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H.R. 5210 — PADME Act, as amended (Rep. Price, R-GA)

CONTACT: [Rebekah Armstrong](#), 202-226-0678

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5210](#) would combine several bills that would increase oversight of the termination of Medicaid providers, require states to publish a list of Medicaid providers, extend the transition period to the new payment rate for durable medical equipment, and prevent any funds from a eugenics compensation program to be counted as income for purposes of receiving any means-tested federal benefits.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available. However, according to an estimate provided by the Majority Leader's office, over fiscal years 2016-2021 this bill is expected cost \$15 million while over fiscal years 2016-2026 there is not expected to be a net fiscal impact.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Provider Eligibility

Prior to the passage of the Affordable Care Act, if a state terminated a provider's participation in the Medicaid program for fraud or other poor behavior, the provider could continue participate in Medicaid in another state. This left states excessively vulnerable to waste, fraud and abuse. Section 6501 of the ACA increased scrutiny on these providers by requiring states to terminate Medicaid providers who had been terminated in another state due to fraudulent or criminal activities. However, a 2014 [report](#) by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) found continued participation of providers in Medicaid after being terminated by a state. According to the report, Medicaid paid \$7.4 million to 94 providers for services provided after termination from the initial state. The OIG found the lack of a comprehensive data source for identifying providers as one cause for a state's inability to accurately identify terminated providers.

This bill would increase oversight by requiring states to report identifying information on terminated Medicaid providers to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). This information would include the provider's names, specialty, date of birth, reason for the termination and effective date. In addition, managed care entities would be required by the state to include a provision in their contract that providers who had previously been terminated from Medicaid, Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) would be ineligible to participate in a managed care entity's network serving Medicaid patients. Beginning on January 1, 2018, no federal funds would be used to pay for managed care expenditures if the entity does not comply with this requirement. The secretary, in consultation with state Medicaid agencies, would establish a uniform terminology regarding the reasons for provider termination. Providers who participate in a fee-for-service model or through a managed care entity, would be required to enroll with the state and provide identifying information. This bill would ensure all the requirements made under this

bill would also be applicable to CHIP. This language was previously passed unanimously by the House in H.R. 3716.

Provider Directory

Next, this bill would require states to publish a directory of Medicaid providers and indicate if the provider is accepting new patients. This language was previously passed unanimously by the House in H.R. 3716.

Durable Medical Device Reimbursement

This bill would delay from June 30, 2016 to September 30, 2016, the deadline for the implementation of phase II of CMS' competitive bidding process to non-competitively bid areas (CBAs) for durable medical devices. Phase I of the new reimbursement adjustment took place on January 1, 2016, and some [homecare providers](#) are afraid implementing Phase II only six months later would cause a disruption of beneficiaries' benefits, especially in rural areas. In addition, the bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on the impact of the payment adjustment.

Eugenics Compensation

Finally, this bill would prevent payments made under a state eugenics program to be counted as income or resources in determining eligibility for any federal benefit.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced by Representative Price and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means where it awaits further.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Consistent with the understanding and interpretation of the Commerce Clause, Congress has the authority to enact this legislation in accordance with Clause 3 of Section 8, Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

H.R. 3844 — Bureau of Land Management Foundation Act, as amended (Rep. Hice, R-GA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 3844](#) would establish a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) foundation designated as a charitable and nonprofit corporation that would not be considered an agency or establishment of the United States. The foundation's mission would be to assist the BLM in carrying out its activities in reclaiming land affected by mineral exploration and development, as well as other BLM land management objectives.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the legislation would cost \$7 million over the 2017-2021 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3844 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** The bill would create a non-government nonprofit foundation to carry out the legally mandated activities of the BLM. This foundation could be funded by transfers from other federal agencies authorized by the bill.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** The foundation created by the bill could acquire land, which could be removed from local control.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 3844 would establish a Bureau of Land Management foundation designated as a charitable and nonprofit corporation that would not be considered an agency or establishment of the United States to encourage, accept, administer, and use private gifts of money, devises, and bequests of real and personal property for the benefit of BLM's activities and services.

