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H.R. 5729 – Transportation Worker Identification Credential Accountability Act of 2018 (Rep. Katko, R-NY)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered July 10, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5729](#) would prohibit the U.S. Coast Guard from implementing the rule entitled “Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)–Reader Requirements” ([81 Fed. Reg. 57651](#)), which would require the use of biometric Transportation Worker Identification Credential card readers at high risk maritime facilities by August 23, 2018.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 5729 would not significantly affect the federal budget.

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?** The bill would prohibit the Coast Guard from implementing a regulation.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5729 would prohibit the U.S. Coast Guard from implementing the rule entitled “Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)–Reader Requirements” ([81 Fed. Reg. 57651](#)). The bill would also prohibit the U.S. Coast Guard from proposing or issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking for a revision to the rule, except to extend the effective date, or for any other rule that requires the use of biometric readers for biometric transportation security cards before the security assessment required by [Public Law 114–278](#) is submitted and 60 days have passed.

According to the committee [report](#), this rule requires the use of biometric Transportation Worker Identification Credential card readers at high risk maritime facilities by August 23, 2018. The bill would prohibit this rule from being implemented until a security effectiveness study of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program has been completed. Congress required the Department of Homeland Security conduct a study of the program after two separate GAO reports indicated the program lacks reliability and recommended assessments of the program’s security benefits. While DHS was required to complete this study in February of 2017, it has not yet been submitted to Congress.

The report accompanying H.R. 5729 (H. Rept. 115-790) can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5729 was introduced on May 9, 2018, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The bill was marked up on June 6, 2018, and reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

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 1; and Article I, section 8, clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States."

H.R. 6139 – Improving Investment Research for Small and Emerging Issuers Act (Rep. Huizenga, R- MI)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 vote for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6139](#) would direct the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to conduct a study on the issues pertaining to the provision of and reliance on investment research by small issuers.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) 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:

H.R. 6139 would direct the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to conduct a study on the issues pertaining to the provision of and reliance on investment research by small issuers.

This legislation would require the SEC to look at the impact of a variety of factors including SEC rules, registered national security association rules, state and federal liability issues, the [2003 Global Research Analyst Settlements](#) and the [European Union's Markets in Financial Instruments Directive](#).

This legislation would also require the SEC to submit a report to Congress.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 6139 was introduced on June 19, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was ordered reported on June 21, 2018, by a vote of 58-0.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States); and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).”

H.R. 1861 – The Larry Doby Congressional Gold Medal Act (Rep. Renacci, R-OH)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 vote for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1861](#) would award the Congressional Gold Medal for Lawrence Eugene “Larry” Doby, recognizing his achievements in U.S. major league sports, civil rights, and service in the Armed Forces in World War II.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not yet available. The Committee estimates that sales of duplicate medals would cover the cost of producing the Congressional Gold Medal.

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:

H.R. 1861 would award the Congressional Gold Medal for Lawrence Eugene “Larry” Doby, recognizing his achievements in U.S. major league sports, civil rights, and service in the Armed Forces in World War II.

Larry Doby was the first African American man to play American League baseball. He is a National Baseball Hall of Fame Inductee and a civil rights pioneer. Doby served in the U.S. Navy during WWII.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1861 was introduced on April 3, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.

H.R. 5749 – Options Markets Stability Act (Rep. Hultgren, R-IL)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5749](#) would require the Federal Reserve Board, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to issue rules to provide for the adoption of a methodology for calculating the credit risk exposure, at default, of financial institutions, using risk-based and leverage-based capital rules within 180 days. Final rules would be required to be adopted within 360 days.

COST:

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

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibits 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?** The bill would require regulations to be issued.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** The bill would require regulations to be issued.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5749 would require the Federal Reserve Board, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to issue rules to provide for the adoption of a methodology for calculating the credit risk exposure, at default, of financial institutions using risk-based and leverage-based capital rules within 180 days. Final rules would be required to be adopted within 360 days.

