

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7937–S7947

Measures Introduced: Three bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2214–2216, and S. Res. 356.

Measures Reported:

- S. 875, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study and submit a report on filing requirements under the Universal Service Fund programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 115–192)
- S. 1322, to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 115–193)
- S. Res. 139, condemning the Government of Iran’s state-sponsored persecution of its Baha’i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights, with an amendment and with an amended preamble.
- S. 1118, to reauthorize the North Korea Human Rights Act of 2004, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Measures Passed:

Members of Congress Substitute Teaching: Senate agreed to S. Res. 356, expressing the sense of the Senate that Members of Congress should substitute teach at least 1 day per year in a public school to gain firsthand knowledge on how to address the prevailing challenges facing educators and how to remove obstacles to learning for students.

Star Print—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that S. Res. 351, recognizing the bicentennial of the State of Mississippi on December 10, 2017, be star printed with the changes that are at the desk.

Grasz Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Leonard Steven Grasz, of Nebraska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.

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

- By 48 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 312), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, December 12, 2017; and that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the nomination.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

- Michael D. Griffin, of Alabama, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.
- Gregory J. Slavonic, of Oklahoma, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.
- Chai Rachel Feldblum, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2023.
- Joseph H. Hunt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy.

Messages from the House:

Measures Referred:

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Executive Communications:

Petitions and Memorials:

Executive Reports of Committees:

Additional Cosponsors:

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements:

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—312)
Adjournment: Senate convened at 4 p.m. and adjourned at 7:05 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S7947.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Stephen Alexander Vaden, of Tennessee, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 4605–4615; 1 resolution, H. Res. 655, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

- H.R. 3359, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–454, Part 1);
- H.R. 1399, to reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–455);
- H.R. 1370, to ammend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–456);
- H.R. 1733, to direct the Secretary of Energy to review and update a report on the energy and environmental benefits of the re-refining of used lubricating oil (H. Rept. 115–457);
- H.R. 2880, to amend the Federal Power Act to promote closed-loop pumped storage hydropower, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–458);
- H.R. 1313, to clarify rules relating to nondiscriminatory workplace wellness programs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–459, Part 1); and
- H.R. 4171, to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the authority to conduct telework travel expenses test programs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–460).

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

Recess: The House recessed at 12:06 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Franks, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Eighth Congressional District of Arizona, effective at 12 noon on Friday, December 8, 2017.

Whole Number of the House: The Chair announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. Franks, the whole number of the House is 432.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened at 4:30 p.m.

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

- Financial Institution Customer Protection Act of 2017: H.R. 2706, amended, to provide requirements for the appropriate Federal banking agencies when requesting or ordering a depository institution to terminate a specific customer account, to provide for additional requirements related to subpoenas issued under the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 395 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 672;
- Investor Clarity and Bank Parity Act: H.R. 3093, to amend the Volcker Rule to permit certain investment advisers to share a similar name with a
private equity fund, subject to certain restrictions; and

**Combating Anti-Semitism Act of 2017**: H.R. 1730, amended, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, by a 2/3 yeo-and-nay of 402 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 673.

Pages H9773–77, H9778–79

**Recess**: The House recessed at 5:55 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

**Senate Message**: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H9761.

**Quorum Calls—Votes**: Two yeo-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9777–78 and H9778–79. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment**: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

**Committee Meetings**

No hearings were held.

**Joint Meetings**

No joint committee meetings were held.

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**NEW PUBLIC LAWS**

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1260)


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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

**Senate**

**Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation**: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine digital decision-making, focusing on the building blocks of machine learning and artificial intelligence, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine national ocean policy, focusing on stakeholder perspectives, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

**Committee on Energy and Natural Resources**: business meeting to consider the nominations of Linda Capuano, of Texas, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, and Timothy R. Petty, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Inte-


Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled “The Future of the North American Free Trade Agreement”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled “Cambodia’s Descent: Policies to Support Democracy and Human Rights”, 2 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1865, the “Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017”; and H.R. 2595, the “Strengthening the Department of Homeland Security Secure Mail Initiative Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.


Full Committee, begin markup on H.R. 200, the “Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act”; H.R. 1157, to clarify the United States interest in certain submerged lands in the area of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes; H.R. 1349, to amend the Wilderness Act to ensure that the use of bicycles, wheelchairs, strollers, and game carts is not prohibited in Wilderness Areas, and for other purposes; H.R. 1350, to modify the boundary of Voyageurs National Park in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes; H.R. 1675, the “National Landslide Preparedness Act”; H.R. 2888, the “Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Establishment Act”; H.R. 3400, the “Recreation Not Red-Tape Act”; H.R. 3588, the “RED SNAPPER Act”; H.R. 4033, the “National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 4264, the “Hyde Park Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 4266, the “Acadia National Park Boundary Clarification Act”; H.R. 4465, the “Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Extension Act of 2017”; H.R. 4475, the “National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act”; H.R. 4568, the “Enhancing Geothermal Production on Federal Lands Act”; S. 825, the “Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium Land Transfer Act of 2017”; and S. 1285, the “Oregon Tribal Economic Development Act”, 5 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1638, the “Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act”; H.R. 2396, the “Privacy Notification Technical Clarification Act”; H.R. 4015, the “Corporate Governance Reform and Transparency Act of 2017”; and H.R. 4324, the “Strengthening Oversight of Iran’s Access to Finance Act”, 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.


CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD
Week of December 12 through December 15, 2017

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Leonard Steven Grasz, of Nebraska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, post-cloture.

Following disposition of the nomination of Leonard Steven Grasz, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Don R. Willett, of Texas, to be a Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Following disposition of the nomination of Don R. Willett, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of James C. Ho, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

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 Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: December 13, to hold hearings to examine safeguarding American agriculture in a globalized world, 9:30 a.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Armed Services: December 13, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine an update on research, diagnosis, and treatment for traumatic brain injury/concussion in servicemembers, 10 a.m., SR–222.

