

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1945–S2003

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 674–692, and S. Res. 115–118. **Pages S1976–77**

Measures Passed:

Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 112, congratulating the Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (“THON”) on its continued success in support of the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S1999–S2000**

National 9–1–1 Education Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 118, designating April 2011 as “National 9–1–1 Education Month”. **Page S2000**

Measures Considered:

SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1962–66**

Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 183, to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating any regulation concerning, taking action relating to, or taking into consideration the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change. **Page S1962**

Vitter Amendment No. 178, to require the Federal Government to sell off unused Federal real property. **Page S1962**

Inhofe (for Johanns) Amendment No. 161, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements to payments made to corporations, payments for property and other gross proceeds, and rental property expense payments. **Page S1962**

Cornyn Amendment No. 186, to establish a bipartisan commission for the purpose of improving oversight and eliminating wasteful government spending. **Page S1962**

Paul Amendment No. 199, to cut \$200,000,000,000 in spending in fiscal year 2011. **Page S1962**

Sanders Amendment No. 207, to establish a point of order against any efforts to reduce benefits paid to Social Security recipients, raise the retirement age, or create private retirement accounts under title II of the Social Security Act. **Page S1962**

Hutchison Amendment No. 197, to delay the implementation of the health reform law in the United States until there is final resolution in pending lawsuits. **Page S1962**

Coburn Amendment No. 184, to provide a list of programs administered by every Federal department and agency. **Page S1962**

Pryor Amendment No. 229, to establish the Patriot Express Loan Program under which the Small Business Administration may make loans to members of the military community wanting to start or expand small business concerns. **Page S1962**

Landrieu Amendment No. 244 (to Amendment No. 183), to change the enactment date. **Page S1962**

Paul motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Foreign Relations with instructions to report the same back to the Senate forthwith with Paul Amendment No. 276 (to the instructions on Paul motion to commit the bill), of a perfecting nature. **Pages S1962–64**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Henry S. Ensher, of California, to be Ambassador to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Kenneth J. Fairfax, of Kentucky, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Deepa Gupta, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2016.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S2001–03**

Messages from the House: **Page S1974**

Measures Referred: **Page S1974**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1974–76**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S1976**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1977–78**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**Pages S1978–95****Additional Statements:****Pages S1971–74****Amendments Submitted:****Pages S1995–99****Notices of Hearings/Meetings:****Page S1999****Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S1999**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2001.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FARMING AND GAS PRICES

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine fundamentals and farming, focusing on evaluating high gas prices and how new rules and innovative farming can help, after receiving testimony from Richard G. Newell, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Dan M. Berkovitz, General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Stanley R. Townsend, Kansas Farm Bureau, Weskan; Jeff Broin, Poet, LLC, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Bruce E. Dale, Michigan State University, Lansing.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

REVIEW OF NUCLEAR SAFETY AND IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine nuclear safety in light of the impact of natural disasters on Japanese nuclear facilities, after receiving testimony from Gregory B. Jaczko, Chairman, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Peter Lyons, Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Energy; Ernest J. Moniz, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and David Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists, both of Cambridge, Massachusetts; and William Levis, PSEG Power LLC, Newark, New Jersey.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Air Force, after receiving testimony from Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force, and General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force, both of the Department of Defense.

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine strategic forces programs of the National Nuclear Security Administration in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Thomas P. D'Agostino, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, and Administrator, Donald L. Cook, Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, Admiral Kirkland H. Donald, USN, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors, and Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion, all of the National Nuclear Security Administration, Michael R. Anastasio, Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory, George H. Miller, Director, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Paul J. Hommert, Director, Sandia National Laboratories, all of the Department of Energy.

MOTORCOACH PASSENGER SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine ensuring the safety of our nation's motorcoach passengers, after receiving testimony from Senator Brown (OH); Deborah A.P. Hersman, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; Anne S. Ferro, Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and Ronald Medford, Deputy Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, both of the Department of Transportation; and Peter J. Pantuso, American Bus Association, and Joan Claybrook, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, both of Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the National Park Service, after receiving testimony from Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, and Bruce Sheaffer, Comptroller, both of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Oversight to examine the General Services Administration (GSA), focusing on opportunities to cut costs, improve energy performance, and eliminate waste, after receiving testimony from Martha Johnson, Administrator, General Services Administration; John Sindelar, HP Enterprise Services, Herndon, Virginia; John Bautista, Arrowhead Systems, Inc., Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Doug Gatlin, U.S. Green Building Council, and Jeffrey D. DeBoer, Real Estate Roundtable, both of Washington, D.C.; and Ward Hubbell, Green Building Initiative, Portland, Oregon.