The authorized activities of the foundation would be supplemental to and would not preempt any authority or responsibility of the BLM under any other provision of law. The foundation would have a governing Board of Directors, consisting of no more than 9 members, each of whom would be a United States citizen, and would not serve more than 12 consecutive years on the board.

The foundation would have perpetual succession; and would be authorized to conduct business throughout the several states, territories, and possessions of the United States, and would at all times maintain a designated agent in the District of Columbia authorized to accept service of process.

The foundation would have the powers of a not-for-profit corporation in the District of Columbia, including the power to: (1) accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use any gift, devise, or bequest, either absolutely or in trust, of real or personal property or any income or other interest; (2) acquire by donation, gift, devise, purchase, or exchange, and dispose of, any real or personal property or interest; (3) sell,

donate, lease, invest, retain, or otherwise dispose of any property or income unless limited by the instrument of transfer; (4) accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use any gift, devise, or bequest, at the request of the donor; (5) borrow money and issue bonds, debentures, or other debt instruments; (6) sue and be sued, and complain and defend itself in any court of competent jurisdiction, except that the Directors of the Board would not be personally liable, except for gross negligence; (7) enter into contracts or other arrangements with public agencies, private organizations, and persons and to make payments as may be necessary; and (8) do any and all acts necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the foundation.

For fiscal years 2017 through 2019, the foundation would be authorized to accept federal funds from a federal agency under any other federal law for the purposes of assisting the foundation in establishing an office and meeting initial administrative, project, and other expenses in conformance with H.R. 3844. The Secretary of the Interior would be authorized to accept the services of the foundation, the board, and the offices, employees of the foundation as volunteers, without compensation from the Department of the Interior. The United States would not be liable for any debts, defaults, acts, or omissions of the foundation, nor would the full faith and credit of the United States extend to any obligations of the foundation.

The Attorney General would be authorized to petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for equitable relief as may be necessary or appropriate if the foundation engages in any act, practice, or policy that is inconsistent with the legislation or the bylaws of the foundation. Nothing in the bill would authorize the foundation to perform any function the authority for which is exclusively provided to the BLM under any other provision of law. Amounts available to the foundation would not be used for any activity the purpose of which is to influence legislation pending before Congress. No additional funds would be authorized to carry out the bill. The House report (H. Rept. 114-651) accompanying H.R. 3844 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3844 was introduced on October 28, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 1, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article IV, section 3, clause 2 and Article I, section 8, clause 18"

H.R. 2273 — To amend the Colorado River Storage Act to authorize the use of the active capacity of the Fontenelle Reservoir (Rep. Lummis, R-WY)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2273](#) would authorize the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to allow the use of the Fontenelle Reservoir's active capacity in Wyoming to expand water storage.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting the legislation would have an insignificant effect on the budget. Because implementing H.R. 2273 would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. CBO also estimates that enacting the bill would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 2273 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through BOR to amend the Colorado River Storage Project Act ([43 U.S.C. 620](#)) to provide for the study, design, planning, and construction activities that will enable the use of all active storage capacity of Fontenelle Dam and Reservoir. The Secretary of the Interior would be authorized to enter into any contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other agreement that is necessary to carry out the legislation.

The Secretary of the Interior would be required to enter into a cooperative agreement with the state of Wyoming to work in cooperation and collaboratively for planning, design, and construction of any modification of the Fontenelle Dam. The state of Wyoming would be directed to provide funds to the Department of the Interior for any work carried out under the legislation as a condition for providing additional water storage.

According to CBO, "under current law, the amount of water storage available to the State of Wyoming at the reservoir is the difference between full capacity and the lowest water level that allows all of the authorized purposes of the Fontenelle project to be performed. Under the bill, the BOR would coordinate with the State of Wyoming to design and construct modifications to the Fontenelle Dam and Reservoir to allow the project to operate at a lower water level, thus expanding the amount of storage available to the state." The House report (H. Rept.114-450) accompanying H.R. 2273 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2273 was introduced on May 12, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On March 14, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported, as amended, by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3."

