

Tenement National Historic Site Amendments Act”; H.R. 2799, to establish the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council Advisory Committee to advise the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting, recreational shooting, and for other purposes; and H.R. 2954, to authorize Escambia County, Florida, to convey certain property that was formerly part of Santa Rosa Island National Monument and that was conveyed to Escambia County subject to restrictions on use and reconveyance. The following bills were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 298; H.R. 1846; and H.R. 2799. The following bills were ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 585; and H.R. 2954.

CULTURE OF MISMANAGEMENT AND WASTEFUL CONFERENCE SPENDING AT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “A Culture of Mismanagement and Wasteful Conference Spending at the Department of Veterans Affairs”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Veterans Affairs officials: Gina Farrissee, Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration; Edward Murray, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance; Richard J. Griffin, Deputy Inspector General, Office of Inspector General; and Gary K. Abe, Deputy Assistant Inspector General, Office of Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General.

PROVIDING THE TOOLS FOR SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY AND BASIC ENERGY RESEARCH: THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SCIENCE MISSION

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Providing the Tools for Scientific Discovery and Basic Energy Research: The Department of Energy Science Mission”. Testimony was heard from Patricia Dehmer, Deputy Director for Science Programs, Office of Science, Department of Energy; Horst Simon, Deputy Director, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab; John Hemminger, Chair, Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee, Office of Science, Department of Energy.

REVIEW OF FAA’S CERTIFICATION PROCESS: ENSURING AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE, AND SAFE PROCESS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “Review of FAA’s Certification Process: Ensuring an Efficient, Effective, and Safe Process”. Testimony was heard from Dorenda Baker, Director of Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration;

Gerald Dillingham, Director, Civil Aviation Issues, Government Accountability Office; Jeff Guzzetti, Assistant Inspector General for Aviation Audits, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

FOCUSED ISSUES ON DIGNIFIED BURIALS: A NATIONAL CEMETERY UPDATE

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Focused Issues on Dignified Burials: A National Cemetery Update”. Testimony was heard from Patrick K. Hallinan, Executive Director of Army National Cemeteries Program, Department of Defense; Glenn Powers, Deputy Under Secretary for Field Programs, National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

BUDGET RESOLUTION

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House adopted versions of S. Con. Res. 8, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on November 13, 2013.

FARM BILL

Conferees met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2642, to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2018, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

HUMAN RIGHTS FOR MINORITIES IN EUROPE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission received a briefing on the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, focusing on how the movement has impacted Europe and the continuing work of the United States in advancing human rights for minorities in Europe from Ivan Ivanov, European Roma Information Office, Brussels, Belgium.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Wanda

Felton, of New York, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and Katherine M. O'Regan, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine housing finance reform, focusing on a government guarantee for mortgage-backed securities, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. Res. 268, condemning the September 2013 terrorist attack at the Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya, and reaffirming United States support for the people and Government of Kenya, S. Res. 277, recognizing the religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali, and the nominations of Gregory B. Starr, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, Mark Bradley Childress, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania, Thomas Frederick Daughton, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Namibia, Matthew T. Harrington, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho, Eunice S. Reddick, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, John Hoover, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone, Michael Stephen Hoza, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon, Tomasz P. Malinowski, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Crystal Nix-Hines, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, Pamela K. Hamamoto, of Hawaii, to be Representative to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador, Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines, Robert O. Blake, Jr., of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Karen Clark Stanton, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Timothy M. Broas, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Donald Lu, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, Robert A. Sherman, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic, Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Adam M. Scheinman, of Virginia, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador, Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary for Verification and Compliance, Dwight L. Bush, Sr., of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, James Walter Brewster, Jr., of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Brian A. Nichols, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic

of Peru, and Carlos Roberto Moreno, of California, to be Ambassador to Belize, all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Syria, 10:15 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Daniel W. Yohannes, of Colorado, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador, and Anthony Luzzatto Gardner, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the European Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, both of the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine attaining a quality degree, focusing on innovations to improve student success, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine government clearances and background checks, focusing on the Navy Yard tragedy, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 42, to provide anti-retaliation protections for antitrust whistleblowers, S. 822, to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and the nominations of Robert Leon Wilkins, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Brian J. Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Timothy L. Brooks, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, James Donato, Beth Labson Freeman, and Vince Girdhari Chhabria, all to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Pedro A. Delgado Hernandez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, Carolyn B. McHugh, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Pamela L. Reeves, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, and James Maxwell Moody, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas, 10 a.m., SD-226.

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

House

No hearings are scheduled.