Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 1789, 21st Century Postal Service Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2663-S2743

Measures Introduced: Twenty-four bills and four resolutions were introduced. as follows: S. Pages S2730-31 2346-2369, and S. Res. 435-438.

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled "Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2013.". (S. Rept. No. 112–160)

S. 1119, to reauthorize and improve the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–161)

S. 1952, to improve hazardous materials transportation safety and for other purposes. (S. Rept. No. 112 - 162

H.R. 298, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 East Whitestone Boulevard in Cedar Park, Texas, as the "Army Specialist Matthew Troy Morris Post Office Building".

H.R. 1423, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 4th Avenue Southwest in Ardmore, Oklahoma, as the "Specialist Micheal E. Phillips Post Office".

H.R. 2079, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Main Street in East Rockaway, New York, as the "John J. Cook Post Office".

H.R. 2213, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office".

H.R. 2244, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office".

H.R. 2660, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 North Holderrieth Boulevard in Tomball. Texas, as the "Tomball Veterans Post Office".

H.R. 2767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8 West Silver Street in Westfield, Massachusetts, as the "William T. Trant Post Office Building".

H.R. 3004, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 260 California Drive in Yountville, California, as the "Private First Class Alejandro R. Ruiz Post Office Building".

H.R. 3246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the "Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building".

H.R. 3247, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building".

H.R. 3248, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building".

S. Res. 419, expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition week.

Page S2730

Measures Passed:

21st Century Postal Service Act: By 62 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 82), Senate passed S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service, by the order of the Senate of Thursday, April 19, 2011, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: Pages S2683-97

Adopted:

Bingaman/Udall (NM) Amendment No. 2076 (to Amendment No. 2000), to require that State liaisons for States without a district office are located within their respective States. (Pursuant to the order of

D396

Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.)

Pages S2684-85

Paul Amendment No. 2027 (to Amendment No. 2000), to require the closing of post offices in the Capitol Complex. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) Page S2685

Paul Modified Amendment No. 2029 (to Amendment No. 2000), to require the Postal Service to take into consideration the impact of regulations when developing a profitability plan. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) Page S2687

Carper Amendment No. 2066 (to Amendment No. 2000), to appropriately limit the compensation of executives of the Postal Service. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.)

Landrieu Amendment No. 2072 (to Amendment No. 2000), to determine the impact of certain postal facility closures or consolidations on small businesses. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) Pages S2689–90

McCaskill Amendment No. 2030 (to Amendment No. 2000), to improve the workers compensation provisions. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) Pages S2690–91

Pryor/Begich Amendment No. 2036 (to Amendment No. 2000), to express the sense of the Senate with respect to the closing and consolidation of postal facilities and post offices. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) **Page S2691**

Rockefeller/Cardin Modified Amendment No. 2073 (to Amendment No. 2000), relative to Medicare educational program for Postal Service employees and retirees. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) Page S2691

Rockefeller Modified Amendment No. 2074 (to Amendment No. 2000), to improve the Postal Service Health Benefits Program. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.)

Pages S2691-92

Schumer Amendment No. 2050 (to Amendment No. 2000), to maintain all current door delivery point services. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) Page S2692 Lieberman (for Warner/Mikulski) Modified Amendment No. 2071 (to Amendment No. 2000), to require reporting regarding retirement processing and modernization. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.)

Pages S2683, S2692-93

Tester/Pryor Amendment No. 2032 (to Amendment No. 2000), to appropriately limit the pay of Postal Service executives. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, April 24, 2012, the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, was vitiated.) **Page S2693**

Reid (for Lieberman) Modified Amendment No. 2000, in the nature of a substitute. Pages S2683-97 Rejected:

By 43 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 77), Manchin/ Rockefeller Amendment No. 2079 (to Amendment No. 2000), to extend the moratorium on the closing and consolidation of postal facilities or post offices, stations, or branches. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, April 19, 2012, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Page S2683

By 35 yeas to 64 nays (Vote No. 78), Paul Amendment No. 2028 (to Amendment No. 2000), to establish a pilot program to test alternative methods for the delivery of postal services. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, April 19, 2012, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Pages S2685-87

