the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–151)

S. 481, to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to drug scheduling recommendations by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and with respect to registration of manufacturers and distributors seeking to conduct clinical testing, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 799, to combat the rise of prenatal opioid abuse and neonatal abstinence syndrome, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1893, to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Page S7101

Measures Passed:

Border Jobs for Veterans Act: Senate passed H.R. 2835, to actively recruit members of the Armed Forces who are separating from military service to serve as Customs and Border Protection officers.

Pages S7065–67

Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees Act: Senate passed H.R. 1624, to amend title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to revise the definition of small employer. **Page S7084**

D1042

National Character Counts Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 276, designating the week beginning October 18, 2015, as “National Character Counts Week”. **Page S7107**

Measures Considered:

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2029, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. **Pages S7062–65, S7067–75**

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

By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 273), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S7074**

Conference Reports:

National Defense Authorization Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year. **Pages S7075–84, S7084–90**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report to accompany the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, October 6, 2015. **Page S7075**

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation of funding for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism, received during adjournment of the Senate on September 30,

2015; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget. (PM–26) **Page S7098**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the President's designation of an emergency requirement in emergency funding for urgent wildland fire suppression activities, received during adjournment of the Senate on September 30, 2015; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget. (PM–27)

Page S7098

Drozdz Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5 p.m., on Monday, October 5, 2015, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Dale A. Drozd, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California; that there be 30 minutes for debate on the nomination, equally divided in the usual form; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nomination.

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Messages from the House:

Page S7099

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S7099

Executive Communications:

Pages S7099–7101

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S7101–02

Additional Cosponsors:

Page S7103

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S7103–06

Additional Statements:

Pages S7096–98

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S7106–07

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S7107

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—273) **Page S7074**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:54 p.m., until 4 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7107.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

GERALD R. FORD-CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIER PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the procurement, acquisition, testing, and oversight of the Navy's *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carrier program, after receiving testimony from Sean J. Stackley, Assistant Secretary, Research, Development & Acquisition, Rear Admiral Donald E. Gaddis, USN, Program Executive Officer,

Tactical Aircraft, and Rear Admiral Thomas J. Moore, USN, Program Executive Officer, Aircraft Carriers, all of the Department of the Navy, Katrina G. McFarland, Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Rear Admiral Michael C. Manazir, USN, Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV), and J. Michael Gilmore, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, all of the Department of Defense; and Paul L. Francis, Managing Director of Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, "American Crude Oil Export Equality Act".

NATURAL RESOURCES LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a hearing to examine S. 2031, to reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, after receiving testimony from Amanda Leiter, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Land and Minerals Management; Christopher B. Douville, American Natural Soda Ash Corporation, Westport, Connecticut; Rick Finn, Port of Portland, Portland, Oregon; and Fred von Ahrens, Tronox Alkali, Green River, Wyoming.

IMPROPER PAYMENTS IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improper payments in Federal programs, after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Scott Allen, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Ann Calvaresi Barr, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development, and Barbara Lee, of California, and Christopher H. Smith, of New Jersey, both to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Carolyn Patricia Alsup, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia, John L. Estrada, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, David R. Gilmour, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Togolese Republic, Jeffrey J. Hawkins, Jr., of California, to be Ambassador to the Central African Republic, Edwin Richard Nolan, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be

Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname, David Malcolm Robinson, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Conflict and Stabilization Operations), and to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, Daniel H. Rubinstein, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia, Lucy Tamlyn, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, Susan Coppedge Amato, of Georgia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large, and lists in the Foreign Service, all of the Department of State.

CIVIL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH KOREA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the civil nuclear agreement with the Republic of South Korea, after receiving testimony from Thomas M. Countryman, Assistant Secretary of State.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Robert Porter Jackson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, Harry K. Thomas, Jr., of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe, Julie Furuta-Toy, of Wyoming, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, and Dennis B. Hankins, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea, all of the Department of State, and Linda I. Etim, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine achieving the promise of health information technology, after receiving testimony from Karen B. DeSalvo, National Coordinator, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, and Pat-

rick Conway, Acting Principal Deputy Administrator, Deputy Administrator for Innovation and Quality, and Chief Medical Officer, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, both of the Department of Health and Human Services.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Administration's Fiscal Year 2016 refugee resettlement program, including fiscal and security implications, after receiving testimony from Lawrence Bartlett, Director, Office of Refugee Admissions, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Department of State; Barbara L. Strack, Chief, Refugee Affairs Division, Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations Directorate, and Matthew D. Emrich, Acting Associate Director, Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate, both of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security; and Robert Carey, Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

GOLD KING MINE WASTE WATER SPILL

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the significant costs and related burdens for small businesses resulting from the Gold King Mine waste water spill near Silverton, Colorado, after receiving testimony from Representative Tipton; Bradford P. Blake, La Plata County Commissioner, and Andrew Corra, 4Corners Riversports, both of Durango, Colorado; and DeAnne Gallegos, Chamber of Commerce, Silverton, Colorado.

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: 21 public bills, H.R. 3660–3680; 10 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 81–84; and H. Res. 454–459, were introduced.

