

Friday, October 14, 2011

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate stands adjourned until 2 p.m., on Monday, October 17, 2011.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 3202–3236; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 81–82; and H. Res 438–492, 2343 introduced.

Pages H6975–77

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H6978–79

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 258, to require the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, to require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop and implement an adaptive management plan, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–245, Pt. 1);

H.R. 1904, to facilitate the efficient extraction of mineral resources in southeast Arizona by authorizing and directing an exchange of Federal and non-Federal land, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–246);

H.R. 818, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District (H. Rept. 112–247);

H.R. 2011, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an assessment of the capability of the Nation to meet our current and future demands for the minerals critical to United States manufacturing competitiveness and economic and national security in a time of expanding resource nationalism, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–248);

H.R. 2150, to amend the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an expeditious program of

competitive leasing of oil and gas in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, including at least one lease sale in the Reserve each year in the period 2011 through 2021, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–249);

H.R. 2170, streamlining Federal review to facilitate renewable energy projects, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–250);

H.R. 2171, to promote timely exploration for geothermal resources under existing geothermal leases, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–251); and

H.R. 2173, to facilitate the development of offshore wind energy resources, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–252).

Page H6975

Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act: The House passed H.R. 2273, to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to facilitate recovery and beneficial use, and provide for the proper management and disposal, of materials generated by the combustion of coal and other fossil fuels, by a recorded vote of 267 ayes to 144 noes, Roll No. 800.

Pages H6934–59

Rejected the Cicilline motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 172 yeas to 238 nays, Roll No. 799.

Pages H6956–58

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule.

Page H6943

Agreed to:

Shimkus manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–244) that provides additional detail to the certification requirements that States would provide to EPA; adds certain operating criteria from Part 258 of 40 CFR, clarifies that states may request technical assistance from EPA; adds a savings clause for citizen suits; adds additional constituents for groundwater monitoring; reiterates in the definition of revised criteria that the criteria were promulgated to protect human health and the environment. The amendment makes other technical and clarifying changes to H.R. 2273. **Pages H6945–46**

Rejected:

Waxman amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 112–244) that sought to require state programs to meet a legal standard of protection to ensure that human health and the environment are protected (by a recorded vote of 171 ayes to 236 noes, Roll No. 794); **Pages H6946–47, H6953**

Markey amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 112–244) that sought to establish a time frame for bringing existing surface impoundments into compliance with revised criteria for design, groundwater monitoring, and corrective action. Would have maintained state flexibility to opt-out (with certification) and provided up to 10-year compliance window (by a recorded vote of 173 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 795); **Pages H6947–48, H6953–54**

Markey amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–244) that sought to require the States to notify the public and the EPA and offer the opportunity to comment before a State establishes a program to regulate coal combustion waste (by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 223 noes, Roll No. 796); **Pages H6948–49, H6954**

Rush amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–244) that sought to provide Federal enforcement authority so that if the EPA Administrator determines that a structure is in violation of a State coal combustion residuals permit program, and the State has not taken appropriate action to enforce such permit program with respect to such structure, the Administrator may inspect such structure and enforce the requirements of such permit program with respect to such structure (by a recorded vote of 164 ayes to 241 noes, Roll No. 797); and **Pages H6949–51, H6955**

Jackson Lee amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–244) that sought to require the Administrator of the EPA to submit a report to Congress on the long-term impacts of State coal combustion residuals permit programs on human health and the environment within five years of enactment of the legislation (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 235 noes, Roll No. 798). **Pages H6951–52, H6955–56**

H. Res. 431, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 244 ayes to 163 noes, Roll No. 793, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 237 yeas to 166 nays, Roll No. 792. **Pages H6925–34**

Report Filing: Agreed that the Committee on the Judiciary have until 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 20, 2011 to file a report to accompany H.R. 822. **Page H6959**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, October 18th; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, October 21st; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, October 24th. **Page H6959**

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Representative Walz. **Page H6966**

Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Representative Bishop (GA). **Page H6966**

National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development Programs of the U.S. Intelligence Community—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she appointed the following individuals to the National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development Programs of the U.S. Intelligence Community: The Honorable Rush D. Holt of New Jersey and, upon the recommendation of the Speaker, Ms. Samantha Ravich of Clark, New Jersey. **Page H6966**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and seven recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6932–33, H6933–34, H6953, H6953–54, H6954, H6955, H6955–56, H6958, and H6958–59. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Committee Meetings

NUCLEAR WEAPONS MODERNIZATION IN RUSSIAN AND CHINA

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled “Nuclear Weapons Modernization in Russia and China: Understanding Impacts to the United States.” 11:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

SOLYNDRA LOAN GUARANTEE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Continuing Developments Regarding the Solyndra Loan Guarantee.” Testimony was heard from the following officials from the Department of Treasury: Gary Grippio, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fiscal Operations and Policy, Gary H. Burner, Chief Financial Officer, Federal Financing Bank.

DODD-FRANK DERIVATIVES LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Bring Certainty to the Over-the-Counter Derivatives Market.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NEXT STEPS IN IRAN AND SYRIA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on Iran and Syria: Next Steps?—Part II. Testimony was heard from the following officials from the Department of State: Wendy R. Sherman, Under Secretary for Political Affairs, and David S. Cohen, Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence.

NARCOTICS, TERRORISM AND SOUTHERN U.S. BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, held a hearing entitled “A Call to Action: Narco-Terrorism’s Threat to the Southern U.S. Border.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-CARRY RECIPROCITY ACT OF 2011

Committee on the Judiciary: Continued markup of H.R. 822 “National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act of 2011”.

COMPENSATION TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR LOST REVENUE FROM NON-TAXABLE FEDERAL LANDS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, held a hearing entitled “Payments in Lieu of Taxes.” Testimony

was heard from Pamela K. Haze, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition, Department of Interior; Lynne Corn, Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, and a public witness.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 17 through October 22, 2011

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 4 p.m., Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 2112, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

On *Monday*, at 5:15 p.m., Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Cathy Bissoon, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

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

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: October 19, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the final report of the Commission on War-time Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: October 19, Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance and Investment, to hold hearings to examine market microstructure, focusing on an examination of Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs), 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

October 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine housing finance reform, focusing on continuation of the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage, 10 a.m., SD-538.

October 20, Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance, to hold hearings to examine the Group of Twenty (G20) and global economic and financial risks, 2 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: October 18, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security, to hold hearings to examine pipeline safety since San Bruno and other recent incidents, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

October 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine concussions and the marketing of sports equipment, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: October 18, to hold hearings to examine the status of response capability and readiness for oil spills in foreign Outer Continental Shelf waters adjacent to United States waters, 10 a.m., SD-366.