

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 2250, Further Continuing Appropriations Act, as amended.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S8563–S8621*

**Measures Introduced:** Seventeen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2383–2399, S.J. Res. 28, and S. Res. 333. **Page S8602**

#### Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Legislative Activities Report of the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate, One Hundred Thirteenth Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 114–178)

S. Res. 189, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 25th anniversary of democracy in Mongolia.

S. Res. 320, congratulating the people of Burma on their commitment to peaceful elections, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. Res. 326, celebrating the 135th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and Romania, and with an amended preamble. **Page S8602**

#### Measures Passed:

**Further Continuing Appropriations Act:** Senate passed H.R. 2250, further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2016, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S8581–88**

McConnell Amendment No. 2922, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2016. **Page S8586**

McConnell Amendment No. 2923, to amend the title. **Page S8586**

**Child Nicotine Poisoning Prevention Act:** Senate passed S. 142, to require special packaging for liquid nicotine containers, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S8613–14**

McConnell (for Nelson/Ayotte) Amendment No. 2924, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8614**

McConnell (for Nelson/Ayotte) Amendment No. 2925, to amend the title. **Page S8614**

**Comprehensive Justice and Mental Health Act:** Senate passed S. 993, to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8614–17**

McConnell (for Franken/Cornyn) Amendment No. 2926, to modify the authorization of appropriations. **Page S8614**

**Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments:** Senate passed S. 209, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S8617**

McConnell (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 2714, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8617**

**Church Plan Clarification Act:** Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 2308, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of church pension plans, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S8617–18**

**Phyllis E. Galanti Arboretum:** Committee on Veterans’ Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2693, to designate the arboretum at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia, as the “Phyllis E. Galanti Arboretum”, and the bill was then passed. **Page S8618**

**Foreclosure Relief and Extension for Servicemembers Act:** Senate passed S. 2393, to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction. **Pages S8618–19**

**Direct Senate Legal Counsel:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 333, to direct the Senate Legal Counsel to appear as amicus curiae in the name of the Senate in *Bank Markazi, The Central Bank of Iran v. Deborah D. Peterson, et al.* (S. Ct.). **Page S8619**

**NOMINATIONS—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 5 p.m., on Monday, December 14, 2015, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, John Conger, of Maryland, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Stephen P. Welby, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and Franklin R. Parker, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy; that there be 30 minutes for debate on the nomination of Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, 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 order listed; and that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations. **Page S8613**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Richard Capel Howorth, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2020.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration.)

Eric Drake Eberhard, of Washington, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2018.

Darryl L. DePriest, of Illinois, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration.

Cherry Ann Murray, of Kansas, to be Director of the Office of Science, Department of Energy.

**Page S8613**

119 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

8 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, and Navy. **Pages S8619–21**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S8601**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S8601**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Pages S8601–02**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S8602**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S8602–04**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S8604–10**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S8598–S8601**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S8610–11**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S8611**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:32 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8619.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### INCREASING EFFECTIVENESS OF MILITARY OPERATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine increasing effectiveness of military operations, after receiving testimony from General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF (Ret.), former Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Business Executives for National Security, McLean, Virginia; Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN (Ret.), former Commander of European Command and Southern Command, Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Medford, Massachusetts; and Christopher J. Lamb, National Defense University Institute for National Strategic Studies.

### TERRORISM AND GLOBAL OIL MARKETS OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine terrorism and global oil markets, after receiving testimony from Keith Crane, RAND Corporation, Arlington, Virginia; and Peter E. Harrell, Center for a New American Security, Sara Vakhshouri, Atlantic Council, and Jamie Webster, IHS, all of Washington, D.C.

### INDEPENDENT SOUTH SUDAN

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine independent South Sudan, focusing on a failure of leadership, after receiving testimony from Donald Booth, Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, Department of State; Bob Leavitt, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, Agency for International Development; and Princeton N. Lyman, United States Institute of Peace, Adotei Akwei, Amnesty International USA, and John Prendergast, Enough Project, all of Washington, D.C.