This legislation would further require the Federal Reserve Board, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to consider certain factors when issuing the rules, including: “the availability of liquidity provided by market makers during times of high volatility in the capital markets; the spread between the bid and the quote offered by market makers; the preference for clearing through central counterparties; the safety and soundness of the financial system and financial stability, including the benefits of central clearing; the safety and soundness of individual institutions that may centrally clear exchange-listed derivatives or options on behalf of a

client, including concentration of market share; the economic value of delta weighting a counterparty's position and netting of a counterparty's position; the inherent risk of the positions; barriers to entry for depository institutions, depository institution holding companies, affiliates thereof, and entities not affiliated with a depository institution or depository institution holding company to centrally clear exchange-listed derivatives or options on behalf of market makers; the impact any changes may have on the broader capital regime and aggregate capital in the system; and consideration of other potential factors that impact market making in the exchange-listed options market, including changes in market structure."

This legislation would require the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve to submit a report to Congress on the impact of the final rule, 5 years following its issuance.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5749 was introduced on May 10, 2018 and was referred to the House Committee on the Financial services, where it was ordered reported by a vote of 54-0 on June 14, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

"Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

H.R. 5877 – Main Street Growth Act (Rep. Emmer, R-MN)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5877](#) would provide for the creation and registration of venture exchanges.

COST:

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

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibits 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?** The bill would establish a process for registering as a venture exchange, provide for the approval and denial of venture exchanges, and the filing of notice by the SEC.
- **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. 5877 would provide for the creation and registration of venture exchanges. Venture exchanges would provide an environment for trading the stocks of smaller companies that do not necessarily qualify for larger securities exchanges. It would establish a process for registering as a venture exchange, provide for the approval and denial of venture exchanges, and the filing of notice by the SEC. This legislation would prohibit venture exchanges from extending [Unlisted Trading Privileges](#) to venture securities, which would prevent venture securities from trading on other exchanges. A venture exchange would only be permitted to sell venture securities unless the venture exchange is a listing tier on another securities exchange. This legislation would also require the SEC to issue regulations to ensure that investors are provided disclosures to understand the characteristics and risks of venture securities. The bill would further exempt venture exchanges from [decimalization](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5877 was introduced on May 18, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on the Financial services, where it was ordered reported by a vote of 56-0 on June 7, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3 and 18.”

H.R. 5953 – Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams (BUILD) Act (Rep. Loudermilk, R-GA)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 vote for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5953](#) would amend the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) and the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) to permit tax exempt non-profit organizations that make zero percent interest mortgage loans, like Habitat for Humanity, to choose whether they use the Truth in Lending, Good Faith Estimate (GFE) and HUD-1 forms, in place of TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure (TRID form) created under Dodd-Frank.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) 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:

H.R. 5953 would amend the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) and the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) to permit tax exempt non-profit organizations that make zero percent interest mortgage loans, to choose whether they use the Good Faith Estimate (GFE) and HUD-1 forms, coupled with a disclosure similar to the Loan Model Form H-2, in place of [TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure \(TRID form\) created under Dodd-Frank](#).

Dodd Frank required the CFPB to [create](#) a mortgage disclosure form, known as the TRID form. The TRID rule is over 1,800 pages long and is exceedingly complex, creating a heavy burden of compliance for non-profit organizations. Presently, organizations that make five or fewer mortgage loans are permitted to use the Truth in Lending, GFE, and HUD-1 forms, which were all used effectively prior to Dodd-Frank. This legislation would permit non-profits that issue any number of zero interest mortgage loans to use the same forms in lieu of the TRID form.

This legislation would also require the Director of the CFPB to issue regulations to implement this legislation.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5953 was introduced on May 24, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was ordered reported, by a vote of 53-0 on June 14, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

H.R. 5970 – Modernizing Disclosures for Investors Act (Rep. Wagner, R-MO)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 vote for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5970](#) would require the Securities and Exchange Commission to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the usage of SEC Form 10-Q by emerging growth companies, for compiling quarterly financial reports.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) 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:

H.R. 5970 would require the Securities and Exchange Commission to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the usage of SEC Form 10-Q by emerging growth companies, for compiling quarterly financial reports.

