

FLOOR SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

HOUSE MEETS AT:	FIRST VOTE PREDICTED:	LAST VOTE PREDICTED:
10:00 a.m.: Morning Hour 12:00 p.m.: Legislative Business Fifteen "One Minutes"	1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

H.Res. 71 – Rule providing for consideration of both **H.J.Res. 41** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to "Disclosure of Payments by Resource Extraction Issuers" (Rep. Huizenga – Financial Services) and **H.J.Res. 40** – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Social Security Administration relating to Implementation of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Rep. Sam Johnson – Judiciary) (One hour of debate). The Rules committee has recommended one Rule which provides for consideration of 2 measures.

For H.J.Res. 41, the Rules Committee has recommended a closed Rule that provides for one hour of general debate equally divided between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Financial Services. The Rule allows one motion to recommit and waives all points of order against the resolution.

For H.J.Res. 40, the Rules Committee has recommended a closed Rule that provides for one hour of general debate equally divided between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Judiciary. The Rule allows one motion to recommit and waives all points of order against the resolution.

Members are urged to VOTE NO.

Complete Consideration of H.J.Res. 38 – Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of the Interior known as the Stream Protection Rule (Rep. Johnson (OH) – Natural Resources) (One hour of debate). The resolution disapproves of the Stream Protection Rule published in the Federal Register at the end of 2016. The rule prohibits mountaintop removal mining if streams or rivers would be permanently destroyed, requires companies to restore land to its pre-existing state, improves construction standards for waste piles, and requires additional water monitoring both inside and outside the permit area, all in an effort to better protect the environment and people living near coal mining sites.

The Stream Protection Rule was created in response to the impact of mountaintop removal mining, not only on the environment but on the health of local communities. Populations near mountain top removal mining sites suffer elevated levels of lung cancer, heart disease, kidney disease, hypertension, and birth defects. In regards to the environment, over 2,000 miles of streams in Appalachia alone have been destroyed by mountaintop removal practices that allowed for waste to be dumped into nearby valleys. When streams are destroyed or buried in valleys all across the U.S., fish and other wildlife are buried and water heading downstream can carry toxic chemicals that can enter drinking water supplies.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement estimates that this rule will protect or restore roughly 6,000 miles of streams and 52,000 acres of forests over two decades, create approximately 156 new full-time jobs, and improve the health and safety of people in nearby communities. This rule was carefully and transparently crafted over seven years in conjunction with industry professionals and the public through 30 meetings, which resulted in 114,000 comments. Now Republicans want to undo the rule in one brief, partisan debate. House Republicans are bringing this Joint Resolution to the Floor under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) in order to bypass the sixty vote threshold in the Senate and block any substantially similar future regulation. Despite repeated promises of governing through regular order, this Joint Resolution is just another example of the empty promises made by the Republican Majority.

The Rule, which was adopted yesterday, provides for one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Committee on Natural Resources.

Bill Text for H.J.Res. 38:
[PDF Version](#)

H.J.Res. 41 – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to "Disclosure of Payments by Resource Extraction Issuers" (Rep. Huizenga – Financial Services) (One hour of debate). The resolution disapproves of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulation to implement section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act, which requires companies registered in the United States that extract oil, natural gas, or minerals and make payments to governments equal or greater than \$100,000 per project annually to provide detailed reporting of such payments.

The purpose of this requirement is to provide greater transparency to the shareholders of companies covered by the rule, allowing them to make better-informed assessments of the business practices, opportunity costs, and long-term prospects of the companies in which they invest; just as important, the rule also enables citizens in resource-rich countries to demand greater accountability from their governments.

This regulation was adopted to improve corporate transparency and guard against corruption. It is disturbing that one of the first acts of the Republican congress is to undo a carefully crafted and reasonable regulation designed to inform the public about the practices of companies working in countries with opaque and often corrupt governments. Simply put, there is no compelling evidence the rule has imposed burdensome cost on businesses, much less that the Congressional Review Act (CRA), the use of which allows the Senate to disapprove a regulation by a simple majority vote, is needed to repeal it.

Bill Text for H.J.Res. 41:

[PDF Version](#)

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule for Thursday, February 2: The House will meet at 12:00 p.m. for legislative business. The House is expected to complete consideration of H.J.Res. 40 – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Social Security Administration relating to Implementation of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Rep. Sam Johnson – Judiciary). The House is also expected to consider [H.J.Res. 37](#) – Disapproving the final rule submitted by the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration relating to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (Rep. Foxx – Oversight and Government Reform) (Subject to a Rule).

The Daily Quote

"Bipartisan concern about President Donald Trump's executive order temporarily halting all immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries is likely to become fodder for legislative remedies... House Appropriations Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen [R-NJ] said Monday he intends to scrutinize the order and conduct oversight... In rare criticism of his own party's president, the mild-mannered New Jersey Republican made clear he thought Trump's order went too far. The order led to global confusion that left scores of travelers detained at U.S. airports and customs and border officials unsure how to respond. 'This weekend's confusion is an indication that the details of this executive order were not properly scrutinized,' Frelinghuysen said in a statement. 'Congress has important oversight responsibilities over all executive orders, which we intend to exercise.'"

- CQ, 1/31/2017