H.R. 4582 — Save Our Salmon Act (Rep. Denham, R-CA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4582](#) would remove striped bass from the list of fish populations that the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is tasked with doubling in the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers in California.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting the legislation would not affect the federal budget because activities such as installing diversion screens near water intake or pumping structures protect many other fish species and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) would continue those activities. Because enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4582 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-years periods beginning in 2027.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 4582 would remove striped bass from [section 3403\(a\) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act](#). According to the findings of the bill, “the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) required a doubling of natural production of Central Valley populations of anadromous fish within 10 years. Striped bass are anadromous fish indigenous to the East Coast of the United States and are not native to the State of California, [...] were included in the CVPIA’s fish doubling goal even though they are not a native species, [and] prey on native salmon and steelhead.” According to the findings, “the CVPIA’s fish-doubling goal for two competing species is contradictory and counterproductive for salmon and steelhead recovery.”

The House report (H. Rept. 114-647) accompanying H.R. 4582 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4582 was introduced on February 23, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On June 28, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1 (relating to providing for the common defense and general welfare of the United States), Clause 3 (relating to regulating commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes) and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

H.R. 1838 — Clear Creek National Recreation Area and Conservation Act, as amended (Rep. Farr, D-CA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1838](#) would establish the Clear Creek National Recreation Area, a new national recreation area in central California, administered by the Department of the Interior. H.R. 1838 would designate approximately 21,000 acres of identified federal lands in California, as the Joaquin Rocks Wilderness, a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the legislation would cost \$5 million over the 2017-2021 period. Because enacting H.R. 1838 would increase offsetting receipts, which are treated as reductions in direct spending, and the associated spending of those receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any net effects on direct spending would be negligible. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues. CBO also estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 1838 would establish the Clear Creek National Recreation Area, a new national recreation area in central California, administered by the Department of the Interior, in order to promote environmentally responsible off highway vehicle recreation. The bill would designate approximately 21,000 acres of identified federal lands in Fresno and San Benito Counties, California, as the Joaquin Rocks Wilderness, a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The bill would stipulate that Congress finds that the San Benito Mountain wilderness study area has been adequately studied for wilderness designation, and would release the San Benito Mountain Wilderness Study Area from [specified requirements applicable to public lands](#) under a wilderness review. No additional funds would be authorized to carry out the requirements of the bill.

Not later than 2 years the bill's enactment, the Secretary of the Interior would be directed to create a comprehensive management plan for the Clear Creek Recreation Area. The Secretary would be authorized to acquire land adjacent to the National Recreation Area by purchase from willing sellers, donation, or exchange, would be required to provide landowners adequate access to inholdings within the Clear Creek National Recreation Area. Private land adjacent to the recreation area to which there is no practicable access except through the recreation area would be managed as an inholding.

Nothing in H.R. 1838 would: affect the ownership, management, or other rights relating to any non-federal land; create a protective perimeter or buffer zone around the recreation area; affect any easements, rights-

of-way, and other valid rights in existence; constitute or be construed to constitute either an express or implied reservation by the United States of any water or water rights with respect to the recreation area; limit hunting or fishing; affect the authority, or jurisdiction of the state to manage, control, or regulate fish and resident wildlife under state law.

The use of motorized vehicles on public land in the recreation area would be permitted only on roads, trails, and areas designated by the management plan for the use by motorized vehicles. In the recreation area, the grazing of livestock in areas in which grazing is allowed would be allowed to continue.

H.R. 1838 The House report (H. Rept. 114-585) accompanying H.R. 1838 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1838 was introduced on April 16, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On May 23, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Art. 1, Section 8 U.S. Constitution." No enumerating clause was listed.