[Federal securities law](#) provides for publicly traded companies to disclose certain information in a variety of formats. The SEC provides forms for the disclosure of information, including, Form 10-Q, which provides for quarterly reports and includes unaudited financial statements.

This legislation would require a report to Congress within 180 days following enactment.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5970 was introduced on May 24, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was ordered reported, by a vote of 56-0 on June 21, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 - The Congress shall have power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

H.R. 4537 – International Insurance Standards Act of 2018 (Rep. Duffy, R-WI)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 majority for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 4537](#) would require U.S. representatives involved in any international negotiations to preserve and maintain the current state-based system of insurance regulation and would provide transparency for the process of international insurance standards setting.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimate](#) indicates that “any budgetary effects of enacting H.R. 4537 would depend, in part, on how often the United States negotiates international insurance agreements and how frequently the negotiators must consult and coordinate with state insurance commissioners. CBO has no basis for predicting that frequency but expects that the cost of such consultations would be less than \$500,000 per year.”

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No. This legislation would preserve the state-based system of insurance regulation.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

The insurance industry has long been regulated by a state-based system providing the U.S. with a strong regulatory structure that is open and competitive. The U.S. is [currently](#) negotiating global insurance standards on the international stage.

This legislation would ensure that state insurance regulators are a part of the team negotiating any international insurance agreements. It would require the preservation of the state-based system of insurance regulation by prohibiting any representative of the U.S. government negotiating international insurance standards from voting in favor of any agreement that is inconsistent with the current system of insurance regulation in the U.S. It would require negotiators to coordinate closely with state insurance commissioners.

Negotiators would be required to provide notice to Congress in advance of initiating negotiations and on any potential agreement. It would further require the Secretary of the Treasury to consult with the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance before entering into an international insurance agreement.

It would require the parties representing the U.S. to submit a report to Congress describing the implementation of an agreement and how it compares to state and federal law, the impact on U.S. insurers, and the impact on U.S. consumers.

This legislation would confer negotiating authority to the Secretary of the Treasury instead of the Director of the Federal Insurance Office. Covered agreements would not be permitted to include new prudential requirements for insurers.

The bill would further provide Congress a submission and layover period and would provide for a fast-track disapproval process for covered agreements. It would also require federal negotiators to consult with state insurance commissioners, or their designated parties, and to include them in negotiations.

A committee report can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 4537 was introduced on December 4, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on the Financial services, where it was ordered reported by a vote of 56-4 on December 13, 2017.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, section 8, clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States); and Article I, section 8, clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).”

H.R. 5793 – Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Act (Rep. Duffy, R-WI)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under a suspension of the rules which requires 2/3 vote for final passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5793](#) would allow the Department of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a mobility demonstration program to help public housing agencies (PHAs) that administer section 8 housing choice vouchers, do so in a manner that enables recipients to move to lower poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not yet available. A preliminary estimate indicates the legislation would cost \$50 million over the 2019-2023 period, assuming appropriations.

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?** Yes – this legislation establishes a new demonstration program administered by HUD.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** Some conservatives may believe that housing issues are more appropriately handled by state or local governments, or by the private sector.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5793 would allow the Department of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a mobility demonstration program to help entities that administer section 8 housing choice vouchers, do so in a manner that enables recipients to move to lower poverty areas, and expand access to opportunity areas.

HUD would be required to establish criteria for selecting PHAs that could participate in the program. Chosen agencies would be required to submit regional housing mobility plans, identifying any community organizations that will participate in the plan, identify participating agencies and the number of vouchers available, outline any waivers, and include criteria for selection, steps toward outlined goals, and allow for the establishment of priority preferences for participating families.

Funding for mobility-related services would come from section 8 administrative fees and housing assistance funds.

This legislation would permit HUD to waive or indicate alternative requirements for certain provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

HUD would be required to submit a report to Congress within five years evaluating the demonstration, subject to funding for the evaluation.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5793 was introduced on May 15, 2018 and was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, where it was ordered reported, by a vote of 53-0 on May 22, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause I (relating to the general welfare of the United States); and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).”

