

## The Ferguson Library New & Notable Sources of Government Information March 2020

## Congress.gov



## **Bipartisan Bills on Congress.gov**

The following bills have recently been introduced in Congress:

S. 1039 (116<sup>th</sup> Congress) A Joint Resolution to Direct the Removal of the United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that Have Not Been Authorized by Congress

https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/68/text

H.R. 5823 (115<sup>th</sup> Congress) Consumer Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills Act of 2020 https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5826/text This joint resolution directs the President to terminate the use of U.S. Armed Forces for hostilities against Iran unless explicitly authorized by a congressional declaration of war or a specific authorization for use of military force against Iran.

To amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and title XI of the Social Security Act to prevent certain cases of out-of-network surprise medical bills, strengthen health care consumer protections, and improve health care information transparency, and for other purposes.

## **New Electronic Titles from the FDLP**



This includes Congressional Hearings on topics in the news

About Face: Examining the Department of Homeland Security's Use of Facial Recognition and Other Biometric Technologies

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-116hhrg38784/pdf/CHRG-116hhrg38784.pdf

The government's use of biometrics is not entirely new. For example, fingerprints have been used as an identification tool for many decades. Other biometrics include DNA, voice pattern, and palm prints. In recent years, facial recognition has become the new chosen form of biometric technology. As facial recognition technology has advanced, its use by the Government and the private sector has also increased. Currently DHS is collecting and storing several different kinds of biometric information and is using this information for multiple purposes. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) are

	using biometrics to conform the identities of travelers, for example. The Secret Service is piloting a surveillance system using facial recognition.  Although this technology can be valuable to Homeland Security, it raises serious questions about privacy, data security, transparency, and accuracy. It has the potential to be misused, especially if it falls into the wrong hands.
Creating the Clean Energy Workforce	Protecting our environment and public health was
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-	not always a partisan issue, and it should not be
116hhrg38121/pdf/CHRG-116hhrg38121.pdf	today. Not only does climate change pose a risk to
	our economy and the health and well-being of all
	Americans, but it is an acute national security threat.
	For these reasons, it is critical to move to more clean
	energy and away from fossil fuels. This hearing
	discusses the new energy economy, which can provide high-quality jobs for all the trades.
The Federal Response to the Epidemic of E-Cigarette	A large number of junior and senior high teenagers
Use, Especially Among Children	are vaping e-cigarettes. Many of these kids don't
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-	know that there is nicotine in e-cigarettes, and that
116hhrg38733/pdf/CHRG-116hhrg38733.pdf	the toll on the lungs is a life-and-death matter. The
	best remedy so far is public education efforts.
Prison To Proprietorship: Entrepreneurship	This hearing discusses entrepreneurship training
Opportunities For The Formerly Incarcerated	opportunities for the incarcerated and formerly
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG- 116hhrg38061/pdf/CHRG-116hhrg38061.pdf	incarcerated. It is an issue that has the potential to help people who have been traditionally locked out
110mig58001/pdi/CHRG-110mig58001.pdi	of the labor market. The United States has one of the
	highest incarceration rates in the world. Despite
	having only 5 percent of the world's population, we
	have 25 percent of the world's inmates. The First
	Step Act gives nonviolent offenders a chance to
	reenter society. Yet, the problem is overwhelming.
	Many former inmates lack the education and skills
	needed to engage in a 21st century economy. Many
	employers do not want to hire them. As part of a
	solution for this lock-out, SBA's resource partners
	provide counseling and training to individuals in prison and post-release. As part of the program
	SCORE provides formerly incarcerated individuals
	with regular one-on-one mentoring, workshops, and
	on-line instructions specifically tailored for their
	unique needs, empowering and enabling them to
	rebuild their lives and promote economic growth.