Pages H6787–88

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H6789–90

Reports Filed:

Reports were filed today as follows:

Supplemental Report on H.R. 702, to adapt to changing crude oil market conditions (H. Rept. 114–267, Part 2);

H.R. 538, to facilitate the development of energy on Indian lands by reducing Federal regulations that impede tribal development of Indian lands, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–276);

H.R. 1644, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to ensure transparency in the development of environmental regulations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–277); and

H.R. 3192, to provide for a temporary safe harbor from the enforcement of integrated disclosure requirements for mortgage loan transactions under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 and the Truth in Lending Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–278). **Pages H6786–87**

Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism Act: The House passed H.R. 3457, to prohibit the lifting of sanctions on Iran until the Government of Iran pays the judgments against it for acts of terrorism, by a yea-and-nay vote of 251 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 533. **Pages H6761–68, H6778–79**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in H. Rept. 114–273 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H6761**

H. Res. 449, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3457) and providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1735), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 241 yeas to 181 noes, Roll No. 530, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 529. **Pages H6752–61**

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016: The House agreed to the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, by a yea-and-nay vote of 270 yeas to 156 nays, Roll No. 532. **Pages H6768–78**

Rejected the Smith (WA) motion to recommit, with instructions, the conference report to the committee of conference, by a yea-and-nay vote of 186 yeas to 241 nays, Roll No. 531. **Pages H6777–78**

H. Res. 449, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3457) and providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1735), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 241 yeas to 181 noes, Roll No. 530, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 529. **Pages H6752–61**

Providing for corrections to the enrollment of H.R. 1735: The House agreed by unanimous consent to H. Con. Res. 81, providing for corrections to the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1735. **Page H6779**

Amending the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to postpone a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2617, to amend the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to postpone a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa. **Pages H6779–80**

Supplemental Report: Agreed that the Committee on Energy and Commerce be authorized to file a supplemental report on H.R. 702, to adapt to changing crude oil market conditions. **Page H6780**

STEM Education Act of 2015: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1020, to define STEM education to include computer science, and to support existing STEM education programs at the National Science Foundation. **Page H6780**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. tomorrow, October 2nd and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, October 6th for Morning Hour debate. **Page H6781**

Presidential Messages: Read a message from the President wherein he designated funding for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism—"referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–62). **Page H6785**

Read a message from the President wherein he designated emergency funding for urgent wildland fire suppression activities—"referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 114–63). **Page H6785**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H6761, H6784, H6785.

Senate Referral: S. 2078 was held at the desk. **Page H6761**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6759–60, H6760–61, H6777–78, H6778, and H6778–79. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Committee Meetings

IMPROVING PUBLIC SHIPYARDS TO MORE EFFECTIVELY MEET NAVY OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled “Improving Public Shipyards to More Effectively Meet Navy Operational Requirements”. Testimony was heard from Rear Admiral Mark R. Whitney, U.S. Navy, Deputy Commander, Logistics, Maintenance and Industrial Operations, Naval Sea Systems Command.

EXAMINING POTENTIAL WAYS TO IMPROVE THE MEDICARE PROGRAM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Examining Potential Ways to Improve the Medicare Program”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRANSPORTING NUCLEAR MATERIALS: DESIGN, LOGISTICS, AND SHIPMENT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing enti-

tled “Transporting Nuclear Materials: Design, Logistics, and Shipment”. Testimony was heard from Franklin Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.

The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 6 through September 30, 2015

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	129	119	..
Time in session	823 hrs, 19'	596 hrs, 49'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	7,053	6,750	..
Extensions of Remarks	..	1,400	..
Public bills enacted into law	11	40	51
Private bills enacted into law	..	..	..
Bills in conference	2	2	..
Measures passed, total	309	389	698
Senate bills	68	21	..
House bills	49	247	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	1	..
House joint resolutions	1	3	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	8	5	..
House concurrent resolutions	17	20	..
Simple resolutions	165	92	..
Measures reported, total	*215	*268	483
Senate bills	167	5	..
House bills	22	208	..
Senate joint resolutions	..	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	1	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	..	3	..
Simple resolutions	25	51	..
Special reports	17	5	..
Conference reports	1	2	..
Measures pending on calendar	155	53	..
Measures introduced, total	2,418	4,260	6,678
Bills	2,104	3,659	..
Joint resolutions	22	68	..
Concurrent resolutions	20	80	..
Simple resolutions	272	453	..
Quorum calls	6	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	272	207	..
Recorded votes	..	320	..
Bills vetoed	2	..	..
Veto overridden	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 6 through September 30, 2015

Civilian nominations, totaling 316, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	94
Unconfirmed	215
Withdrawn	7
Other Civilian nominations, totaling 3,033, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2,000
Unconfirmed	711
Withdrawn	322
Air Force nominations, totaling 5,332, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3,628
Unconfirmed	1,703
Withdrawn	1
Army nominations, totaling 3,325, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3,302
Unconfirmed	23
Navy nominations, totaling 3,873, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3,867
Unconfirmed	6
Marine Corps nominations, totaling 1,067, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,064
Unconfirmed	3
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominations carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominations received this Session	16,946
Total confirmed	13,955
Total unconfirmed	2,661
Total withdrawn	330
Total returned to the White House	0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 149 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 275 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

4 p.m., Monday, October 5

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 p.m., Friday, October 2

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Dale A. Drozd, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, with a vote on confirmation thereon, at approximately 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 1 p.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Barletta, Lou, Pa., E1402
 Bilirakis, Gus M., Fla., E1412
 Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E1411
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 Brady, Kevin, Tex., E1407, E1408
 Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E1403
 Carter, John R., Tex., E1413
 Courtney, Joe, Conn., E1407
 Deutch, Theodore E., Fla., E1410
 Donovan, Daniel M., Jr., N.Y., E1406
 Emmer, Tom, Minn., E1409, E1410
 Esty, Elizabeth H., Conn., E1410
 Fudge, Marcia L., Ohio, E1402

Garrett, Scott, N.J., E1403
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 Rice, Kathleen M., N.Y., E1403
 Scott, David, Ga., E1403, E1410
 Shimkus, John, Ill., E1404
 Waters, Maxine, Calif., E1413
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E1409
 Young, David, Iowa, E1411



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