By 23 yeas to 76 nays (Vote No. 79), Paul Amendment No. 2039 (to Amendment No. 2000), to prohibit employees of the United States Postal Service from engaging in collective bargaining. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, April 19, 2012, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Page S2688

By 44 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 80), Casey Amendment No. 2042 (to Amendment No. 2000), to maintain current delivery time for market-dominant products. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, April 19, 2012, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S2688-89

By 46 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 81), DeMint Amendment No. 2046 (to Amendment 2000), to provide protections for postal workers with respect to their right not to subsidize union nonrepresentational activities. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, April 19, 2012, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Page S2690

Congratulating the Boston College Men's Ice Hockey Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 437, congratulating the Boston College men's ice hockey team on winning its fifth National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men's Hockey Championship. Pages S2741-42

National Safe Digging Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 438, to support the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month. Page S2742

Measures Considered:

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act— Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 1925, to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, after agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Pages S2664–83, S2697–S2720

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 26, 2012, that the Senate be in a period of debate only until 11:30 a.m., and that after the remarks of the two Leaders, the time until 11:30 a.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first 45 minutes and the Majority controlling the second 45 minutes. **Pages S2697-98**

Costa and Guaderrama Nominations—Agree*ment:* A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 26, 2012, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Gregg Jeffrey Costa, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and David Campos Guaderrama, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas; that there be 30 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed; that no further motions be in order; and that following the votes on confirmation of the nominations, the Majority Leader be recognized. Page S2722

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Terrence G. Berg, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Jesus G. Bernal, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Shelly Deckert Dick, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana.

Lorna G. Schofield, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Charles R. Breyer, of California, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2015.

A routine list in the Army.	Pages S2742-43
Messages from the House:	Page S2725
Measures Referred:	Page S2725
Measures Placed on the Calendar:	
Pages S2725, S2742	
Executive Communications:	Pages S2725–27
Petitions and Memorials:	Pages S2727–30
Executive Reports of Committees:	Page S2730
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S2731–32
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	
	Pages S2732–37
Additional Statements:	Pages S2724–25
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S2737–41
Authorities for Committees to Meet	: Page S2741
Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today.(Total—82)Pages S2684, S2687-90, S2696	

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:33 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page \$2742.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for national and military intelligence programs, after receiving testimony from James R. Clapper, Jr., Director of National Intelligence; and Tom Ferguson, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from J. Michael Gilmore, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Bradley H. Roberts, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy, Lieutenant General Patrick J. O'Reilly, USA, Director, Missile Defense Agency, and Lieutenant General Richard P. Formica, USA, Commander, United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Army Forces Strategic Command, and Commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, all of the Department of Defense; and Cristina T. Chaplain, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Thomas R. Lamont, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Juan M. Garcia III, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Daniel B. Ginsberg, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff G-1, Vice Admiral Scott R. Van Buskirk, USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, Lieutenant General Robert E. Milstead Jr., USMC, Assistant Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Lieutenant General Darrell D. Jones, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services, all of the Department of Defense.

HOMEOWNERS REFINANCING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine helping homeowners save money through refinancing, after receiving testimony from Christopher J. Mayer, Columbia Business School, and Laurie S. Goodman, Amherst Securities Group LP, both of New York, New York; Debra W. Still, Mortgage Bankers Association, Englewood, Colorado; Anthony B. Sanders, George Mason University Mercatus Center, Washington, D.C.; and Michael Calhoun, Center for Responsible Lending, Durham, North Carolina.