H.R. 5626 — Intercountry Adoption Information Act of 2018 (Rep. Collins, R-GA)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5626](#) would require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2018-2023 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

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. 5626 would amend the [Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000](#) by requiring the Secretary of State to report to Congress on intercountry adoptions to include a list of countries that established and carried out a policy or law that reduced the number of such adoptions; or prevented or prohibited such adoptions, with respect to adoptions involving immigration to the United States; as well as information on efforts taken with respect to a country to encourage the resumption of halted or stalled adoption proceedings involving immigration to the United States. The Secretary of State would avoid disclosing any personally identifiable information relating to United States citizens or the adoptees of such citizens, to the maximum extent practicable.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5626 was introduced on April 26, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The bill was ordered to be reported in the nature of a substitute (amended) by voice vote on [May 17, 2018](#).

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: This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 4 and 18 of the United States Constitution."

H.R. 2259 — Sam Farr and Nick Castle Peace Corps Enhancement Act of 2018, as amended (Rep. Poe, R-TX)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2259](#) would codify several Peace Corps authorities related to volunteer medical care, impact surveys, certain Peace Corps employee positions, Peace Corps Inspector General volunteer access, and crime risk reduction.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2019-2023 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting H.R. 2259 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2259 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** The bill would codify several current practices of the Peace Corps.
- **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. 2259 would amend the Peace Corps' volunteer medical care program by authorizing volunteers to receive, preparatory to their service, certain immunizations, dental care, and information on prescription options and potential interactions. The bill would direct the Director of the Peace Corps to consult with health experts outside the Peace Corps, including experts licensed in the field of mental health, and follow guidance by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the prescription of medications to a volunteer.

The President would be directed to ensure that each overseas post has the services of a medical office that is consistent in size and scope with the needs of the Peace Corps, including by detailing the licensed medical staff of other United States departments, agencies, or establishments. The bill would impose certain hiring criteria and training in selecting medical officers and support staff for overseas Peace Corps posts.

The Director of the Peace Corps would be directed to consult with experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding recommendations for prescribing malaria prophylaxis, in order to

provide the best standard of care within the context of the Peace Corps environment. The Director of the Peace Corps would be mandated to implement the Inspector General of the Peace Corps' recommendations and report to Congress.

The Secretary of State would be authorized to allow the Director of the Peace Corps to furnish medical benefits to a volunteer, who is injured during the volunteer's period of service, for a period of 120 days following service termination, if the Director certifies that the volunteer's injury probably meets specified requirements. The Secretary may then certify vouchers for these expenses for such volunteer out of the Employees' Compensation Fund.

The bill would direct the Director to conduct a survey of former Peace Corps volunteers to assess the impact of the Peace Corps on the former volunteer, including the volunteer's well-being; career; civic engagement; and commitment to public service. The Director of the Peace Corps may designate Peace Corps positions as critical management or management support positions that require specialized technical or professional skills and knowledge of Peace Corps operations.

The President would be directed to provide all volunteers with information regarding the mandate of the Inspector General and the availability (including contact information) of the Inspector General and the Office of Victim Advocacy as a resource for volunteers.

The Director of the Peace Corps may not open, close, significantly reduce, or suspend a domestic or overseas office or country program unless the Director has notified and consulted with Congress at least 15 days in advance.

Not later than ten days after receiving notification of the death of a volunteer, the President would be required to provide a briefing to the Inspector General of the Peace Corps that includes the available facts and circumstances surrounding the death of the volunteer; and an explanation of why the Peace Corps has determined that no further inquiry into the cause or root cause of the death of the volunteer is necessary.

If a volunteer dies, the Peace Corps would be mandated to take reasonable measures, in accordance with local laws, to preserve any information or material, in any medium or format, that may be relevant to determining the cause or root cause of the death of the volunteer, including personal effects, medication, and other tangible items belonging to the volunteer, as long as such measures do not interfere with the legal procedures of the host country if the government of the host country is exercising jurisdiction over the investigation of the death. The Inspector General of the Peace Corps would be provided an opportunity to inspect the items before their final disposition.

