

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7319–S7335

Measures Introduced: One bill was introduced, as follows: S. 2161. **Page S7333**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 3210, to require the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau to submit a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 115–185)

S. 1425, to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 115–186) **Page S7333**

Katsas Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Pages S7328–29

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

By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 282), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S7328–29**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 12 noon, on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, and then subsequently recess until 4 p.m. **Page S7329**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, that at 4 p.m., on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, there be 90 minutes of post-cloture debate remaining on the nomination, equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees. **Page S7335**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 97 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. EX. 281), Dabney Langhorne Friedrich, of California, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Pages S7328, S7335

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Army, Coast Guard, and Navy. **Page S7333**

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Page S7335

Messages from the House:

Page S7333

Measures Referred:

Page S7333

Measures Read the First Time:

Page S7333

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S7333–35

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements:

Pages S7332–33

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—282) **Pages S7328–29**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 4 p.m. and adjourned at 6:44 p.m., until 12 noon on Tuesday, November 28, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7335.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, November 28, 2017.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1176)

H.R. 304, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services. Signed on November 17, 2017. (Public Law 115–83)

H.R. 3031, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account. Signed on November 17, 2017. (Public Law 115–84)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, Robert Hunter Kurtz, of Virginia, and Suzanne Israel Tufts, of New York, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 9:45 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on the Budget: business meeting to consider reconciliation legislation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 71, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027, 2:30 p.m., SD–608.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kenneth E. Allen, of Kentucky, A. D. Frazier, of Georgia, Jeffrey Smith, of Tennessee, and James R. Thompson III, of Alabama, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christopher Ashley Ford, of Mary-

land, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Security and Non-Proliferation), and Yleem D. S. Poblete, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Verification and Compliance), both of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on examining proposals to simplify the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine S. 1241, to improve the prohibitions on money laundering, 10 a.m., SD–226.

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

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 3017, the “Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017”; and H.R. 3905, the “Minnesota’s Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act”, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of November 28 through
December 1, 2017

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, post-cloture. At approximately 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: November 30, to hold hearings to examine recommendations from outside experts for a future National Defense Strategy, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: November 28, business meeting to consider the nominations of Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, Robert Hunter Kurtz, of Virginia, and Suzanne Israel Tufts, of New York, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 9:45 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on the Budget: November 28, business meeting to consider reconciliation legislation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 71, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and

setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027, 2:30 p.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: November 29, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: November 28, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kenneth E. Allen, of Kentucky, A. D. Frazier, of Georgia, Jeffrey Smith, of Tennessee, and James R. Thompson III, of Alabama, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, 10 a.m., SD-406.

November 29, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Kathleen Hartnett White, of Texas, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and 19 General Services Administration resolutions, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: November 28, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christopher Ashley Ford, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Security and Non-Proliferation), and Yleem D. S. Poblete, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Verification and Compliance), both of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD-419.

November 30, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of M. Lee McClenny, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Paraguay, Carlos Trujillo, of Florida, to be Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador, and Kenneth J. Braithwaite, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, all of the Department of State, and Brock D. Bierman, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: November 28, to hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on examining proposals to simplify the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), 10 a.m., SD-430.

November 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Alex Michael Azar II, of Indiana, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

November 30, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the front lines of the opioid crisis, focusing on perspectives from states, communities, and providers, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: November 28, to hold hearings to examine S. 1241, to improve the prohibitions on money laundering, 10 a.m., SD-226.

November 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stuart Kyle Duncan, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, David Ryan Stras, of Minnesota, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Fernando Rodriguez, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the

Southern District of Texas, and Andrei Iancu, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 10 a.m., SD-226.

November 30, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Leonard Steven Grasz, of Nebraska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, James C. Ho, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Don R. Willett, of Texas, to be a Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Terry A. Doughty, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, Terry Fitzgerald Moorner, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, Mark Saalfeld Norris, Sr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Claria Horn Boom, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, John W. Broomes, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, Rebecca Grady Jennings, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, and Robert Earl Wier, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: November 29, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Caring for Our Veterans Act of 2017", 2:30 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: November 28, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

November 29, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

November 30, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, November 29, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "USDA's Role in Disaster Recovery", 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

November 29, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on the Forest Service, 10 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

November 29, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 11 a.m., 2362 Rayburn.