H.R. 5244 — Saint Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial and Castaic Wilderness Act (Rep. Knight, R-CA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5244](#) would establish a memorial and monument at the Saint Francis Dam site in the County of Los Angeles, California, for the purpose of honoring the victims of the Saint Francis Dam disaster of March 12, 1928.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) estimates that implementing the legislation would cost less than \$125,000 (the estimated cost of one year's salary and benefits for a mid- to senior-level employee of the Forest Service in Los Angeles County) over the 2017-2021 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. If, in accordance with the recommendations provided to the Congress from the Forest Service any improvements were made within the monument, including constructing a visitor center, the cost of managing the monument could exceed \$125,000. However, CBO expects that any costs associated with those improvements would be incurred after 2021.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5244 would establish a memorial at the Saint Francis Dam site in the County of Los Angeles, California, for the purpose of honoring the victims of the Saint Francis Dam disaster of March 12, 1928, managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The Forest Service would be authorized to accept, hold, administer, invest, and spend any gift, devise, or bequest of real or personal property for the purposes of developing, designing, constructing, and managing the Memorial. The bill would require the Forest Service to submit recommendations to Congress regarding the planning, design, construction, and long-term management of the Memorial; its proposed boundaries; a visitor center and educational facilities at the Memorial; and ensuring public access to it.

H.R. 5244 would establish the Saint Francis Dam Disaster National Monument in California, comprised of certain National Forest System land administered by the Forest Service in Los Angeles County of approximately 440 acres. The Secretary of Agriculture would be required to develop a management plan for the monument. No additional funds would be authorized to carry out the legislation. The House report (H. Rept. 114-650) accompanying H.R. 5244 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5244 was introduced on May 16, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 1, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18, relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress."

H.R. 3079 — To take certain Federal land located in Tuolumne County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians (Rep. McClintock, R-CA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 3079](#) would take into trust approximately 80 acres of land located in Tuolumne County, California, for the benefit of the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, administered by the United States Forest Service.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting H.R. 3079 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. CBO estimates that any change in federal costs to manage lands affected by the bill (which would be subject to appropriation) would be insignificant. Under current law, CBO expects that the affected lands could generate income from grazing permits; thus, CBO estimates that taking those lands into trust could reduce offsetting receipts, which are certain collections that are treated as reductions in direct spending. Because the bill could increase direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures apply; however, based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that any such effects would be negligible. Enacting H.R. 3079 would not affect revenues. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3079 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits by more than \$5 billion in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 3079 would take into trust approximately 80 acres of land located in Tuolumne County, California, for the benefit of the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, administered by the United States Forest Service. [Class II and III gaming](#) would be prohibited of any of the land taken into trust under the legislation. The House report (H. Rept. 114-448) accompanying H.R. 3079 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3079 was introduced on July 15, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On March 10, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: “Congress has the power has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: (1) U.S. Constitution, Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (the Property Clause), which confers on Congress the authority over lands belonging to the United States, including the placement of such lands into trust for Native American Tribes. (2) U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (the Commerce Clause) and U.S. Constitution, Article II, Section 2 (the Treaty Clause), which confer on Congress plenary authority over Native American affairs.”

H.R. 4685 — Tule River Indian Reservation Land Trust, Health, and Economic Development Act (Rep. McCarthy, R-CA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4685](#) would take into trust approximately 34 acres of federal land located in Tulare County, California, for the benefit of the Tule River Indian Tribe.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that enacting H.R. 4685 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. CBO estimates that any change in federal costs to manage lands affected by the bill (which would be subject to appropriation) would be insignificant.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 4685 would take into trust approximately 34 acres of federal land located in Tulare County, California, for the benefit of the Tule River Indian Tribe, administered by the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Secretary of the Interior would be directed to consider applications to continue using the land from individuals claiming to have valid existing rights to the lands being taken into trust. The Secretary of the Interior would be required to grant or deny an application not later than 180 days after submission. Such a determination would be considered a final action. If the Secretary does not make a determination within 180 days after the application is submitted, the application would be deemed to be granted. [Class II and III gaming](#) would be prohibited of any of the land taken into trust under the legislation. The House report (H. Rept. 114-649) accompanying H.R. 4685 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4685 was introduced on March 3, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. On July 1, 2016, the bill was ordered to be reported by the committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: U.S. Constitution, Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2; U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3"

