

National Flood Insurance Program Extension Act: H.R. 5740, to extend the National Flood Insurance Program. **Pages H2782–87**

Notice of Intent to Offer Motion: Representative Barrow announced his intent to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348. **Page H2787**

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013: The House began consideration of H.R. 4310, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H2787–96**

H. Res. 656, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4970 and H.R. 4310), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 186 nays with 1 answering “present,” Roll No. 255, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 254. **Pages H2726–44**

A point of order was raised against the consideration of H. Res. 656 and it was agreed to proceed with consideration of the resolution by a yea-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 253. **Pages H2726–31**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:45 p.m. and reconvened at 2:28 a.m. on Thursday, May 17th. **Page H2810**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he submitted to the Congress an Executive Order he has issued with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Yemen and others—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 112–109). **Page H2782**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2731, H2743, H2743–44, H2744, H2780–81, H2781. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 2:29 a.m. on Thursday, May 17th.

Committee Meetings

FORMULATION OF THE 2012 FARM BILL: COMMODITY PROGRAMS AND CROP INSURANCE

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing entitled “Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUDGET ALLOCATIONS; AND MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a meeting to consider Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2013; Full Committee held a markup Homeland Security Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2013; and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2013. The Revised Suballocation of the Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2012 was agreed to. The Homeland Security Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2013; and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2013 were ordered reported, as amended.

EXPLORING STATE SUCCESS IN EXPANDING PARENT AND STUDENT OPTIONS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled “Exploring State Success in Expanding Parent and Student Options”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BROADBAND LOANS AND GRANTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Broadband Loans and Grants”. Testimony was heard from Larry Strickling, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information & Administration, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Commerce; Jonathan Adelstein, Administrator, Rural Utility Service (RUS), Department of Agriculture; Todd Zinser, Inspector General, Department of Commerce; and David Gray, Deputy Inspector, General, Department of Agriculture.

WHERE THE JOBS ARE: PROMOTING TOURISM TO AMERICA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Where the Jobs Are: Promoting Tourism to America”. Testimony was heard from Representative Mazie Hirono; Nicole Y. Lamb-Hale, Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing and Services, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee began a markup of H.R. 4471, the “Gasoline Regulations Act of 2012”; and H.R. 4480, the “Strategic Energy Production Act of 2012”.

THE IMPACT OF THE DODD-FRANK ACT: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SYSTEMICALLY IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions held a hearing entitled “The Impact of the Dodd-Frank Act: What It Means to be a Systemically Important Financial Institution”. Testimony was heard from Lance Auer, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions, Department of Commerce; Michael Gibson, Director, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION'S STRUCTURED TRANSACTION PROGRAM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Structured Transaction Program”. Testimony was heard from Bret D. Edwards, Director, Division of Resolutions and Receiverships, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Jon T. Rymer, Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and public witnesses.

INCREASING MARKET ACCESS FOR U.S. FINANCIAL FIRMS IN CHINA

Committee on Financial Institutions: Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade held a hearing entitled “Increasing Market Access for U.S. Financial Firms in China: Update on Progress of the Strategic and Economic Dialogue”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ASSESSING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES AND NEEDS AMIDST ECONOMIC CHALLENGES IN SOUTH ASIA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia held a hearing entitled “Assessing U.S. Foreign Policy Priorities and Needs Amidst Economic Challenges in South Asia”. Testimony was heard from Robert O. Blake, Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State; Nisha Desai Biswal, Assistant Administrator for Asia, U.S. Agency for International Development; Daniel Feldman, Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State; and Alexander Thier, Assistant to the Administrator and Director, Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development.

STATUS OF THE PROCESSING OF THE CAMP ASHRAF RESIDENTS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Status of the Processing of the Camp Ashraf Residents”. Testimony was heard from Daniel Fried, Special Advisor on Ashraf, Department of State.

ACCESS CONTROL POINT BREACHES AT OUR NATION'S AIRPORTS: ANOMALIES OR SYSTEMIC FAILURES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security held a hearing entitled “Access Control Point Breaches at Our Nation's Airports: Anomalies or Systemic Failures?”. Testimony was heard from John P. Sammon Assistant Administrator, Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement, Transportation Security Administration; Charles K. Edwards, Acting Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEAHY-SMITH AMERICA INVENTS ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Implementation of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act”. Testimony was heard from David Kappos, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property, Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of H.R. 5512, “Divisional Realignment Act of 2012”. H.R. 5512 was ordered reported, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a markup of the following measures: H.R. 1192, the “Soda Ash Royalty Extension, Job Creation, and Export Enhancement Act of 2011”; H.R. 3973, the “Native American Energy Act”; H.R. 4043, the “Military Readiness and Southern Sea Otter Conservation Act”; H.R. 4381, the “Planning for American Energy Act of 2012”; H.R. 4382, the “Providing Leasing Certainty for American Energy Act of 2012”; H.R. 4383, the “Streamlining Permitting of American Energy Act of 2012”; and H.R. 4402, the “National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012”. The following measures were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 1192, H.R. 3973, H.R. 4043, H.R. 4381, H.R. 4382, H.R. 4383, and H.R. 4402.