TAX INCENTIVES

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how complexity, uncertainty and other factors impact responses to tax incentives, after receiving testimony from Raj Chetty, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Robert Carroll, Ernst & Young LLP, and Eric J. Toder, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, both of Washington, D.C.

TEN YEARS AFTER 9/11

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ten years after 9/11, focusing on a report from the 9/11 Commission Chairmen, after receiving testimony from former Representative Lee Hamilton, and former New Jersey Governor Tom Kean, both of Washington, D.C., both of the Bipartisan Policy Center's National Security Preparedness Group.

SECURING THE BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine securing the border, focusing on building on the progress made by the Department of Homeland Security and challenges in securing the U.S. Southwest and northern borders, after receiving testimony from Richard M. Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Asa Hutchinson, former Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Border and Transportation Security, Rogers, Arkansas; and Doris Meissner, former Com-

missioner, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after receiving testimony from Robert S. Mueller III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Donald B. Verrilli, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Solicitor General of the United States, Virginia A. Seitz, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, who was introduced by Senator Carper, and Denise Ellen O'Donnell, of New York, to be Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance, all of the Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations from Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Wounded Warrior Project, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Retired Enlisted Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, after receiving testimony from John R. McCauslin, Air Force Sergeants Association, Suitland, Maryland; Charles Susino, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Waco, Texas; Clayton D. Jones, Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), Springfield, Virginia; Linda S. Schwartz, The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc. (NASDVA), Rocky Hill, Connecticut; Bill Lawson, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Anthony K. Odierno, Wounded Warrior Project (WWP), both of Washington, D.C.; Arthur Cooper, The Retired Enlisted Association, Alexandria, Virginia; and John Rowan, Vietnam Veterans of America, Silver Spring, Maryland.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 27 public bills, H.R. 1249–1275; 3 private bills, H.R. 1276, H. Res. 191–192; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 51–52; and H. Res. 187–188, 190, were introduced.

Pages H2105–07

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2108–09

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 189, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 658) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, to streamline programs, create efficiencies, reduce waste, and improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–46).

Page H2105

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Hurt to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2041

Recess: The House recessed at 10:59 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Pages H2047–48

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 309 yeas to 107 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 201.

Pages H2048, H2059–60

Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act: The House passed H.R. 471, to reauthorize the DC opportunity scholarship program, by a recorded vote of 225 yeas to 195 noes, Roll No. 204.

Pages H2060–82

Rejected the Cummings motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 185 yeas to 238 noes, Roll No. 203.

Pages H2080–82

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted.

Page H2060

Rejected: Norton amendment in the nature of a substitute (printed in H. Rept. 112–45) that sought to redirect the religious and other private school voucher funding to District of Columbia public schools and District of Columbia public charter schools (by a yea-and-nay vote of 185 yeas to 237 nays, Roll No. 202).

Pages H2074–79

H. Res. 186, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of

235 yeas to 178 nays, Roll No. 200, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 199.

Pages H2050–59

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

Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011: H.R. 872, amended, to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters.

Pages H2083–91

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2082.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2058, H2058–59, H2059, H2079, H2081–82, and H2082. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Michael T. Scuse, Acting Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, Department of Agriculture.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Office of Justice Programs, FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Laurie O. Robinson, Assistant Attorney General.

DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on National Guard and Reserve Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Review. Testimony was heard from General Craig R. McKinley, Chief, National Guard Bureau; Lieutenant General Harry M. Wyatt III, Director, Air National Guard; Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve, and Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserve Command;

and Major General Raymond W. Carpenter, Acting Director, Army National Guard.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Energy—Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Fossil Energy, Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, FY 2012 Budget. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Energy officials: Henry Kelly, Acting Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Patricia Hoffman, Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability; and Victor Der, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy.

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Agencies held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Request for U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Testimony was heard from Rajiv Shah, USAID Administrator.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Bureau of Indian Affairs FY 2012 Budget Oversight. Testimony was heard from Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs; Michael S. Black, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs; and Keith Moore, Director, Bureau of Indian Education.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Energy—Environmental Management, Legacy Management, FY 2012 Budget. Testimony was heard from Ines Triay, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management; and David Geiser, Acting Director, Office of Legacy Management.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on FCC FY 2012 Budget. Testimony was heard from Julius Genachowski, Chairman, FCC.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Department of Homeland Security—Science and Technology—Budget. Testimony was heard from Tara O’Toole, Under Secretary for Science and Technology.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans’ Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2012 Quality of Life in the Military. Testimony was heard from CMSAF James A. Roy, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force; Sergeant Major Raymond F. Chandler III, Sergeant Major of the Army; Sergeant Major Carlton W. Kent, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; and Master Chief Petty Officer Rick West, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.

TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies held a hearing on Federal Highway Administrator FY 2012 Oversight and Budget. Testimony was heard from Victor Mendez, Office of the Federal Highway Administrator.

FY 2012 BUDGET: U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND, U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND, AND U.S. EUROPEAN COMMAND

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on the fiscal year 2012 national defense authorization budget requests from the U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Northern Command, and U.S. European Command. Testimony was heard from ADM James G. Stavridis, USN, Commander, U.S. European Command, NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe; Gen. Douglas M. Fraser, USAF, Commander, U.S. Southern Command; and Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN, Commander, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command.

MEMBER’S DAY

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Member’s Day.” Testimony was heard from Members of the 112th Congress.

COST OF PPACA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “True Cost of PPACA: Effects on the Budget and Jobs.” Testimony was heard from Doug Elmendorf, Director, CBO; Rick Foster, Chief Actuary, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS; and public witnesses.

COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE DODD-FRANK ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “The Costs of Implementing the Dodd-Frank Act: Budgetary and Economic.” Testimony was heard

from Jill E. Sommers, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Douglas W. Elmen-dorf, Director, CBO; Jeffrey Lacker, President, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond; and public witnesses.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Public Safety Communications: Are the Needs of Our First Responders Being Met?” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PATRIOT ACT—PERMANENT PROVISIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “The Permanent Provisions of the PATRIOT Act.” Testimony was heard from Todd Hinnen, Acting Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

AMERICA INVESTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, Competition and the Internet held a hearing on “America Invests” legislation. Testimony was heard from David Kappos, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property, Director, Patent and Trademark Office; and public witnesses.

FY 2012 BUDGET—BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing on Examining the Spending Priorities and the Missions of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE), and the President’s FY 2012 Budget Proposal. Testimony was heard from Michael R. Bromwich, Director, Bureau of Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement.

HAS DODD-FRANK ENDED TOO BIG TO FAIL?

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services, and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs held a hearing entitled “Has Dodd-Frank Ended Too Big to Fail?” Testimony was heard from Neil Barofsky, Special Treasury Department Inspector General to oversee the Troubled Assets Relief Program; and Timothy Massad, Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Stability, Department of the Treasury.

UNFUNDED MANDATES AND REGULATORY OVERREACH

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Inter-

governmental Relations and Procurement held a hearing on “Unfunded Mandates and Regulatory Overreach Part II.” Testimony was heard from Joni Cutler, State Senator, South Dakota; and public witnesses.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by a record vote of 5 to 4, a structured rule, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 658) FAA Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011. The rule provides one hour of general debate with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and 10 minutes 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 bill. The rule provides that in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of the Rules committee Print dated March 22, 2011. The amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. Finally, the rule provides on motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Mica; Rep. Rahall; Rep. Petri; Rep. Costello; Rep. LoBiondo; Rep. Hirono; Rep. Shuster; Rep. Richardson; Rep. Waters; Rep. LaTourette, Rep. Schweikert; Rep. Sherman; Rep. Matheson; and Rep. Schiff.

NASA'S EXPLORATION PROGRAM

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on A Review of NASA's Exploration Program in Transition: Issues for Congress and Industry. Testimony was heard from Douglas Cooke, Associate Administrator, Exploration systems Mission Directorate, NASA; and public witnesses.

REDUCING FEDERAL AGENCY OVERREACH

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Reducing Federal Agency Overreach: Modernizing the Regulatory Flexibility Act." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit continued a hearing entitled "Improving and Reforming the Nation's Surface Transportation Programs." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled "Improving the Nations's Response to Catastrophic Disasters: How to Minimize Costs and Streamline our Emergency Management Programs." Testimony was heard from Sherwood Boehlert, former Member of Congress; John Njord, Executive Director, Department of Transportation, Utah; and public witnesses.

JOB CREATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing on government policies and actions that are impediments to job creation. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PENDING TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH PANAMA

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on pending trade agreement with Panama. Testimony was heard from Miriam Sapiro, Deputy Representative, Office of the United States Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Library of Congress (LOC) and Open World Leadership Center, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Operation Odyssey Dawn and the situation in Libya, 2:15 p.m., SD-G50.