H.R. 4854 — Supporting America’s Innovators Act (Rep. McHenry, R-NC)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4854](#) would amend the [Investment Company Act of 1940](#) to provide an increase to the investor limitation from 100 to 250 persons for qualifying venture capital funds. Currently, the Act limits the number of investors for qualifying venture capital funds to 100 persons, in order to be exempt from SEC registration.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate is not yet available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

To qualify for the increase in the investor limitation, the venture capital fund would not be permitted to purchase more than \$10 million in securities of any one issuer, annually adjusted for inflation.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4855 was introduced on March 23, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was reported amended, 57-2, on June 16, 2016.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8: clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States

H.R. 4855 — Fix Crowdfunding Act (Rep. McHenry, R-NC)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4855](#) would amend Title III of the [JOBS Act](#) to provide for a greater realization of crowdfunding, by allowing “single purpose funds” to participate in the sale and offer of crowdfunding securities. It would also provide relief from registration requirements mandated under Section 12(g) of the [Securities Exchange Act of 1934](#).

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate is not yet available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Following the passage of the JOBS Act in 2012, the SEC began crafting regulations covering crowdfunding. While the agency finalized its [rules](#) in October 2015, the rules proved to be costly and overly burdensome for startups. This legislation would address several of the issues the rules created.

H.R. 4855 would raise the limits on the amount of money companies are permitted to raise, and would permit companies to test investor interest before a sale through a “testing the waters” provision, without first having to undertake the costly filing and preparation requirements. It would also modify the vetting process for businesses that want to sell shares.

Under current law, businesses can raise up to \$1 million from unaccredited investors a year. This legislation would increase the limit to \$5 million. It would also change the investment cap by permitting investors that earn less than \$100,000 to invest up to 5% of their income in crowdfunded startups. Those that earn more than \$100,000 could invest up to 10% of their income. This legislation would also require funding portals, or crowdfunding intermediaries, to perform background checks on officers and directors, and would make [clear](#) liability for fraud committed by issuers. These portals would have a 5-year grace period for compliance.

H.R. 4855 would further permit the usage of Special Purpose Vehicles, or entities whose operations consist of acquiring and financing specific assets, to pool together funds from multiple investors, to provide portfolio diversity. Special Purpose Vehicles are typically subsidiary companies with an asset structure that makes the company secure, even if its parent company enters bankruptcy.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4855 was introduced on March 23, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was reported, as amended, 57-2, on June 16, 2016.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8: clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States

H.R. 4538 — Senior Safe Act of 2016 (Rep. Sinema, D-AZ)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4538](#) would prevent certain employees of covered financial institutions that receive training on how to recognize and report the suspected exploitation of senior citizens from being held liable from disclosing the possible exploitation to the covered financial institution, so long as the disclosure was made in good faith and with reasonable care.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate is not yet available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Seniors are a particularly vulnerable target for investment fraud. An [estimated](#) one-fifth of investors over the age of 65 are exploited. This legislation will enable covered financial institutions to provide protection to America's seniors and would promote training for employees in identifying suspected exploitation.

Additionally, H.R. 4538 would provide a safe harbor for covered financial institutions from liability resulting from their employee's disclosures of suspected exploitation, so long as the institution trained its employee on how to discern the exploitation of seniors and how to report a suspected exploitation.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4538 was introduced on February 11, 2016 and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was reported amended, 59-0, on June 16, 2016.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

H.R. 4875 — United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016, as amended (Rep. Meehan, R-PA)

CONTACT: [Rebekah Armstrong](#), 202-226-0678

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4539](#) would establish the United States Semiquincentennial Commission to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States.

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office cost analysis is not currently available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

This bill would establish the United States Semiquincentennial Commission to plan and develop the commemoration of the history of the United States leading up to the 250th anniversary of the United States founding. All meetings held by the commission would take place at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The commission would be tasked with preparing an overall program for commemorating the anniversary. The commission would emphasize planning events in locations of historical significance such as the 13 colonies.

The commission would submit a report to the president that includes recommendations for the anniversary and related events. Recommended activities that the report may contain include the publication of books, films, and other educational materials, conferences located in cities of national significance, the development of libraries, and ceremonies commemorating specific events. The president would submit a report to Congress with comments on the recommendations.

