

FLOOR SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 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.	4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

H.Res. 233 – Rule providing for consideration of **H.R. 1431** – **EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2017 (Rep. Lucas – Science, Space, and Technology) (One hour of debate).** The Rules Committee has recommended a closed Rule that provides for one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. The Rule allows one motion to recommit and waives all points of order against the legislation. **Members are urged to VOTE NO.**

Complete Consideration of H.R. 1430 – Honest and Open New EPA Science Treatment Act of 2017 (Rep. Smith (TX) – Science, Space, and Technology) (One hour of debate). This bill would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from proposing, finalizing or disseminating any rule, regulation or other "covered action" unless all scientific and technical information relied upon to support that decision is made available to the public in a manner where the research can be independently analyzed and substantially reproduced. EPA relies on peer-reviewed scientific research from universities to protect public health and the environment. These research studies often involve personal health information and other confidential data that is legally protected from disclosure. Because clinicians and researchers are legally prohibited from making that data publicly available, if H.R. 1430 became law, the EPA would be forced to ignore this valuable research when taking actions to protect the public. An attempt is made under this version of the bill to allow the inclusion of those studies without violating a patient’s personal information by redacting any confidential or personally identifiable information made available to the public. However, this bill allows any person the EPA Administrator deems worthy to access this confidential information, potentially putting patient’s personal information at risk.

By requiring the EPA to maintain detailed descriptions of all materials, data, codes and models used to create rules, as well as instructions on how to access and use them, the agency would be forced to waste limited funds working through burdensome reporting requirements instead of important public health protections.

Previous Congressional Budget Office (CBO) scores of similar legislation have stated that EPA would spend \$250 million annually over the next few years to ensure the transparency of information and data supporting some covered actions. H.R. 1430 authorizes EPA to spend \$1million annually to comply with the bill.

The Rule, which was adopted yesterday, provides for one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Bill Text for H.R. 1430:
[PDF Version](#)

Background for H.R. 1430:
[House Report \(HTML Version\)](#)
[House Report \(PDF Version\)](#)

TOMORROW’S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule for Thursday, March 30: The House will meet at 9:00 a.m. for legislative business. The House is expected to complete consideration of H.R. 1431 – EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2017 (Rep. Lucas – Science, Space, and Technology).



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The Daily Quote

"The specter of another government shutdown is emerging on Capitol Hill, amid concerns that Republican leaders who failed to unite the party last week on an ObamaCare overhaul will likewise struggle to finalize a spending package before the April 28 deadline."

- Fox News, 3/28/2017