Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Interim Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate confirmed the nomination of Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S31–S61

Measures Introduced: Two bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3151–3152, and S. Con. Res. 32. **Page S58**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 2714, to amend the America COMPETES Act to reauthorize the ARPA–E program. (S. Rept. No. 116–195)

Report to accompany S. 2556, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide energy cybersecurity investment incentives, to establish a grant and technical assistance program for cybersecurity investments. (S. Rept. No. 116–196)

Report to accompany S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development. (S. Rept. No. 116–197)

Report to accompany S. 2799, to require the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior to establish a joint Nexus of Energy and Water Sustainability Office. (S. Rept. No. 116–198)

Report to accompany S. 2702, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an integrated energy systems research, development, and demonstration program. (S. Rept. No. 116–199) **Page S58**

Solomson Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Matthew H. Solomson, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Pages S42–53**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Matthew H. Solomson, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, Eleni Maria Roumel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, Department of State, in the order listed; that if cloture is invoked on the nominations, all post-cloture time be expired at 5 p.m., on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed, with no intervening action or debate. **Page S53**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination of Matthew H. Solomson, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. **Page S60**

Ray Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. **Page S53**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, Department of State. **Page S53**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S53**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S53**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 88 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 2), Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. **Pages S32–42, S61**

Executive Communications: **Pages S55–88**

Petitions and Memorials: Page S58

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S58–59

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Page S59

Additional Statements: Pages S54–55

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S59

Privileges of the Floor: Pages S59–60

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—2) Pages S41–42

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:05 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S60.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported H.R. 5430, to implement the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada attached as an Annex to the Protocol Replacing the North American Free Trade Agreement.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 12 public bills, H.R. 5540–5551; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 82; and H. Res. 776–778, were introduced. Pages H11–12

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H12–13

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4329, to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–365);

H. Res. 779, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 535) to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (H. Rept. 116–366);

H.R. 4500, to direct the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to take certain actions to enhance the representation of the United States and promote United States leadership in communications standards-setting bodies, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–367, Part 1);

H. Res. 575, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that all stakeholders in the deployment of 5G communications infrastructure should carefully consider and adhere to the recommendations of ''The Prague Proposals'', with amendments (H. Rept. 116–368, Part 1); and

H.R. 2881, to require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 116–369, Part 1). Page H11

Communication from Chairman—Democratic Caucus Resignation: The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Chairman of the Democratic Caucus stating that Representative Van Drew has resigned as a Member of the Democratic Caucus. Page H3

Communication from Speaker—Committee Membership Vacated: The Speaker notified the House that Representative Van Drew's election to the Committee on Agriculture has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 5(b) of rule X effective today, January 7, 2020. Page H3

Communication from Speaker—Committee Membership Vacated: The Speaker notified the House that Representative Van Drew's election to the Committee on Natural Resources has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 5(b) of rule X effective today, January 7, 2020. Page H3

Recess: The House recessed at 2:04 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Page H3