

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S873–S906

Measures Introduced: Fifty-one bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 439–489, S.J. Res. 9, S. Res. 76–77, and S. Con. Res. 6.

Pages S890–92

Measures Passed:

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association 100th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 76, congratulating the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association on the celebration of its 100th anniversary on February 19, 2021, and recognizing the vital contributions its members have made to the United States over the past 100 years.

Page S905

Public Schools Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 77, designating the week of February 22 through February 26, 2021, as “Public Schools Week”.

Page S905

OCWR Biennial Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Biennial Report from the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights be printed in the Record.

Pages S902–05

Cardona Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

Pages S878–83

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

By 66 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. EX. 67), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S883

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3:00 p.m., on Monday, March 1, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, and that at 5:30 p.m., the post-cloture time on the nomination be considered

expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination.

Page S905

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 64 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. EX. 66), Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy.

Pages S877–78

17 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

26 Army nominations in the rank of general.

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

Pages S883–84

Messages from the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Measures Read the First Time:

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Executive Communications:

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Additional Cosponsors:

Page S892

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S892–S902

Additional Statements:

Pages S888–89

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S902

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—67)

Pages S877–78, S883

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 3:04 p.m., until 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S905.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

COVID–19 RESPONSE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Department of Defense support

to the COVID-19 response, after receiving testimony from Stacy A. Cummings, performing the duties of Under Secretary for Acquisition and Sustainment, Robert G. Salesses, performing the duties of Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense and Global Security, and General Gustave F. Perna, Chief Operating Officer, Federal COVID-19 Response for Vaccine and Therapeutics, all of the Department of Defense.

REBUILDING MAIN STREET

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the coronavirus crisis, focusing on next steps for rebuilding Main Street, after receiving testimony from Watchen Harris Bruce, Baltimore Community Lending, Baltimore, Maryland; Joe DeLoss, Hot Chicken Takeover, Columbus, Ohio; Jessica A. Milano, Small Business Majority, and Joel Griffith, The Heritage Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.; and Dani Ritchie, Studio Alchemy, Harmony, Pennsylvania.

POVERTY WAGES

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine poverty wages at large profitable corporations, after receiving testimony from Cindy Brown Barnes, Managing Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Craig Jelinek, Costco Wholesale Corporation, Issaquah, Washington; Thea Mei Lee, Economic Policy Institute, and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, both of Washington, D.C.; Carl Sobocinski, Table 301 Restaurant Group, Greenville, South Carolina; Jacob L. Vigdor, University of Washington, Seattle; Cynthia Murray, United for Respect, Hyattsville, Maryland; and Terrence Wise, Kansas City, Missouri.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress:

Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation: Senators Sinema (Chair), Duckworth, Tester, Rosen, Hickenlooper, Warnock, Cruz, Thune, Blunt, Moran, Lee, and Capito.

Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband: Senators Luján (Chair), Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Schatz, Markey, Peters, Baldwin, Duckworth, Tester, Sinema, Rosen, Hickenlooper, Warnock, Thune, Blunt, Cruz, Fischer, Moran, Sullivan, Blackburn, Young, Lee, Johnson, Capito, Scott (FL), and Lummis.

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security: Senators Blumenthal (Chair), Klo-

buchar, Schatz, Markey, Baldwin, Luján, Blackburn, Thune, Blunt, Moran, Young, and Lee.

Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing: Senators Baldwin (Chair), Blumenthal, Schatz, Markey, Peters, Luján, Sullivan, Cruz, Fischer, Blackburn, Young and Johnson.

Subcommittee on Space and Science: Senators Hickenlooper (Chair), Blumenthal, Peters, Sinema, Luján, Warnock, Lummis, Cruz, Fischer, Young, Lee, and Scott (FL).

Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports: Senators Peters (Chair), Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Schatz, Markey, Baldwin, Duckworth, Tester, Warnock, Fischer, Thune, Blunt, Sullivan, Young, Johnson, Capito, Scott (FL), and Lummis.

Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion: Senator Rosen (Chair), Klobuchar, Duckworth, Tester, Sinema, Hickenlooper, Scott (FL), Thune, Blunt, Fischer, Moran, Young and Capito.

Senators Cantwell and Wicker are *ex officio* members on each subcommittee.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee approved committee rules for the 117th Congress, designation of members to serve on the Joint Committee on Taxation, and designation of members to serve as Congressional Trade Advisors on Trade Policy and Negotiations.

Also, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Health Care: Senators Stabenow (Chair), Menendez, Carper, Cardin, Casey, Warner, Whitehouse, Cortez Masto, Hassan, Warren, Daines, Grassley, Thune, Burr, Toomey, Scott (SC), Cassidy, Lankford, Young, and Barrasso.

Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness: Senators Carper (Chair), Wyden, Stabenow, Menendez, Cardin, Brown, Bennet, Casey, Warner, Cortez Masto, Cornyn, Grassley, Thune, Portman, Toomey, Scott (SC), Daines, Young, Sasse, and Barrasso.

Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy: Senators Brown (Chair), Wyden, Bennet, Casey, Hassan, Young, Portman, Cassidy, Lankford, and Sasse.

Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure: Senators Bennet (Chair), Carper, Warner, Whitehouse, Hassan, Lankford, Cornyn, Scott (SC), Barrasso, and Daines.

Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight: Senators Whitehouse (Chair), Stabenow, Menendez, Cardin, Brown, Cortez Masto, Warren, Thune, Grassley, Cornyn, Burr, Portman, Toomey, and Sasse.

Subcommittee on Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth: Senators Warren (Chair), Wyden, Cassidy, and Burr.

Senators Wyden and Crapo are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, after the nominee, who was introduced by Representatives

Neal and Brady, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Vivek Hallege Murthy, of Florida, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, and Rachel Leland Levine, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Casey, both of the Department of Health and Human Services.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 71 public bills, H.R. 1320–1390; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 27; H. Con. Res. 19; and H. Res. 163–165 were introduced.

Pages H725–30

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H732–33

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Recess: The House recessed at 11:17 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H629

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Greene (GA) motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 199 yeas to 219 nays, Roll No. 38.

Pages H632–33

Equality Act: The House passed H.R. 5, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 206 nays, Roll No. 39. Representative Cicilline moved to table the Kildee motion to reconsider the vote by a yea-and-nay vote of 211 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 40, and the Cicilline motion was agreed to. Subsequently, the bill was passed.

Pages H633–61

H. Res. 147, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 803) and (H.R. 5) was agreed to yesterday, February 24th.

Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021: The House considered H.R. 803, to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, February 26th.

Pages H661–H702

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–2, modified by the amend-

ment printed in part A of H. Rept. 117–6, shall be considered as adopted.

Pages H661–93

H. Res. 147, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 803) and (H.R. 5) was agreed to yesterday, February 24th.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H632–33, H660, and H661.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE U.S.

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY SECTORS

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Climate Change and the U.S. Agriculture and Forestry Sectors”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from Phyllis Fong, Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture; and Gil Harden, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

U.S. CAPITOL POLICE AND HOUSE SERGEANT AT ARMS, SECURITY FAILURES HEARING

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing entitled “U.S. Capitol Police and House Sergeant at Arms, Security Failures on January 6”. Testimony was heard from Timothy Blodgett, Acting Sergeant at Arms; U.S. House of Representatives; and Yogananda D. Pittman, Acting Chief of Police, U.S. Capitol Police.

STRATEGIES FOR ENERGY AND CLIMATE INNOVATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Strategies for Energy and Climate Innovation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Ethics: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 117th Congress.

DOLLARS AGAINST DEMOCRACY: DOMESTIC TERRORIST FINANCING IN THE AFTERMATH OF INSURRECTION

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy held a hearing entitled “Dollars Against Democracy: Domestic Terrorist Financing in the Aftermath of Insurrection”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: HELPING CORPORATE BOARDS AND INVESTORS MAKE DECISIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets held a hearing entitled “Climate Change and Social Responsibility: Helping Corporate Boards and Investors Make Decisions for a Sustainable World”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1157, the “Department of State Authorization Act of 2021”; H.R. 1251, the “Cyber Diplomacy Act”; H. Res. 124, supporting the people of Belarus and their democratic aspirations and condemning the election rigging and subsequent violent crackdowns on peaceful protesters by the illegitimate Lukashenka regime; H.R. 241, the “Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2021”; H.R. 567, the “Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Program Act of 2021”; H. Res. 130, condemning

the continued violation of rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong by the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; H. Res. 134, condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military detention of civilian leaders, calling for the release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in Parliament to resume their duties, and for other purposes; H.R. 1112, the “Protect Democracy in Burma Act of 2021”; H. Res. 137, reaffirming the importance of upholding democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in United States foreign policy; H. Res. 136, emphasizing the importance and interdependence of diplomacy and international development to American interests and national security; H.R. 965, to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1211, the “American Values and Security in International Athletics Act”. H.R. 1251, H. Res. 124, H.R. 567, H.R. 1112, H.R. 965, and H.R. 1157 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 241, H. Res. 130, H. Res. 134, H. Res. 137, H.R. 1211, and H. Res. 136 were ordered reported, without amendment.

STRENGTHENING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Strengthening American Democracy”. Testimony was heard from Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State, Maine; Ricky Hatch, County Clerk/Auditor, Weber County, Utah; and public witnesses.

REVIVING COMPETITION, PART 1: PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS GATEKEEPER POWER AND LOWER BARRIERS TO ENTRY ONLINE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law held a hearing entitled “Reviving Competition, Part 1: Proposals to Address Gatekeeper Power and Lower Barriers to Entry Online”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING BACK THE U.S. RESEARCH ENTERPRISE: COVID IMPACTS AND RECOVERY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Building Back the U.S. Research Enterprise: COVID Impacts and Recovery”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 26, 2021***(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)***Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House*Committee on Oversight and Reform*, Full Committee; and Full Committee of the House Committee on Homeland

Security, joint hearing entitled “Weathering the Storm: The Role of Private Tech in the SolarWinds Breach and the Ongoing Campaign”, 9 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on legislation on American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 9:30 a.m., Webex.*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “The Path Forward on COVID-19 Immunizations”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, March 1

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, February 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: The President pro tempore will administer the oath of office to swear in Sonceria Ann Berry as Secretary of the Senate.

Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Gina Marie Raimando, of Rhode Island, to be Secretary of Commerce.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Complete consideration of H.R. 803—Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021.

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