TAX REFORM

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax reform, focusing on what it means for state and local tax and fiscal policy, after receiving testimony from Frank Sammartino, Assistant Director for Tax Analysis, Congressional Budget Office; Kim Rueben, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, and Joseph Henchman, Tax Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.; Walter Hellerstein, University of Georgia Law School, Athens; and Sanford Zinman, National Conference of CPA Practitioners, White Plains, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 241, to expand whistleblower protections to non-Federal employees whose disclosures involve misuse of Federal funds, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2061, to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority, with an amendment;

S. 1673, establish the Office of Agriculture Inspection within the Department of Homeland Security, which shall be headed by the Assistant Commissioner for Agriculture Inspection, and for other purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1998, to obtain an unqualified audit opinion, and improve financial accountability and management at the Department of Homeland Security, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 3902, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia;

H.R. 2668, to designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 2136 South Naco Highway in Bisbee, Arizona, as the "Brian A. Terry Border Patrol Station";

S. Res. 419, expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition week;

H.R. 298, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 East Whitestone Boulevard in Cedar Park, Texas, as the "Army Specialist Matthew Troy Morris Post Office Building";

H.R. 1423, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 4th Avenue Southwest in Ardmore, Oklahoma, as the "Specialist Micheal E. Phillips Post Office";

H.R. 2079, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Main Street in East Rockaway, New York, as the "John J. Cook Post Office";

H.R. 2213, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office";

H.R. 2244, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office";

H.R. 2660, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 North Holderrieth Boulevard in Tomball, Texas, as the "Tomball Veterans Post Office";

H.R. 2767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8 West Silver Street in Westfield, Massachusetts, as the "William T. Trant Post Office Building";

H.R. 3004, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 260 California Drive in Yountville, California, as the "Private First Class Alejandro R. Ruiz Post Office Building";

H.R. 3246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the "Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building";

H.R. 3247, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building";

H.R. 3248, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building"; and

The nominations of Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, Mark A. Robbins, of California, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Roy Wallace McLeese III, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill entitled "Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act"; and

The nominations of Deborah S. Delisle, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education, Bonnie L. Bassler, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, and Adam Gamoran, of Wisconsin, Judith D. Singer, of Massachusetts, Hirokazu Yoshikawa, of Massachusetts, and David James Chard, of Texas, all to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences.

HOMELAND SECURITY OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

SENATE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE PARITY ACT

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 219, to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form, after receiving testimony from Senator Tester; Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; and Paul S. Ryan, The Campaign Legal Center, Washington, D.C.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Veterans Affairs mental health care, focusing on evaluating access and assessing care, after receiving testimony from William Schoenhard, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations Management, Mary Schohn, Director, Office of Mental Health Operations, and Antonette Zeiss, Chief Consultant, Office of Mental Health Services, all of the Veterans Health Administration, and Linda A. Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, and John D. Daigh, Jr., Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare Inspections, both of the Office of Inspector General, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Major General T.S. Jones, USMC (Ret.), Outdoor Odyssey Youth Development and Leadership Academy, Lake Ridge, Virginia; and Nicholas Tolentino, Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:196public bills, H.R. 4621–4816 and 2 resolutions, H.Res. 632–633 were introduced.Pages H2123–26

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2134-35

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 2308, to improve the consideration by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the costs and benefits of its regulations and orders, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–453) and

H. Res. 631, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3523) to provide for the sharing of certain cyber threat intelligence and cyber threat information between the intelligence community and cybersecurity entities, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4628) to extend student loan interest rates for undergraduate Federal Direct Stafford Loans; and for other purposes. Page H2123

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Palazzo to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H2073

Recess: The House recessed at 10:51 a.m. and reconvened at 1 p.m. Page H2078

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Matthew Barnes, Capital Commission Indiana, Indianapolis, Indiana. Page H2078 Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Digital Accountability and Transparency Act: H.R. 2146, amended, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require accountability and transparency in Federal spending and for other purposes, as amended. Pages H2082-95

Small Business Credit Availability Act: H.R. 3336, amended, to ensure the exclusion of small lenders from certain regulations of the Dodd-Frank Act, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 312 yeas to 111 nays, Roll No. 180. Pages H2095–99, H2107

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012, Part II: The House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 4348, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and agreed to a conference with the Senate.

Pages H2099-H2106, H2106-07, H2108

Rejected the Rahall motion to instruct conferees on the bill by a yea-and-nay vote of 181 yeas to 242 nays, Roll No. 179. Page H2106

The Chair appointed the following conferees: From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill (except section 141) and the Senate amendment (except secs. 1801, 40102, 40201, 40202, 40204, 40205, 40305, 40307, 40309–40312, 100112–100114, and 100116), and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Mica, Young (AK), Duncan (TN), Shuster, Capito, Crawford, Herrera Beutler, Bucshon, Hanna, Southerland, Lankford, Ribble, Rahall, DeFazio, Costello, Norton, Nadler, Brown (FL), Cummings, Boswell, and Bishop (NY).