Committee on the Budget: Business meeting to consider the nomination of Heather A. Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: To hold hearings to examine S. 629, to improve hydropower, S. 630, to promote marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy research and development, and Title I, subtitle D of the American Clean Energy Leadership Act of 2009, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Army Corps of Engineers, 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: To hold hearings to examine Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2011, focusing on breaking down barriers, creating economic growth, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Global Narcotics Affairs, to hold hearings to examine counternarcotics and citizen security in the Americas, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the situation in Libya, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: To hold hearings to examine improving safety at dangerous mines one year after Upper Big Branch, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery, to hold hearings to examine drug gangs' ever evolving tactics to penetrate the border and the Federal government's ability to stop them, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: Business meeting to consider S. 222, to limit investor and homeowner losses in foreclosures, S. 216, to increase criminal penalties for certain knowing and international violations relating to food that

is misbranded or adulterated, S. 410, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. 627, to establish the Commission on Freedom of Information Act Processing Delays, S. 394, to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal, and the nominations of John J. McConnell, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, Goodwin Liu, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Kevin Hunter Sharp, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, Roy Bale Dalton, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Claire C. Cecchi, and Esther Salas, both to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, J. Paul Oetken, and Paul A. Engelmayer, both to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Ramona Villagomez Manglona, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Office of Advocacy, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing on Defining the Market: Entity and Product Classifications Under Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on Indian Health Service FY 2012 Budget Oversight Hearing, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on Office of Science and Technology Policy FY 2012 Budget Request, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Air Force Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Review, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Energy—Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission FY 2012 Budget, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Consumer Product Safety Commission FY 2012 Budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on European Command, 10 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on USDA FY 2012 Budget Request, 10:15 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Agencies, hearing on Fiscal Year 2012 Request for Global Health and HIV/AIDS Programs, 10:30 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Energy—Loan Guarantee Program and ARPA-E, FY 2012 Budget, 2 p.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Department of Homeland Security, NPPD Budget—Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Programs and Funding, 2 p.m., H-405 Capitol. This is a CLASSIFIED and CLOSED hearing.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing on Operation Odyssey Dawn and U.S. Military Operations in Libya, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing on FY 2012 national defense authorization budget request for missile defense, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on improving the readiness of U.S. forces through military jointness, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled "The Future of Union Transparency and Accountability," 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, markup on the following: H.R. 1217, to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund; H.R. 1216, to amend the Public Health Service Act to convert funding for graduate medical education in qualified teaching health centers from direct appropriations to an authorization of appropriations; H.R. 1215, to amend title V of the Social Security Act to convert funding for personal responsibility education programs from direct appropriations to an authorization of appropriations; H.R. 1214, to repeal mandatory funding for school-based health center construction; and H.R. 1213, to repeal mandatory funding provided to States in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to establish American Health Benefit Exchanges, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing on H.R. 908, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security to maintain the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program, 9 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "Legislative Hearing on Immediate Steps to Protect Taxpayers from the Ongoing Bailout of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing on Libya: Defining U.S. National Security Interests, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, markup on H. Res. 139, expressing condolences to the people of New Zealand for the terrible loss of life and property suffered as a result of the deadly earthquake that struck on February 22, 2011; and H. Res. 172, expressing heartfelt condolences and support for assistance to the people of Japan and all those affected in the aftermath of the deadly earthquake and tsunamis of March 11, 2011, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn. Following the markup, a hearing on Asia Overview: Protecting American Interests in China and Asia will take place.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, markup on H.R. 1016, to measure the progress of relief, recovery, reconstruction, and development efforts in Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, and for other purposes, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn. Following the markup, a hearing on Rising Oil Prices and Dependence on Hostile Regimes: The Urgent Case for Canadian Oil will take place.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, hearing entitled “The U.S. Homeland Security Role in the Mexican War Against Drug Cartels,” 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled “The 2010 Election: A Look Back At What Went Right and Wrong,” 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement, hearing entitled “H-1B Visas: Designing a Program to Meet the Needs of the U.S. Economy and U.S. Workers,” 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing on Harnessing American Resources to Create Jobs and Address Rising Gasoline Prices: Impacts on Businesses and Families, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and In-sular Affairs, hearing on “Spending for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National

Marine Fisheries Service and the President’s Fiscal Year 2012 budget request for these agencies,” 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Why isn’t the Department of Homeland Security meeting the President’s standard on FOIA?” 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing on Climate Change: Examining the Processes Used to Create Science and Policy, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on The Role of Small Business in Innovation and Job Creation: The SBIR and STTR Programs, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Oversight hearing on the VA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program budget and VRE National Counseling Contract, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 1232, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate certain tax benefits relating to abortion, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing on the Internal Revenue Service and the 2011 Tax Return Filing Season, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 31

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 31

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 658—FAA Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011 (Subject to a Rule).

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