

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1555–S1607

Measures Introduced: Forty-seven bills and twelve resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 592–638, S.J. Res. 9–11, S. Res. 85–91, and S. Con. Res. 6–7.

Pages S1593–95

Measures Passed:

Lindsborg, Kansas 150th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 43, honoring the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Lindsborg, Kansas, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1606**

Joint Committees on Printing and the Library: Senate agreed to S. Res. 86, providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library. **Page S1606**

Printing of Committee Rules: Senate agreed to S. Res. 87, authorizing the printing of a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate. **Page S1606**

Read Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 88, designating March 1, 2019, as “Read Across America Day”. **Page S1606**

Honoring the Memory of the Victims of the Aurora, Illinois Mass Shooting: Senate agreed to S. Res. 89, expressing the condolences of the Senate and honoring the memory of the victims of the mass shooting in Aurora, Illinois, on February 15, 2019. **Page S1606**

Rare Disease Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 90, designating February 28, 2019, as “Rare Disease Day”. **Page S1606**

George Herbert Walker Bush Commemorative Document: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 6, authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, George Herbert Walker Bush. **Page S1605**

Pocket Version of the Constitution of the United States: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 7, authorizing the printing of the 26th edition of the pocket version of the Constitution of the United States.

Page S1605

House Messages:

Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 483, to enact into law a bill by reference. **Page S1606**

Rushing Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Allison Jones Rushing, of North Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit. **Page S1570**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, February 28, 2019, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2019. **Page S1570**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1570**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 4, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during the session of Thursday, February 28, 2019 ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, March 4, 2019. **Page S1570**

Readler Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Chad A. Readler, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. **Pages S1570–71**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition

of the nomination of Allison Jones Rushing, of North Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit. **Page S1571**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1570**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1570**

Murphy Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Eric E. Murphy, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. **Page S1571**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Chad A. Readler, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. **Page S1571**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1571**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1571**

Fleming Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of John Fleming, of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development. **Page S1571**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Eric E. Murphy, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. **Page S1571**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1571**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1571**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 33), Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. **Pages S1555-68**

John L. Ryder, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2021. **Pages S1568-69**

3 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.
1 Army nomination in the rank of general.
22 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S1582-83, S1606-07**

Messages from the House: **Page S1590**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S1590, S1605-06**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1591-92**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S1592-93**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S1595**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1595-S1605**

Additional Statements: **Page S1590**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1605**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1605**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—33) **Page S1568**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:17 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1606.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine implementing the Agriculture Improvement Act, after receiving testimony from Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN AMERICA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine addressing the opioid epidemic in America, focusing on prevention, treatment, and recovery at the state and local level, after receiving testimony from Mark Stringer, Missouri Department of Mental Health Director, Jefferson City; Beth Tanzman, Department of Vermont Health Access Blueprint for Health Executive Director, Waterbury; Karen Cropsey, University of Alabama, Birmingham; Charissa Fotinos, Health Care Authority, Olympia, Washington; James Berry, West Virginia University, Morgantown; and Daisy Pierce, Navigating Recovery, Laconia, New Hampshire.

NUCLEAR POLICY AND POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine nuclear policy and posture, after receiving testimony from Madelyn R. Creedon, former Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration; Franklin C. Miller, former Special Assistant to the President of the

United States, and former Senior Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control, National Security Council Staff; and General C. Robert Kehler, USAF (Ret.), former Commander, United States Strategic Command, Department of Defense.

CAPITAL FORMATION AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine legislative proposals on capital formation and corporate governance, after receiving testimony from Catherine Mott, BlueTree Capital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Thomas Quaadman, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Center for Capital Markets Competitiveness, Staten Island, New York; and Heather Slavkin Corzo, AFL-CIO, Bethesda, Maryland.

GLOBAL ENERGY MARKETS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine prospects for global energy markets, focusing on the role of the United States and perspectives from the International Energy Agency, after receiving testimony from Fatih Birol, International Energy Agency, Paris, France.

CHINA'S IMPACT ON U.S. EDUCATION SYSTEM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded a hearing to examine China's impact on the United States education system, including observations on Confucius Institutes in the United States and U.S. universities in China, after receiving testi-

mony from Jason Bair, Acting Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; Walter Douglas, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and Jennifer Zimdahl Galt, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, both of the Department of State; and General Mitchell M. Zais, USA (Ret.), Deputy Secretary of Education.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Neomi J. Rao, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Aditya Bamzai, of Virginia, and Travis LeBlanc, of Maryland, both to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and Drew H. Wrigley, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota, Department of Justice.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of William R. Evanina, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 64 public bills, H.R. 1417–1480; and 12 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 23; and H. Res. 157–167, were introduced. **Pages H2311–15**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H2317**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Judy Chu (CA) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2275**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H2275, H2293**

Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019: The House passed H.R. 1112, to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to strengthen the background check procedures to be followed before a

Federal firearms licensee may transfer a firearm to a person who is not such a licensee, by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 103.

Pages H2277–93

Rejected the Lesko motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 194 yeas to 232 yeas, Roll No. 102. **Pages H2291–93**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–6 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. **Page H2284**

Agreed to:

Levin (MI) amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–14) that requires GAO to submit

a report to the Committee on the Judiciary, US Senate, and the Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives analyzing the extent to which the new Section 922(t)(1)(B)(ii) of title 18, United States Code, added by the bill prevents firearms from being transferred to prohibited persons; **Page H2287**

Schneider amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–14) that requires the FBI to report on the number of petitions it was not able to make a determination on within the 10-day period (by a recorded vote of 282 ayes to 144 noes, Roll No. 100);

Pages H2285–87, H2289–90

Van Drew amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–14) that allows an FFL who has contacted NICS, and who was not notified that the transfer is legally permissible within 3 business days of the initial date of contact, to rely on information provided by NICS respecting a transfer for 25 days after the transfer becomes legally permissible (by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 101); and

Pages H2288–89, H2290–91

Porter amendment (No. 4 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–14) that requires a report analyzing the impact of this Act on the safety of victims of domestic violence, domestic abuse, dating partner violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Pages H2287–88

Withdrawn:

Rice (SC) amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–14) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have granted NICS examiners access to the National Data Exchange (N-DEx) when reviewing firearm transfers.

Pages H2284–85

H. Res. 145, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 8) and (H.R. 1112) was agreed to Tuesday, February 26th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, March 4th and further, when it adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, March 5th for Morning Hour debate.

Page H2310

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two recorded votes and two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2289–90, H2290–91, H2292–93, and H2293. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FEMALE VETERANS ACCESS TO VA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Female Veterans Access to VA”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

WE’LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS: FILLING THE LEADERSHIP VOID CAUSED BY FEDERAL INACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a hearing entitled “We’ll Always Have Paris: Filling the Leadership Void Caused by Federal Inaction on Climate Change”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCIES ACT OF 1976

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties hearing entitled “The National Emergencies Act of 1976”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EFFECTS OF VACANCIES AT THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “Effects of Vacancies at the Merit Systems Protection Board”. Testimony was heard from Valerie Brannon, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Mark Robbins, Acting Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Foreign Relations: to receive a closed briefing on the status of the global Magnitsky investigation related to the Khashoggi murder, 5 p.m., SVC–217.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, March 4

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11:30 a.m., Monday, March 4

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Allison Jones Rushing, of North Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11:30 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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