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S GREEN ENERGY GAMBLE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus and Government Spending held a hearing entitled “The Obama Administration’s Green Energy Gamble: What Have All the Taxpayer Subsidies Achieved?”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HATCH ACT: OPTIONS FOR REFORM

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy held a hearing entitled “Hatch Act: Options for Reform”. Testimony was heard from Carolyn Lerner, Special Counsel, U.S. Office of Special Counsel; Irvin Nathan, Attorney General, District of Columbia; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4310, the “National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2013” (amendment testimony). The Committee granted, by a record vote, a rule providing for further consideration of H.R. 4310 under a structured rule. The rule provides no additional general debate. The rule makes in order as original text for purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of Rules Committee Print 112–22 and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points 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 and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides that the amendments printed in the report 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 or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. Section 3 of the resolution provides that it shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their des-

ignees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The original proponent of an amendment included in such amendment en bloc may insert a statement in the Congressional Record. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Bartlett, Smith (WA), Franks (AZ), Langevin, Wittman, Bordallo, Coffman (CO), Speier, Garamendi, McGovern, Polis, Young (AK), Markey, Gingrey (GA), Jackson Lee (TX), Murphy (PA), Lee (CA), Gohmert, Schiff, Mulvaney, Welch, Pearce, Yarmuth, Rivera, Tonko, Chu, and Amash.

U.S. TRADE STRATEGY: WHAT'S NEXT FOR SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTERS

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “U.S. Trade Strategy: What’s Next for Small Business Exporters?”. Testimony was heard from Miriam Sapiro, Deputy United States Trade Representative, Office of the United States Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

CREATING AMERICAN JOBS AND ASSURING THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF AMERICA'S WATERWAYS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled “Creating American Jobs and Assuring the Safety and Security of America’s Waterways: A Review of the Coast Guard’s 5-year Capital Improvement Plan”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral John Currier, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, United States Coast Guard.

OPTIMIZING CARE FOR VETERANS WITH PROSTHETICS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Optimizing Care for Veterans with Prosthetics”. Testimony was heard from Linda A. Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; Lucille Beck, Acting Chief Consultant, Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING OPERATIONS AND OVERSIGHT OF TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Examining Operations and Oversight of Tax-Exempt Organizations”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

TAXATION OF LABOR AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how the taxation of labor and transfer payments affect growth and employment, after receiving testimony from Richard Rogerson, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey; Andrew G. Biggs, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Simon Johnson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, Cambridge.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Military Construction and Veteran Affairs, and Related Agencies and Department of Homeland Security, 10:30 a.m., SD-106.

Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to receive a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for European Command and Special Operations Command Programs, 2 p.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, to hold hearings to examine the United States response to tsunami generated marine debris, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine S. 2146, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to create a market-oriented standard for clean electric energy generation, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the Social Security Administration, focusing on saving taxpayer dollars and serving the public, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Edward M. Alford, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia, Mark L. Asquino, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Douglas M. Griffiths, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mozambique, and David J. Lane, of Florida, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, all of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine fulfilling the Federal trust responsibility, focusing on the foundation of the government-to-government relationship, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 2554, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control

and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2017, S. 2276, to permit Federal officers to remove cases involving crimes of violence to Federal court, S. 2076, to improve security at State and local courthouses, S. 2370, to amend title 11, United States Code, to make bankruptcy organization more efficient for small business debtors, and the nominations of David Medine, of Maryland, to be Chairman, James Xavier Dempsey, of California, Elisebeth Collins Cook, of Illinois, Rachel L. Brand, of Iowa, and Patricia M. Wald, of the District of Columbia, all to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, 10 a.m., SD-226.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing entitled "Formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill: Commodity Programs and Crop Insurance" public witness day, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup of Defense Appropriations Bill for FY 2013, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill for FY 2013, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, continue markup of H.R. 4471, the "Gasoline Regulations Act of 2012"; and H.R. 4480, the "Strategic Energy Production Act of 2012", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Examining the Settlement Practices of U.S. Financial Regulators", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled "U.S. Insurance Sector: International Competitiveness and Jobs", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Iran Sanctions: Strategy, Implementation, and Enforcement", 10 a.m., 2127 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, joint hearing entitled "The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement: Challenges and Potential", 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing entitled "Cuba's Global Network of Terrorism, Intelligence, and Warfare", 3 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, hearing entitled "Department of Homeland Security: An Examination of Ethical Standards", 9:30 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on H.R. 2168, the "Geolocational Privacy and Surveillance Act", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement, hearing on H.R. 3039, the "Welcoming Business Travelers and Tourists to America Act of 2011", 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.