The Inspector General of the Peace Corps may independently review the facts and circumstances surrounding the death of a volunteer. In doing so, the bill would authorize an officer or employee of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces to be detailed to the Inspector General of the Peace Corps from another department of the United States Government on a non-reimbursable basis, as jointly agreed to by the Inspector General and the detailing department, for a period not to exceed one year. Upon request, the Peace Corps may make available necessary funds to the Inspector General of the Peace Corps for reviews conducted by the Inspector General.

Each applicant for enrollment as a volunteer would be provided, with respect to each country in which the applicant may be invited to serve, with specific, aggregated, and easily accessible information regarding crimes against and risks to volunteers, including: an overview of past crimes against volunteers, including statistics regarding unreported crime collected through anonymous

surveys; the current early termination rate of volunteers serving in such country; health risks prevalent in such country; the nature and frequency of sexual harassment reported by volunteers serving in the country; the extent and types of services provided by the Peace Corps to volunteers serving in such country, including access to medical care, counseling services, and assistance from the Office of Victim Advocacy; and the level of satisfaction reported by volunteers serving in such country.

The Director of the Peace Corps would be directed to include the head of the Office of Victim Advocacy in agency-wide policymaking processes in the same manner and to the same extent as the directors or associate directors of other offices within the Peace Corps. The bill would reform and extend the Peace Corps' Sexual Assault Advisory Council to include at least one member be licensed in the field of mental health and have prior experience working as a counselor or therapist providing mental health care to survivors of sexual assault in a victim services agency or organization. The council may conduct case reviews and would be authorized to have access, including through interviews, to current and former volunteers, and surveys, as well as other data. The council would be extended to 2023.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2259 was introduced on May 1 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The bill was ordered to be reported in the nature of a substitute (amended) by voice vote on [May 17, 2018](#).

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18."

H. Res. 644 — Strongly condemning the slave auctions of migrants and refugees in Libya, and for other purposes, as amended (Rep. Bass, D-CA)

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

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H. Res. 644](#) would strongly condemn the [slave auctions of migrants and refugees in Libya](#).

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is required for resolutions.

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. Res. 644 would state that the House of Representatives:

- strongly condemns slave auctions and the exploitation of migrants and refugees as forced laborers in Libya; calls upon all parties to the conflict in Libya, including parties to the Libyan Political Agreement, to investigate and eradicate slave auctions and forced labor involving migrants and refugees;
- calls upon parties in Libya to hold those identified in the investigation accountable in courts of law;
- calls upon parties in Libya to manage migration flows and migrant detention centers in a humane manner; and investigate how funds earned through the transfer, sale, and exploitation of migrants are used and the extent to which such profits are fueling and prolonging Libya's civil conflict;
- calls upon the United Nations to investigate allegations of the slave trade and other forced labor in Libya; advocate that all parties to the conflict in Libya, including parties to the Libyan Political Agreement, allow the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to regularly monitor and publicly report on the situation of all refugees and migrants in Libya, including those in detention centers; and expand sanctions under [United Nations Security Council Resolution 2174](#) (2014) against individuals and entities responsible for slave auctions and forced labor of migrants and refugees in Libya;
- calls upon the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to ensure that any strategies, programs, or other efforts

to address the political and security situation in Libya appropriately address the vulnerabilities faced by migrants and refugees;

- and urges the Secretary of State to ensure that the country narrative for Libya in the annual Trafficking in Persons Report fully and accurately reflects the scope of trafficking in persons in that country, including any complicity by parties to the Libyan Political Agreement or other governmental entities.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H. Res. 644 was introduced on December 4, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The Committee ordered the resolution reported by unanimous consent on March 15, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority is available.

H.R.1700 — SCORE for Small Business Act of 2018 (Rep. Adams, D-NC)

CONTACT: [Jay Fields](#), 202-226-9143

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on May 8, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1700](#), the SCORE for Small Business Act of 2018, would reauthorize the SCORE Program, require the development of strategic plans to better assist small businesses, require use of online platforms for outreach and education, and require studies and reports on the various SCORE Program activities.

