

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.J. Res. 78, Further Continuing Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8689–S8732.

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2406–2409. **Page S8725**

Measures Reported:

S. 329, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 114–182)

S. 556, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–183)

S. 782, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a bison management plan for Grand Canyon National Park. (S. Rept. No. 114–184)

S. 1583, to authorize the expansion of an existing hydroelectric project, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–185)

S. 1592, to clarify the description of certain Federal land under the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act of 2005 to include additional land in the Kaibab National Forest. (S. Rept. No. 114–186)

S. 1694, to amend Public Law 103–434 to authorize Phase III of the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project for the purposes of improving water management in the Yakima River basin, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–187)

S. 1941, to authorize, direct, expedite, and facilitate a land exchange in El Paso and Teller Counties, Colorado. (S. Rept. No. 114–188)

S. 1942, to require a land conveyance involving the Elkhorn Ranch and the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado. (S. Rept. No. 114–189)

S. 2046, to authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to issue an order continuing a stay of a hydroelectric license for the Mahoney Lake hydroelectric project in the State of Alaska. (S. Rept. No. 114–190)

S. 2069, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to modify provisions relating to certain land exchanges in the Mt. Hood Wilderness in the State of Oregon, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 114–191)

S. 2083, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project. (S. Rept. No. 114–192)

H.R. 373, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions. (S. Rept. No. 114–193)

H.R. 1324, to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado. (S. Rept. No. 114–194)

H.R. 1554, to require a land conveyance involving the Elkhorn Ranch and the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado. (S. Rept. No. 114–195)

H.R. 2223, to authorize, direct, expedite, and facilitate a land exchange in El Paso and Teller Counties, Colorado. (S. Rept. No. 114–196)

Pages S8724–25

Measures Passed:

Eric Williams Correctional Officer Protection Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 238, to amend title 18, United States Code, to authorize the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to issue oleoresin capicum spray to officers and employees of the Bureau of Prisons, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S8703–04**

Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act: Senate passed H.R. 3594, to extend temporarily the Federal Perkins Loan program, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S8704–08

Alexander Amendment No. 2929, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S8707–09**

Further Continuing Appropriations: Senate passed H.J. Res. 78, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2016. **Page S8723**

Securing Fairness in Regulatory Timing Act: Senate passed H.R. 3831, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the annual comment period for payment rates under Medicare Advantage. **Page S8728**

Saving Federal Dollars Through Better Use of Government Purchase and Travel Cards Act: Senate passed S. 1616, to provide for the identification and prevention of improper payments and the identification of strategic sourcing opportunities by reviewing and analyzing the use of Federal agency charge cards, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8728–29**

McConnell (for Carper) Amendment No. 2930, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S8728–29**

25th Anniversary of Democracy in Mongolia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 189, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 25th anniversary of democracy in Mongolia. **Page S8729**

Peaceful Elections in Burma: Senate agreed to S. Res. 320, congratulating the people of Burma on their commitment to peaceful elections, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S8729–30**

135th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations with Romania: Senate agreed to S. Res. 326, celebrating the 135th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and Romania. **Page S8730**

Violence Against Women and Children by ISIS: Senate agreed to S. Res. 310, condemning the ongoing sexual violence against women and children from Yezidi, Christian, Shabak, Turkmen, and other religious communities by Islamic State of Iraq and Syria militants and urging the prosecution of the perpetrators and those complicit in these crimes, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8730–32**

McConnell (for Lankford) Amendment No. 2931, to define “complicit” for purposes of the resolution. **Page S8732**

Measures Indefinitely Postponed:

Adjournment Resolution: Senate indefinitely postponed H. Con. Res. 91, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives. **Page S8728**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled

bills or joint resolutions on Wednesday, December 16, 2015. **Page S8723**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Gabriel Camarillo, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Thomas Edgar Rothman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2016.

Thomas O. Melia, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Marcel John Lettre, II, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Page S8732

Steven Michael Haro, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce. **Pages S8728, S8732**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Paul Lewis Abrams, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Suzanne Mitchell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Scott L. Palk, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Ronald G. Russell, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah. **Page S8732**

Messages from the House: **Page S8724**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S8725**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S8725–26

Additional Statements: **Pages S8723–24**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S8726–27**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S8728**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S8728**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11:01 a.m. and adjourned at 6:52 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2015. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S8732.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

STRATEGY IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Administration’s strategy

in Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Richard G. Olson, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State; Donald L. Sampler, Assistant to the Administrator and Director of the Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, United States Agency for International Development;

Ali A. Jalali, National Defense University Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, Department of Defense; and James B. Cunningham, Atlantic Council South Asia Center, and Jodi Vittori, Global Witness, both of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 4262–4279; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 78–79; and H. Res. 567, were introduced.

Pages H9373–75

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H9375–76

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 566, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; providing for proceedings during the period from December 19, 2015, through January 4, 2016; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–382).

Page H9373

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rear Admiral Margaret Grun Kibben, Chief of Chaplains for the United States Navy, Washington, DC.

Page H9331

Resignation of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives: Read a letter from Ed Cassidy, in which he submitted his resignation as Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, effective upon the election of his successor.