The commission would be required to consult and cooperate with appropriate federal agencies, state and local governments, and historical organizations while planning and developing commemorative activities.

A time capsule containing a portion of materials related to the semiquincentennial would be buried on Independence Mall on July 4, 2026, and unearthed on the 500th anniversary on July 4, 2276.

The commission would terminate on December 31, 2027.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced by Representative Meehan and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform where it awaits further action.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 5, Clause 2 and Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18.

H.R. 4539 — 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act, as amended (Rep. Scott, D-VA)

CONTACT: [Rebekah Armstrong](#), 202-226-0678

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4539](#) would establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission to commemorate the anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies.

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office cost analysis is not currently available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

This bill would establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission to commemorate the anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies. The commission would be composed of fifteen members who would serve for the life of the commission. The commission could solicit and accept gifts for aiding or facilitating their work. Grants up to \$20,000 could be provided by the commission to nonprofit organizations to develop programs to assist the commemoration. Members of the commission would serve without compensation; however, the commission could appoint an executive director who could be compensated.

The commission would be tasked with planning, developing, and carrying out activities throughout the United States to recognize and highlight the resilience and contributions of Africa-Americans since 1619, and to acknowledge the impact that slavery and laws that enforced racial discrimination had on the United States. The commission would encourage civic, patriotic, and historical organizations to participate in anniversary activities.

No later than July 1, 2020, the commission would be required to submit a report to Congress that contains a summary of activities, a final accounting of funds, and findings of the commission.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced by Representative Scott and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform where it awaits further action.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

Senate Amendment to H.R. 3766 — Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of 2016 (Rep. Poe, R-TX)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

The [Senate amendment to H.R. 3766](#) would require the president to issue metrics and evaluation standards for monitoring foreign aid programs that provide development or economic assistance.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate from the House-passed version of H.R. 3766 can be found [here](#). No CBO estimate is available for the Senate-passed version.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

The Senate amendment to H.R. 3766 would direct the president to set forth guidelines, according to best practices of monitoring and evaluation studies and analyses, for the establishment of measurable goals, performance metrics, and monitoring and evaluation plans that can be applied with reasonable consistency to covered United States foreign assistance. The guidelines established would provide direction to federal departments and agencies that administer covered United States foreign assistance on monitoring the use of resources, evaluating the outcomes and impacts of assistance projects and programs, and applying the findings and conclusions of such evaluations to proposed project and program design. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) would be required to submit a report to Congress that analyzes the established guidelines and assesses the implementation of the guidelines by the agencies, bureaus, and offices that implement covered United States foreign assistance as outlined in the President's budget request.

The Secretary of State would be required to publish on its foreign assistance [website](#) comparable information on United States foreign development and economic assistance programs. If the head of a federal department, in consultation with the Secretary of State, makes a determination that the inclusion of a required item of information online would jeopardize the health or security of an implementing partner or program beneficiary or would require the release of proprietary information of an implementing partner or program beneficiary, the head of the federal department or agency would be required to provide such determination in writing to Congress, including the basis for such determination. If the Secretary of State makes a determination that the inclusion of a required item of information online would be detrimental to the national interests of the United States, the Secretary of State would be required to provide such determination, including the basis for such determination, in writing to Congress. The online

publication would be required to cover, at a minimum, during each fiscal year from 2016 through 2019, information from fiscal years 2015 through the current fiscal year.

The bill would express a sense of Congress that the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) should coordinate the consolidation of processes and data collection and presentation for the Department of State's website, "ForeignAssistance.gov", and the United States Agency for International Development's website, "Explorer.USAID.gov", by 2018.

The RSC's legislative bulletin for the House-passed version of H.R. 3766 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 3766 was introduced on October 20, 2015 and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. On November 5, 2015, the bill was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. On June 28, the bill passed the Senate with an amendment by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7."

