Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S215–S296

Measures Introduced: Five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2465–2469. **Page S254**

Measures Considered:

Energy Policy Modernization Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S217–40, S243–47**

Pending:

Murkowski Amendment No. 2953, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S225**

Murkowski (for Cassidy/Markey) Amendment No. 2954 (to Amendment No. 2953), to provide for certain increases in, and limitations on, the drawdown and sales of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. **Pages S225–40, S243–45**

Murkowski (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 2968 (to Amendment No. 2953), to clarify the definition of the term ''smart manufacturing''. **Page S245**

Murkowski Amendment No. 2963 (to Amendment No. 2953), to modify a provision relating to bulk-power system reliability impact statements. **Pages S245–46**

Murkowski (for Barrasso/Schatz) Amendment No. 3017 (to Amendment No. 2953), to expand the authority for awarding technology prizes by the Secretary of Energy to include a financial award for separation of carbon dioxide from dilute sources. **Page S246**

Murkowski (for Markey) Amendment No. 2982 (to Amendment No. 2953), to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review and submit a report on energy production in the United States and the effects of crude oil exports. **Page S246**

Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953), to enable civilian research and development of advanced nuclear energy technologies by private and public institutions, to expand theoretical and practical knowledge of nuclear physics, chemistry, and materials science. **Pages S246–47**

Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953), to modify the funding provided for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy. **Page S247**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 12 noon, on Thursday, January 28, 2016, Senate vote on or in relation to Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953) (listed above), and at 1:45 p.m., Senate vote on or in relation to Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953) (listed above); that no second-degree amendments be in order to Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953), or Murkowski (for Schatz) Amendment No. 2965 (to Amendment No. 2953), prior to the votes; and that the time until 12 noon, and following disposition of Murkowski (for Crapo) Amendment No. 3021 (to Amendment No. 2953) until 1:45 p.m., be equally divided between the two Managers, or their designees. **Page S247**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:45 a.m., on Thursday, January 28, 2016. **Page S296**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 84 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 6), John Michael Vazquez, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey. **Pages S240–43**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

1 Army nomination in the rank of general. **Page S296**

Executive Communications: **Page S253**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S254–55**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements: **Pages S250–53**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S255–96**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S296**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S296**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—6) **Page S243**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 7:26 p.m., until 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2016. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S296.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MILITARY SPACE LAUNCH

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine military space launch and the use of Russian-made rocket engines, after receiving testimony from Frank Kendall III, Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, and Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force, both of the Department of Defense.

FUTURE U.S. NUCLEAR POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the future nuclear posture of the United States, after receiving testimony from John R. Harvey, former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs; Franklin C. Miller, The Scowcroft Group; Keith B. Payne, Missouri State University Graduate Department of Defense and Strategic Studies, on behalf of the National Institute for Public Policy; and Brad Roberts, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Center for Global Security Research.

HEROIN AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine attacking America's epidemic of heroin and prescription drug abuse, including S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use, after receiving testimony from Senators Ayotte, Shaheen, and Portman; Michael P. Botticelli, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Nora D. Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, and Kana Enomoto, Acting Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Louis J. Milione, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice; Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin, Montpelier; Enoch Willard, Manchester Police Department, Manchester, New Hampshire; Tonda DaRe, Holly's Song of Hope, Carrollton, Ohio; and Linda Hurley, CODAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., Cranston, Rhode Island.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Clare E. Connors, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, who was introduced by Senators Schatz and Hirono, and Elizabeth J. Drake, of Maryland, Jennifer Choe Groves, of Virginia, and Gary Stephen Katzmann, of Massachusetts, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet in a Pro Forma session at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2016.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Lieutenant General John W. Nicholson Jr., USA, to be general and Commander, Resolute Support, and Commander, United States Forces-Afghanistan, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine helping Americans prepare for retirement, focusing on increasing access, participation and coverage in retirement savings plans, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.