Page H9332

Administration of the Oath of Office to an Officer of the House: The Speaker administered the Oath of Office to William Plaster of the Commonwealth of Virginia to act as and to exercise the duties of Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, effective December 31, 2015.

Page H9332

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

Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2820, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-

and-nay vote of 421 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 695;

Pages H9333–35, H9339

National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act of 2015: H.R. 4246, to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 696;

Pages H9335–37, H9339–40

Emergency Information Improvement Act of 2015: S. 1090, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 420 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 697;

Pages H9337–38, H9340–41

Further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2016: H.J. Res. 78, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2016;

Page H9338

Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015: Concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2297, to prevent Hizballah and associated entities from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 425 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 698;

Pages H9341–46, H9356

First Responders Passport Act of 2015: H.R. 3750, amended, to waive the passport fees for first responders proceeding abroad to aid a foreign country suffering from a natural disaster, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 421 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 699;

Pages H9346–48, H9356–57

Tracking Foreign Fighters in Terrorist Safe Havens Act: H.R. 4239, amended, to require intelligence community reporting on foreign fighter flows to and from terrorist safe havens abroad, by a

$\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 423 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 700; and **Pages H9349–52, H9357–58**

Strengthening Cybersecurity Information Sharing and Coordination in Our Ports Act of 2015: H.R. 3878, amended, to enhance cybersecurity information sharing and coordination at ports in the United States. **Pages H9352–55**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:43 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Pages H9355–56**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, December 15th:

Combat Terrorist Use of Social Media Act of 2015: H.R. 3654, amended, to require a report on United States strategy to combat terrorist use of social media. **Page H9341**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, December 17. **Page H9358**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:08 p.m. and reconvened at 7:34 p.m. **Page H9372**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Global Health Innovation Act of 2015: H.R. 2241, amended, to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the development and use of global health innovations in the programs, projects, and activities of the Agency. **Pages H9348–49**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and message received from the Senate appear on pages H9346, H9372.

Senate Referrals: S. 571 was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. S. 238 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. **Page H9346**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six yeas-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9339, H9340, H9340–41, H9356, H9356–57, and H9357–58. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINING THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU'S MASS DATA COLLECTION PROGRAM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s Mass Data Collection Program”. Testimony was heard from former Speaker of the House of Representatives Newt Gingrich; and public witnesses.

THE FUTURE OF U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Future of U.S.-Pakistan Relations”. Testimony was heard from Richard Olson, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State.

EGYPT TWO YEARS AFTER MORSI, PART II

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled “Egypt Two Years After Morsi (Part II)”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD, OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS, AND OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNCIL REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), Office of Government Ethics (OGE), and Office of Special Council (OSC) Reauthorization”. Testimony was heard from Walter M. Shaub, Jr., Director, Office of Government Ethics; Carolyn N. Lerner, Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel; and Susan Tsui Grundmann, Chair, Merit Systems Protection Board.

SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on Senate amendment to H.R. 2029, the “Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016”. The committee granted, by record vote of 9–2, a rule that provides for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2029. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with two House amendments: Amendment #1 (consolidated appropriations) consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–39 modified

by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report; Amendment #2 (tax extenders) consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 114–40. The rule provides one hour of debate on House amendment #1 equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule provides one hour debate on House amendment #2 equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion and provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The rule provides that the question shall be divided between the two House amendments. No further division of the question is in order. The rule provides that either portion of the divided question may be subject to postponement as though under clause 8 of rule XX and shall be considered in the order specified by the chair. The rule provides that clause 5(b) of rule XXI shall not apply to the motion. In section 4, the rule provides that if only House amendment #2 is adopted, that amendment shall be engrossed as an amendment in the nature of a substitute to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2029. In section 5, the rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional Record at any time during the remainder of the first session of the 114th Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion. In section 6, the rule provides that on any legislative day of the first session of the 114th Congress after December 18, 2015: the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 7, the rule provides that on any legislative day of the second session of the 114th Congress before January 5, 2016: the Speaker may dispense with organizational and legislative business; the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved if applicable; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 8, the rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by sections 6 and 7. In section 9, the rule provides that each day during the period addressed by sections 6 and 7 of the resolution shall not constitute calendar days for the purposes of sec-

tion 7 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1546). In section 10, the rule provides that each day during the period addressed by sections 6 and 7 of the resolution shall not constitute a legislative day for the purposes of clause 7 of rule XIII (resolutions of inquiry). In section 11, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of December 18, 2015, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. Finally, in section 12, the rule waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported from the Rules Committee through the legislative day of December 18, 2015. Testimony was heard from Chairman Rogers of Kentucky, Chairman Brady of Texas, and Representatives Lowey, Levin, Amash, Carney, Griffith of Virginia, Tonko, Lummis, and Mulvaney.

Joint Meetings

KHADIJA ISMAYILOVA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Azerbaijan's persecution of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reporter Khadija Ismayilova, after receiving testimony from Shelly Han, Policy Advisor, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe; and Nenad Pejic, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Delphine Halgand, Reporters Without Borders, and T. Kumar, Amnesty International USA, all of Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the status of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action implementation and related issues, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Terrorist Travel: Vetting for National Security Concerns”, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, December 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will be in a period of morning business until 6 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, December 17

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2029—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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