S. 1252 — Global Food Security Act (Sen. Casey, D-PA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[S. 1252](#) would require the president to coordinate and implement a comprehensive global food security strategy.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing S. 1252 would cost \$7.3 billion over the 2017-2021 period (most of the remainder of the \$7.6 billion authorized by the bill would be spent after 2021). Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to S. 1252 because enacting it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

Some conservatives might be concerned about the amount authorized by the bill on food programs with limited effectiveness. However, according to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the legislation contains no additional spending in excess of current levels and seeks to improve the efficiency of food assistance programs.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

S. 1252 would largely authorize the State Department's Feed the Future initiative, which was launched in 2010 and has been funded without authorization through annual appropriations acts. The House passed a similar measure, H.R. 1567 by a vote of [370-33](#) on April 12, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for [H.R. 1567](#) of the bill can be found [here](#).

The bill would assert that it is in the national security interest of the United States to promote global food security, resilience, and nutrition, consistent with national food security investment plans. The bill would further express a sense of Congress that the president, in providing assistance to implement the global food security strategy, should coordinate the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies to implement the strategy.

The president would be required to coordinate the development and implementation of a United States whole-of-government strategy to: (1) set specific and measurable goals, benchmarks, timetables, performance metrics, and monitoring and evaluation plans that reflect international best practices relating to transparency, accountability, food and nutrition security, and agriculture-led economic growth; (2) establish clear and transparent selection criteria for target countries, communities, regions, and intended beneficiaries of assistance; (3) describe the methodology and criteria for the selection of target countries; (4) support country-owned agriculture, nutrition, and food security policy and investment plans; (5) support inclusive agricultural value chain development, with small-scale producers, especially women, gaining greater access to the inputs, skills, resource management capacity, networking, bargaining power,

financing, and market linkages needed to sustain their long-term economic prosperity; (6) support improvement of the nutritional status of women and children; (7) facilitate communication and collaboration among local stakeholders in support of a multi-sectoral approach to food and nutrition security, to include analysis of the multiple underlying causes of malnutrition, including lack of access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene; (8) support the long-term success of programs by building the capacity of local organizations and institutions in target countries and communities; (9) integrate resilience and nutrition strategies into food security programs, such that chronically vulnerable populations are better able to build safety nets, secure livelihoods, access markets, and access opportunities for longer-term economic growth; (10) develop community and producer resilience to natural disasters, emergencies, and natural occurrences that adversely impact agricultural yield; (11) harness science, technology, and innovation, including the research and extension activities supported by relevant federal departments and agencies and Feed the Future Innovation Labs, or any successor entities; (12) integrate agricultural development activities among food insecure populations living in proximity to designated national parks or wildlife areas into wildlife conservation efforts; (13) leverage resources and expertise through partnerships with the private sector, farm organizations, cooperatives, civil society, faith-based organizations, and agricultural research and academic institutions; (14) strengthen and expand collaboration between United States universities, including public, private, and land-grant universities, with higher education institutions in target countries to increase their effectiveness and relevance to promote agricultural development and innovation through the creation of human capital, innovation, and cutting edge science in the agricultural sector; (15) seek to ensure that target countries and communities respect and promote land tenure rights; (16) include criteria and methodologies for graduating target countries and communities from assistance provided to implement the Global Food Security Strategy; and (17) demonstrably support the United States national security and economic interest in the countries where assistance is being provided.

The president would be required to coordinate the efforts of relevant federal departments and agencies in the implementation of the strategy by establishing monitoring and evaluation systems, as well as linkages across relevant departments, agencies and platforms for regular consultation and collaboration with key stakeholders and Congress. By October 1, 2016, the president would additionally be required to submit the Global Food Security Strategy to Congress, which would include specific implementation plans from each relevant federal department and agency.

The president would be authorized to provide foreign assistance to implement the strategy and prevent or address food shortages under the [Foreign Assistance Act of 1961](#). The bill would authorize an appropriation to the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) of \$1,000,600,000 for fiscal year 2017 to carry out those portions of the Global Food Security Strategy that relate to the Department of State and USAID. The president would be required to ensure that assistance to implement the strategy is provided under established parameters for a rigorous system to monitor and evaluate the progress and impact of the strategy.