Page H2108

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of sec. 142 and titles II and V of the House bill, and secs. 1113, 1201, 1202, subtitles B, C, D, and E of title I of Division C, secs. 32701–32705, 32710, 32713, 40101, and 40301 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Upton, Whitfield, and Waxman. Page H2108

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of secs. 123, 142, 204, and titles III and VI of the House bill, and sec. 1116, subtitles C, F, and G of title I of Division A, sec. 33009, titles VI and VII of Division C, sec. 40101, subtitles A and B of title I of Division F, and sec. 100301 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Hastings (WA), Bishop (UT), and Markey. **Page H2108**

From the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for consideration of secs. 121, 123, 136, and 137 of the House bill, and sec. 1534, subtitle F of title I of Division A, secs. 20013, 20014, 20029, 31101, 31103, 31111, 31204, 31504, 32705, 33009, 34008, and Division E of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Hall, Cravaack, and Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX). Page H2108

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of secs. 141 and 142 of the House bill, and secs. 1801, 40101, 40102, 40201, 40202, 40204, 40205, 40301–40307, 40309–40314, 100112–100114, and 100116 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Camp, Tiberi, and Blumenauer.

Page H2108

Recess: The House recessed at 3:24 p.m. and reconvened at 4:45 p.m. Page H2106 Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated yesterday, April 24th:

Authorizing the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest: H.R. 1038, amended, to authorize the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest containing private improvements that were developed based upon the reliance of the landowners in an erroneous survey conducted in May 1960, by a 2/3 yeaand-nay vote of 421 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 181. Pages H2107-08

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2106, H2107, H2107–08. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Committee Meetings

2012 FARM BILL: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing entitled "Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Rural Development Programs". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE; AND REPORT ON SUBALLOCATION OF BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR 2013

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a markup of Energy and Water Appropriations Bill FY 2013; and report on the suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2013. The Energy and Water Appropriations Bill FY 2013 was ordered reported, as amended; and the report on the suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY 2013 was ordered reported reported without amendment.

REPLACING THE SEQUESTER

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Replacing the Sequester". Testimony was heard from Daniel I. Werfel, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget.

OVERSIGHT OF THE U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled "Oversight of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission". Testimony was heard from Mary L. Schapiro, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission.

SOURCES OF INSTABILITY IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "LRA, Boko Haram, al-Shabaab, AQIM and Other Sources of Instability in Africa". Testimony was heard from Donald Y. Yamamoto, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; Daniel Benjamin Ambassador-at-Large, Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Bureau of Counterterrorism, Department of State; and Amanda J. Dory, Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD THE EVOLVING SITUATION IN SYRIA, PART II

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia held a hearing entitled "Confronting Damascus: U.S. Policy Toward the Evolving Situation in Syria, Part II". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE BUDGET REVIEW 2013

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled "Western Hemisphere Budget Review 2013: What Are U.S. Priorities?" Testimony was heard from Roberta S. Jacobson, Assistant Secretary of State; Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State.

OVERSIGHT OF U.S. POLICY TOWARD BURMA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled "Oversight of U.S. Policy Toward Burma". Testimony was heard from Kurt Campbell, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; Nisha Biswal, Assistant Administrator for Asia, United States Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing on H.R. 3361, the "Utilizing DNA Technology to Solve Cold Cases Act of 2011". Testimony was heard from Dennis Kilcoyne, Detective, Robbery and Homicide Division, Los Angeles Police Department; Peter M. Marone, Director, Virginia Department of Forensic Science; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 4377, the "Responsibly and Professionally Invigorating Development Act of 2012". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of Committee Print of material to be transmitted to the Committee on the Budget pursuant to Section 201 of H. Con. Res. 112; and H.R. 365, the "National Blue Alert Act of 2011". The motion to transmit the Committee Print to the Committee on the Budget was agreed to; and H.R. 365 was ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a markup of the following measures: H.R. 460, the "Bonneville Unit Clean Hydropower Facilitation Act"; H.R. 1237, to provide for a land exchange with the Trinity Public Utilities District of Trinity County, California, involving the transfer of land to