December 13, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense global counterterrorism operations, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

December 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine United States policy and strategy in the Middle East, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: December 12, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine digital decision-making, focusing on the building blocks of machine learning and artificial intelligence, 10 a.m., SR–253.
December 12, Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine national ocean policy, focusing on stakeholder perspectives, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

December 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2202, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board, S. 2200, to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, S. 1768, to reauthorize and amend the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, the nomination of Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and a routine list in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: December 12, business meeting to consider the nominations of Linda Capuano, of Texas, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, and Timothy R. Petty, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the permitting processes at the Department of the Interior and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for energy and resource infrastructure projects and opportunities to improve the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of federal decisions for such projects, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: December 13, business meeting to consider the nomination of R. D. James, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, 9:50 a.m., SD–406.

December 13, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: December 12, Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation, to hold hearings to examine European energy security, focusing on United States interests and coercive Russian diplomacy, 10 a.m., SD–419.

December 12, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine the future of Zimbabwe, 2 p.m., SD–419.

December 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine using force, focusing on strategic, political, and legal considerations, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.


December 14, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on new counterterrorism guidance, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: December 12, to hold hearings to examine the cost of prescription drugs, focusing on an examination of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report “Making Medicines Affordable: A National Imperative”, 10 a.m., SD–430.

December 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Kenneth L. Marcus, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, and Johnny Collett, of Kentucky, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, Scott A. Mugno, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary, and William Beach, of Kansas, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, both of the Department of Labor, and other pending nominations, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

December 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act, focusing on responding to mental health needs, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: December 14, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Margaret Weichert, of Georgia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: December 12, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act, 10 a.m., SD–226.

December 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Elizabeth L. Branch, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, R. Stan Baker, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Georgia, Charles Barnes Goodwin, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Matthew J. Kacsmaryk, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Matthew Spencer Petersen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and Eli Jersey Richardson, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, 10 a.m., SD–226.

December 13, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine the consumer welfare standard in antitrust, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

December 14, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2152, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for assistance for victims of child pornography, and 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, Andrei Iancu, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property...
and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and Duane A. Kees, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Arkansas, Stephen R. McAllister, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas, Ronald A. Parsons, Jr., to be United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota, Ryan K. Patrick, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, and Michael B. Stuart, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: December 12, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

December 14, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, December 13, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Addressing Physiological Episodes in Fighter, Attack, and Training Aircraft”, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.


Committee on Financial Services, December 14, Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing entitled “Examining the Operations of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS)”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, December 14, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2219, the “End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017”; and H.R. 2646, the “United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act”, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.


Committee on the Judiciary, December 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight Hearing with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, December 13, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 200, the “Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act”; H.R. 1157, to clarify the United States interest in certain submerged lands in the area of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes; H.R. 1349, to amend the Wilderness Act to ensure that the use of bicycles, wheelchairs, strollers, and game carts is not prohibited in Wilderness Areas, and for other purposes; H.R. 1350, to modify the boundary of Voyageurs National Park in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes; H.R. 1675, the “National Landslide Preparedness Act”; H.R. 2888, the “Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Establishment Act”; H.R. 3400, the “Recreation Not Red-Tape Act”; H.R. 3588, the “RED SNAPPER Act”; H.R. 4033, the “National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 4264, the “Hyde Park Land Conveyance Act”; H.R. 4266, the “Acadia National Park Boundary Clarification Act”; H.R. 4465, the “Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Extension Act of 2017”; H.R. 4475, the “National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act”; H.R. 4568, the “Enhancing Geothermal Production on Federal Lands Act”; S. 825, the “Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium Land Transfer Act of 2017”; and S. 1285, the “Oregon Tribal Economic Development Act”, 12:30 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

December 14, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 4558, the “Grand Staircase Escalante Enhancement Act”, 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, December 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled, “Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons and Inmate Reentry”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, December 13, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled “Head Health Challenge: Preventing Head Trauma from Football Field to Shop Floor to Battlefield”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

December 13, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Advancing Solar Energy Technology: Research from Football Field to Shop Floor to Battlefield”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, December 13, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled “Pre-Discharge Claims Programs: Are VA and DOD Effectively Serving Separating Military Personnel?”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, December 13, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled “IRS Reform: The Taxpayer’s Experience”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

December 13, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Examining the Drug Supply Chain”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

December 13, Senate Committee on Finance, meeting of conferees on H.R. 1, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, 2 p.m., HC–5, Capitol.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: December 14, to hold hearings to examine assessing accomplishments and challenges of the Magnitsky Act, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, December 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Leonard Steven Grasz, of Nebraska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, post-cloture.
(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Tuesday, December 12

House Chamber


Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE
Bass, Karen, Calif., E1677
Boyle, Brendan F., Pa., E1677
Collins, Doug, Ga., E1679, E1681
Correa, J. Luis, Calif., E1679, E1680
Cuellar, Henry, Tex., E1679

DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E1678
Dent, Charles W., Pa., E1680
Donovan, Daniel M., Jr. N.Y., E1677
Esty, Elizabeth H., Conn., E1678
Granger, Kay, Tex., E1678
Green, Gene, Tex., E1677
Hudson, Richard, N.C., E1679, E1680, E1682
McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E1680
McGovern, James P., Mass., E1682
Pocan, Mark, Wisc., E1679
Wittman, Robert J., Va., E1680, E1681

Jones, Walter B., N.C., E1681
McGovern, James P., Mass., E1682
Pocan, Mark, Wisc., E1679
Wittman, Robert J., Va., E1680, E1681

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