The bill would express a sense of Congress that the crisis in Syria, which is characterized by acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, including mass murder, forced displacement, aerial bombardment, ethnic and religious persecution, torture, kidnapping, rape and sexual enslavement, has triggered one of the most profound humanitarian crises of this century and poses a direct threat to regional security and the national security interests of the United States; and that it is in the national security interests of the United States to respond to the needs of displaced Syrian persons and the communities hosting such persons, including with food assistance.

S. 1252 would express that it shall be the policy of the United States, in coordination with other donors, regional governments, international organizations, and international financial institutions, to fully leverage, enhance, and expand the impact and reach of available United States humanitarian resources, including for food assistance, to mitigate the effects of manmade and natural disasters by utilizing innovative new

approaches to delivering aid that support affected persons and the communities hosting them, build resilience and early recovery, and reduce opportunities for waste, fraud, and abuse.

S. 1252 would amend the [Foreign Assistance Act of 1961](#) by authorizing the President to make available emergency food assistance, including in the form of funds, transfers, vouchers, and agricultural commodities (including products derived from agricultural commodities) acquired through local or regional procurement, to meet emergency food needs arising from manmade and natural disasters. The bill would authorize \$2,794,184,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018 for international disaster assistance, of which up to \$1,257,382,000 would be made available to carry out the provision on food assistance. The bill would clarify that disaster assistance funds would be intended to provide the President with the greatest possible flexibility to address disaster-related needs as they arise and to prepare for and reduce the impact of natural and manmade disasters. The bill would additionally express a sense of Congress that any amendments to applicable legal provisions contained in S. 1252 would not be intended to limit such authorities.

S. 1252 would require the President to submit reports to Congress on the amounts of assistance provided, intended beneficiaries, monitoring and evaluation strategies, anticipated outcomes, and, as practicable, actual outcomes. Additionally, the bill would require the President to submit reports to Congress on: the status of the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy for 2017 and 2018; and an interagency budget crosscut report that displays the budget proposed, including any planned interagency or intra-agency transfer, for each of the principal Federal agencies that carries out global food security activities in the upcoming fiscal year.

The RSC's legislative bulletin for the House-passed version ([H.R. 1567](#)) of the bill can be found [here](#).

OUTSIDE GROUPS IN SUPPORT:

- [Association of Public and Land-grant Universities](#)
- [Bread for the World](#)
- [CARE USA](#)
- [Catholic Relief Services](#)
- [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#)
- [Lutheran World Relief](#)
- [Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#)
- A full list of groups in support can be found [here](#).
- A list of private sector companies and organizations in support can be found [here](#).

OUTSIDE GROUP IN OPPOSITION:

- [Freedom Works](#)

COMMITTEE ACTION:

S. 1252 was introduced on May 7, 2015 and was referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. On April 20, 2016, the bill passed the Senate amended with an amendment by voice vote. The bill was then referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, which ordered it reported by unanimous consent on May 18, 2016.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Bills that originate in the Senate do not require a constitutional authority statement.

S. 2845 — Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Extension Act of 2016 (Sen. Rubio, R-FL)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 5, 2016 under a suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[S. 2845](#) would extend sanctions against the government of Venezuela until fiscal year 2019. Under current law, sanctions against Venezuela under the [Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014](#) are set to expire on December 31, 2016.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the sanctions required under the bill would cost the departments \$1 million each year through calendar year 2019 and total \$3 million over the 2017-2021 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Pay-as-you-go procedures apply to this legislation because enacting it would affect direct spending and revenues; however, CBO estimates that those effects would be negligible. CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

S. 2845 would extend sanctions under section 5(e) of the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014 until December 31, 2019. The RSC's legislative bulletin on S. 2142, Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014, passed in the 113th Congress, can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

S. 2845 was introduced on April 25, 2016 and was referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. On April 28, 2016, the bill passed the Senate amended by unanimous consent. The bill was then referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Bills that originate in the Senate do not require a constitutional authority statement.

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*