the Bureau of Land Management and the Six Rivers National Forest in exchange for National Forest System land in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, and for other purposes; H.R. 1272, the "Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Judgment Fund Distribution Act of 2011"; H.R. 1818, the "Mt. Andrea Lawrence Des-ignation Act of 2011"; H.R. 2467, the "Bridgeport Indian Colony Land Trust, Health, and Economic Development Act of 2011"; H.R. 2489, the "American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2011"; H.R. 2621, the "Chimney Rock National Monument Establishment Act"; H.R. 3874, the "Black Hills Cemetery Act"; H.R. 4027, to clarify authority granted under the Act entitled "An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes"; H.R. 4222, to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes; S. 363, to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, and for other purposes; and S. 925, the "Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act of 2011". The following measures were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 460; H.R. 1272; measures were ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 1237; H.R. 1818; H.R. 4027; S. 363; and S. 925.

ADEQUATELY PROTECTING TAXPAYERS FROM MEDICAID FRAUD

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and National Archives; and Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending held a joint hearing entitled "Is Government Adequately Protecting Taxpayers from Medicaid Fraud?". Testimony was heard from Senator Charles E. Grassley and Representative Michele Bachmann; Gabriel Feldman, Local Medicaid Director for the Personal Care Services Program, New York County Health Services Review Organization; Cindy Mann, Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Lucinda Jesson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services; and Carolyn L. Yocom, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office.

CYBER INTELLIGENCE SHARING & PROTECTION ACT AND INTEREST RATE REDUCTION ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule for H.R. 3523, Cyber Intelligence Sharing & Protection Act. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order as original text for purpose of amendment the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112-20 and provides that it 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. 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. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The rule further provides that it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of April 27, 2012, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules, as though under clause 1 of rule XV, relating to the following measures: H.R. 2096, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2011; H.R. 3834, the Advancing America's Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2012; and H.R. 4257, the Federal Information Security Amendments Act of 2012.

The rule provides further for a closed rule for consideration of H.R. 4628, Interest Rate Reduction Act. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit.

Finally, the rule provides that the Committee on Appropriations may, at any time before 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, file privileged reports to accompany measures making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. Testimony was heard on H.R. 3523 from Chairman Mike Rogers (MI) and Representatives Barton (TX), Mulvaney, Ruppersberger, Schakowsky, Langevin, Schiff, Jackson Lee (TX), Thompson (MS), and Richardson. Testimony was heard on H.R. 4628 from Representatives Biggert and Tierney.

HOW THE REPORT ON CARCINOGENS USES SCIENCE TO MEET ITS STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight; and Subcommittee on Healthcare and Technology held a joint hearing entitled "How the Report on Carcinogens Uses Science to Meet its Statutory Obligations, and its Impact on Small Business Jobs". Testimony was heard from Linda S. Birnbaum, Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and National Toxicology Program, Department of Health and Human Services; Charles A. Maresca, Director of Interagency Affairs, Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration; and public witnesses.

AVIATION SAFETY IN THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled "A Review of Aviation Safety in the United States". Testimony was heard from Margaret Gilligan, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration; David Grizzle, Chief Operating Officer, Air Traffic Organization, Federal Aviation Administration; Jeffrey B. Guizetti, Assistant Inspector General for Aviation and Special Programs Audit, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; Gerald L. Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Division, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

MOVING FROM UNEMPLOYMENT CHECKS TO PAYCHECKS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources held a hearing entitled "Moving from Unemployment Checks to Paychecks: Implementing Recent Reforms". Testimony was heard from Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor; Darrell Gates, Deputy Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Employment Security; Larry Temple, Executive Director, Texas Workforce Commission; and public witnesses.

