

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

**Routine Proceedings, pages S7831–S7853**

**Measures Introduced:** Five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 5070–5074. **Page S7848**

**Measures Passed:**

***Calling for the Global Repeal of Blasphemy, Heresy, and Apostasy Laws:*** Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 458, calling for the global repeal of blasphemy, heresy, and apostasy laws, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7850–52**

Gardner (for Lankford) Amendment No. 2719, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7850–51**

Gardner (for Lankford) Amendment No. 2720, to amend the preamble. **Pages S7851–52**

***DART Act:*** Senate passed S. 2204, to allow the Federal Communications Commission to carry out a pilot program under which voice service providers could block certain automated calls, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7852–53**

***Recognized Security Practices:*** Senate passed H.R. 7898, to amend the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to consider certain recognized security practices of covered entities and business associates when making certain determinations. **Page S7853**

***Rocky Mountain National Park Ownership Correction Act:*** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5459, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to correct a land ownership error within the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park, and the bill was then passed. **Page S7853**

**House Messages:**

***One Small Step to Protect Human Heritage in Space Act:*** Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives and the amendment to the title to S. 1694, to require the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

to add recommendations and inform other relevant agencies of information relating to the principle of due regard and the limitation of harmful interference with Apollo landing site artifacts. **Page S7850**

***Child Care Protection Improvement Act:*** Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 2683, to establish a task force to assist States in implementing hiring requirements for child care staff members to improve child safety. **Page S7853**

***United States Semiquincentennial Commission Amendments Act:*** Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 3989, to amend the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 to modify certain membership and other requirements of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission. **Page S7853**

**Johnson Nomination:** By 39 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. EX. 277), Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the nomination of John Chase Johnson, of Oklahoma, to be Inspector General, Federal Communications Commission. **Pages S7841–42**

Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the nomination. **Page S7842**

**Soskin Nomination:** By 39 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. EX. 278), Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Eric J. Soskin, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Transportation. **Page S7842**

Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the nomination. **Page S7842**

**Noland Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brian Noland, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, ripen at 1:30 p.m., on Sunday, December 20, 2020.

**Page S7845**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 1 p.m., on Sunday, December 20, 2020, Senate resume consideration of the nomination. **Page S7853**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 51 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 276), Thompson Michael Dietz, of New Jersey, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years. **Pages S7832–41**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 275), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S7833**

By 59 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. EX. 280), Beth Harwell, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2024. **Pages S7843–46**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 61 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. EX. 279), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S7843**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S7847**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S7847–48**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S7848–49**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Page S7849**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S7846–47**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S7849–50**

**Record Votes:** Six record votes were taken today. (Total—280) **Pages S7833, S7841–43, S7845–46**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 6:49 p.m., until 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 20, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7853.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

No committee meetings were held.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 12 noon on Sunday, December 20, 2020.

## Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House

No hearings are scheduled.

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*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

1 p.m., Sunday, December 20

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Senate Chamber

**Program for Sunday:** Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Brian Noland, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 1:30 p.m.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

12 noon, Sunday, December 20

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House Chamber

**Program for Sunday:** To be announced.



## Congressional Record

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