November 29, Financial Services and General Government, oversight hearing on the Small Business Administration and the General Services Administration, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, oversight hearing on the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Department of Transportation, Federal

Highway Administration Emergency Relief”, 3 p.m., 2358—A Rayburn.

December 1, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community Block Grant-Disaster Recovery”, 9:30 a.m., 2358—A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, December 1, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Amphibious Warfare Readiness and Training: Interoperability, Shortfalls, and the Way Ahead”, 8 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, November 29, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled “Financial Challenges Facing the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation: Implications for Pension Plans, Workers, and Retirees”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, November 29, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Powering America: Examining the Role of Financial Trading in the Electricity Markets”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

November 29, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology; and Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection, joint hearing entitled “Algorithms: How Companies’ Decisions About Data and Content Impact Consumers”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Implementing the 21st Century Cures Act: An Update from FDA and NIH”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Identity Verification in a Post-Breach World”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Latest Developments in Combating Online Sex Trafficking”, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, November 29, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled “Sustainable Housing Finance: The Role of Ginnie Mae in the Housing Finance System”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

November 29, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit; and Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance, joint hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Counter Terrorism and Illicit Finance”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Investments, hearing entitled “Implementation and Cybersecurity Protocols of the Consolidated Audit Trail”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing entitled “Evaluating the Effectiveness of U.S. Sanctions Programs”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, November 29, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “The Latest Developments in Saudi Arabia and Lebanon”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

November 29, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “A Global Update on Alzheimer’s Disease”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, November 30, Full Committee, hearing entitled “World Wide Threats: Keeping America Secure in the New Age of Terror”, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on the Judiciary, November 29, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 38, the “Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017”; legislation on the Fix NICS Act of 2017; and H.R. 2666, the “AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2017”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

November 30, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled “The Role and Impact of Nationwide Injunctions by District Courts”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, November 29, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Modernizing NEPA for the 21st Century”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

November 29, Full Committee, begin markup on H.R. 1778, to provide that an order by the Secretary of the Interior imposing a moratorium on Federal coal leasing shall not take effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted, and for other purposes; H.R. 2630, the “La Paz County Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 3117, the “Transparency and Honesty in Energy Regulations Act of 2017”; H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; H.R. 3979, the “Keep America’s Refuges Operational Act”; H.R. 4299, to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4300, the “Admiral Lloyd R. ‘Joe’ Vasey Pacific War Commemorative Display Establishment Act”, 4 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

November 30, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 1778, to provide that an order by the Secretary of the Interior imposing a moratorium on Federal coal leasing shall not take effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted, and for other purposes; H.R. 2630, the “La Paz County Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 3117, the “Transparency and Honesty in Energy Regulations Act of 2017”; H.R. 3607, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; H.R. 3979, the “Keep America’s Refuges Operational Act”; H.R. 4299, to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make the management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4300, the “Admiral Lloyd R. ‘Joe’ Vasey Pacific War Commemorative Display Establishment Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

November 30, Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 4419, the “Bureau of Reclamation and Bureau of Indian Affairs Water Project Streamlining Act”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

November 30, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on H.R. 1675, the “National Landslide Preparedness Act”; H.R. 4033, the “National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Act”; legislation to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to promote

timely exploration for geothermal resources under geothermal leases, and for other purposes; and legislation to provide for the establishment of the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, 2:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, November 29, Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs, joint hearing entitled “Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In: Part III”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

November 29, Subcommittee on Information Technology; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs, joint hearing entitled “Cybersecurity of Voting Machines”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

November 30, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2623, the “Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2017”; H.R. 4431, the “Correcting Miscalculations in Veterans’ Pensions Act”; H.R. 3638, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the “Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building”; H.R. 3655, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the “Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building”; H.R. 4042, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the “Borinqueneers Post Office Building”; H.R. 4285, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the “James C. ‘Billy’ Johnson Post Office Building”; and

H.R. 4301, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the “J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building”, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, November 29, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1699, the “Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017”; and H.R. 4182, the “Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017”, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, November 29, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “The Future of WOTUS: Examining the Role of States”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, November 29, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Emerging Uses in a Changing National Airspace”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, November 29, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Failure to Address Provider Quality and Safety Concerns”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, November 30, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Testimony of Erik Prince”, 3 p.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be open in a closed space.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: November 29, to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook with Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Tuesday, November 28

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Tuesday, November 28

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, post-cloture. At approximately 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination.

(Senate will recess from approximately 12 noon until 4 p.m.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.



Congressional Record

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