

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5525–S5562

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4555–4565, and S. Res. 687–688. **Page S5549**

Measures Passed:

National Lobster Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 688, designating September 25, 2020, as “National Lobster Day”. **Page S5559**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed H.J. Res. 87, providing for the reappointment of Michael M. Lynton as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. **Page S5560**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed H.J. Res. 88, providing for the appointment of Franklin D. Raines as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. **Page S5560**

House Messages:

Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act: By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 168), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China, with McConnell Amendment No. 2652, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5532–33**

Appointments:

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 107–12, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: Trevor Whipple of Vermont. **Page S5559**

Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 116–92, appointed the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: Senator Cotton, and Victor L. Brown of Kentucky. **Page S5559**

Scarsi Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S5538**

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, September 10, 2020, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020. **Page S5560**

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 S5538**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, September 10, 2020 ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, September 14, 2020. **Page S5560**

Blumenfeld Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S5538**

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 Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S5538**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5538**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5538**

Holcomb Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S5538**

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 Stanley Blumenfeld, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S5538**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5538**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5538**

Robinson Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California. **Page S5538**

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 John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S5538**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5538**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5538**

Dugan Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David W. Dugan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois. **Page S5538**

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 Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California. **Page S5539**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5538**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5538**

McGlynn Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stephen P. McGlynn,

to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois. **Page S5539**

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 David W. Dugan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois. **Page S5539**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5539**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5539**

Johnston Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Page S5539**

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 Stephen P. McGlynn, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois. **Page S5539**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5539**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5539**

Valderrama Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Pages S5539–42**

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 Iain D. Johnston, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Page S5539**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5539**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5539**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 83 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 165), Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan.

Pages S5527–32

By 79 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. EX. 166), Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Page S5532

By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. EX. 167), Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

William Ruger, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

7 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy.

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Executive Communications: Pages S5547–49

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S5550–52

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S5552–53

Additional Statements: Page S5547

Amendments Submitted: Pages S5553–59

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S5559

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—168) Pages S5532–33

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:26 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5560.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 1 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2020.

Committee Meetings

MACHINES, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND THE WORKFORCE: RECOVERING AND READYING OUR ECONOMY FOR THE FUTURE

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Machines, Artificial Intelligence, and the Workforce: Recovering and Readying Our Economy for the Future". Testimony was heard from Jason Matheny, Commissioner, National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence; and public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a business meeting to approve new subcommittee assignments and a subcommittee Ranking Member. Subcommittee assignments and subcommittee Ranking Member were approved.

ON THE BASIS OF SEX: EXAMINING THE ADMINISTRATION'S ATTACKS ON GENDER-BASED PROTECTIONS

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services held a hearing entitled "On the Basis of Sex: Examining the Administration's Attacks on Gender-Based Protections". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE NEED FOR FINANCIAL AID TO AMERICA'S STATES AND TERRITORIES DURING THE PANDEMIC: SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS, ASSISTING SCHOOLS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO SAFELY EDUCATE, AND PREVENTING MASS LAYOFFS

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The Need for Financial Aid to America's States and Territories During the Pandemic: Supporting First Responders, Assisting Schools in Their Efforts to Safely Educate, and Preventing Mass Layoffs". Testimony was heard from Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor, New Mexico; Tim Walz, Governor, Minnesota; Laura Kelly, Governor, Kansas; Lourdes Leon Guerrero, Governor, Territory of Guam; and a public witness.

PROTECTING DEMOCRACY DURING COVID-19 IN EUROPE AND EURASIA AND THE DEMOCRATIC AWAKENING IN BELARUS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment held a hearing entitled “Protecting Democracy During COVID-19 in Europe and Eurasia and the Democratic Awakening in Belarus”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION’S SCHOOL REOPENING GUIDANCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing entitled “Examining the Bureau of Indian Education’s School Reopening Guidance During the COVID-19 Pandemic”. Testimony was heard from Lance Witte, Superintendent and Principal, Lower Brule Schools, South Dakota; and public witnesses.

PROVIDING THE CENSUS BUREAU WITH THE TIME TO PRODUCE A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE CENSUS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Providing the Census Bureau with the Time to Produce a Complete and Accurate Census”. Testimony was heard from J. Christopher Mihm, Managing Director, Strategic Issues Team, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

KICK STARTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MAIN STREET ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship held a hearing entitled “Kick Starting Entrepreneurship and Main Street Economic Recovery”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a business meeting to Reauthorize the Women Veterans’ Task Force. The Women Veterans’ Task Force was reauthorized.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing on hearing on H.R. 7541, the “VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project”; H.R. 7504, the “VA Clinical TEAM Culture Act of 2020”; H.R. 7784, the “VA Police Improvement and Accountability Act”; H.R. 7879, the “VA Telehealth Expansion Act”; H.R. 7747, the “VA Solid Start Reporting Act”; H.R. 7888, the “REACH VET Reporting

Act”; H.R. 7964, the “Peer Support for Veteran Families Act”; H.R. 3450, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system; H.R. 3788, the “VA Child Care Protection Act of 2019”; H.R. 3826, the “Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act”; H.R. 6092, the “Veteran’s Prostate Cancer Treatment and Research Act”; H.R. 7469, the “Modernizing Veterans’ Healthcare Eligibility Act”; H.R. 8005, the “Veterans Access to Online Treatment Act”; H.R. 8033, the “Access to Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act”; H.R. 8084, the “Lethal Means Safety Training Act”; H.R. 8068, the “American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Mental Health Act”; H.R. 8149, the “VA Precision Medicine Act”; H.R. 8148, the “VA Data Analytics and Technology Assistance Act”; H.R. 8108, the “VA Serious Mental Illness Act”; H.R. 8144, the “VA Mental Health Staffing Improvement Act”; H.R. 8145, the “VA Mental Health Counseling Act”; H.R. 8130, the “VA Peer Specialists Act”; H.R. 8107, the “VA Emergency Department Safety Planning Act”; H.R. 8147, the “TREAT Act”; legislation on the Veterans’ ACCESS Act; legislation on the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment Act of 2020; legislation on the Ensuring Veterans’ Smooth Transition Act; legislation on the VA Research Technology Act; legislation on the VA High Altitude and Suicide Research Act; legislation on the VA Expanded Care Hours Act; and legislation on the Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act of 2020. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE CARIBBEAN BASIN TRADE PARTNERSHIP ACT: CONSIDERATIONS FOR RENEWAL

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing entitled “The Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act: Considerations for Renewal”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Biological Research at the Department of Energy: Leveraging DOE’s Unique Capabilities to Respond to the COVID–19 Pandemic”, 1:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing entitled “Consequences of Inaction on COVID Tax Legislation”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Assessing the U.S.-Saudi Security and Intelligence Relationship”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, September 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 p.m., Friday, September 11

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 1 p.m.



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