IMPACT OF LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF TAX-ADVANTAGED ACCOUNTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF OVER-THE-COUNTER-MEDICATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled "Impact of Limitations on the Use of Tax-Advantaged Accounts for the Purchase of Over-the-Counter Medication". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and related agencies and Energy and Water Development, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kathleen H. Hicks, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, and Derek H. Chollet, of Nebraska, to be Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, both of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Marine Corps acquisition programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, 10 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine legislative proposals in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's fiscal year 2013 budget, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider Adam E. Sieminski, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, Marcilynn A. Burke, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Anthony T. Clark, of North Dakota, and John Robert Norris, of Iowa, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine weather related electrical outages, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine tax filing season, focusing on improving the taxpayer experience, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 2224, to require the President to report to Congress on issues related to Syria, H.R. 1016, to measure the progress of relief, recovery, reconstruction, and development efforts in Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, S. Res. 401, expressing appreciation for Foreign Service and Civil Service professionals who represent the United States around the globe, an original resolution calling for democratic change in Syria, the nominations of Scott H. DeLisi, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, Michael A. Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Swaziland, all of the Department of State, and lists in the Foreign Service, 2 p.m., S–116, Capitol.

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to hold hearings to examine United States policy on Burma, 3 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine biological security, focusing on the risk of dual-use research, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine financial literacy, focusing on empowering Americans to prevent the next financial crisis, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Michael P. Shea, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Gonzalo P. Curiel, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Robert J. Shelby, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, vice Tena Campbell, 10 a.m., SD-226.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry, hearing entitled "Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Conservation Programs", 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth. Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, hearing entitled "Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Dairy Programs", 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup of Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill FY 2013, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, markup of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes, 10:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, markup of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes, 12 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, markup of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes, 1:30 p.m., 2122 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, markup of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Reviewing the President's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Proposal for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, hearing entitled "The North-South Sudan Conflict", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia, hearing entitled "NATO: The Chicago Summit and U.S. Policy", 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence; and Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure, Protection, and Security Technologies, joint hearing entitled "Iranian Cyber Threat to the U.S. Homeland", 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, hearing entitled "Ensuring the Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Transparency of Homeland Security Grants (Part II): Stakeholder Perspectives", 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, Competition and the Internet, hearing entitled "International Patent Issues: Promoting a Level Playing Field for American Industry Abroad", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution, hearing entitled "Victims' Rights Amendment", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Increased Electricity Costs for American Families and Small Businesses: The Potential Impacts of the Chu Memorandum", 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on the following measures: H.R. 4381, the "Planning for American Energy Act"; H.R. 4382, the "Providing Leasing Certainty for American Energy Act"; H.R. 4383, the "Streamlining Permitting of American Energy Act"; H.R. 4402, the "National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012"; H.R. 1192, the "Soda Ash Royalty Extension, Job Creation, and Export Enhancement Act of 2011"; and H.R. 2176, the "Clean Energy Promotion Act", 3 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, markup to amend title 5, United States Code, to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 201 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013; H.R. 2008, the "Keeping Politics Out of Federal Contracting Act of 2011"; H.R. 3609, the "Taxpayers Right to Know Act"; H.R. 4078, the "Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act"; and the "Midnight Rule Relief Act of 2012", 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing entitled "An Overview of the NASA Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate Budget for Fiscal Year 2013", 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Budget for Fiscal Year 2013", 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn. Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade, hearing entitled "Small Business Innovators: On the Cutting Edge of Energy Solutions", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled "Regulation of the Maritime Industry: Ensuring U.S. Job Growth While Improving Environmental and Worker Safety", 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing entitled "Expiring Tax Provisions", 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine gas prices in the Northeast, focusing on the potential impact on the American consumer due to loss of refining capacity, 2:15 p.m., SD-G50. Next Meeting of the SENATE 9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 1925, Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. At 11:30, Senate will begin consideration of the nominations of Gregg Jeffrey Costa, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and David Campos Guaderrama, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, and vote on confirmation of the nominations at approximately 12 p.m. Following which, the Majority Leader will be recognized.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, April 26

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of the following measure under suspension of the Rules: H.R. 4257-Federal Information Security Amendments Act of 2012. Begin consideration of H.R. 3523-Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (Subject to a Rule).

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