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibits 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 VIEWS:

Some conservatives may be concerned that the bill could violate the prohibition on “such sums” authorizations contained in the [Majority Leader’s Floor Protocols](#) which specifies that “Authorizations shall not utilize terms such as “such sums as may be necessary” or similar language that fails to specify the actual amount of funding being authorized.” The bill does provide that the authorization may not exceed \$10.5 million annually.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** Yes, the bill would reauthorize a program at a level higher than previously authorized -- \$7 million versus \$10.5 million annually. Some conservatives may believe that providing assistance to small businesses is not a federal responsibility, and should be left to the private sector.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** Some conservatives may believe that the development of individual small businesses is not a proper federal concern, and is more local in nature.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** The bill provides that “The Administrator shall provide a grant to the SCORE Association to manage the SCORE program”, for which the bill authorizes to be appropriated “such sums as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that does not exceed \$10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2019 and 2020.” Under the [House Rules](#), “the term “congressional earmark” means a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, or Senator providing, authorizing or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan

guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, locality or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula driven or competitive award process.”

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

The bill would reauthorize the [Service Corps of Retired Executives \(SCORE\) program](#) for 2019 and 2020. This program supports volunteer business counselors. The bill would authorize appropriations of such sums as are necessary for the Administrator of the SBA to make grants and cooperative agreements up to \$10.5 million annually under the SCORE program. The bill would shorten the name of the program to the SCORE program. The bill directs the Administrator to award grant funds to the [SCORE Association](#), a non-profit association, to run the SCORE program.

The bill dictates the responsibilities of volunteers under the program, including to provide free business counseling and to facilitate low-cost education workshops for people that want to own or grow a small business.

The bill would require the Administrator to make sure that the SCORE program, and each chapter of the program, develop and implement plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently provide services to individuals in rural areas, economically disadvantaged communities, and other traditionally underserved communities, including plans for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chapter expansion, partnerships, and the development of new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE program.

The bill would require annual productivity reports from the SCORE Association and institute privacy requirements pertaining to disclosing information about businesses that were given assistance under the SCORE program.

The bill requires that the SCORE Association use the internet for counseling and providing advice online, including through electronic mentoring and webinars. The bill would require a report on these activities as well as on the future role of the SCORE Program. Last, the bill would require the SCORE Association to create a plan for how the program can better help small businesses in the next five years.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1700 was introduced on March 23, 2017, and was referred to the House Small Business Committee.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution of the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

H.R. 2655 — Small Business Innovation Protection Act of 2017 (Rep. Evans, D-PA)

CONTACT: [Jay Fields](#), 202-226-9143

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 10, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2655](#), the Small Business Innovation Protection Act of 2017, would require the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) to produce training for small businesses on intellectual property protections.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the costs to implement H.R. 2655 would not be significant.

CONSERVATIVE VIEWS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** Yes, the bill would create new duties -- namely, the creation and execution of an IP protection training program -- for the SBA, USPTO, and Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) (which receive federal funding).
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** Some conservatives may believe that development of small businesses is a function that more appropriately rests with local and state government, or by market forces.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

The bill would require the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) to work together to create high-quality training for small businesses providing information on domestic and international protections of intellectual property and leverage existing training materials already developed to educate inventors and small business concerns. The training can be provided by both agencies or through [Small Business Development Centers \(SBDCs\)](#) either online or through in-person sessions. According to CBO, "The SBA funds a portion of the operations of Small Business Development Centers, which provide counseling, training, and technical assistance to small businesses."

The bill would also require that SBDCs provide as a service training related to international and domestic IP protections and how such protections should be considered in the business plans and growth strategies of the small business concerns.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2655 was introduced on May 25, 2017, and was referred to the House Small Business Committee and the Committee on the Judiciary. The Small Business Committee held a mark-up session on March 14, 2018, and the bill was ordered to be reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, clause 8.”

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