

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6711–S6747

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2866–2881, and S. Res. 388–393.

Pages S6740–41

Measures Passed:

National Forensic Science Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 392, recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week.

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National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 393, designating September 2021 as ‘‘National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month’’.

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Appointments:

Social Security Advisory Board: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and in consultation with the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Finance, pursuant to Public Law 103–296, appointed the following individual as a member of the Social Security Advisory Board: Jagadeesh Gokhale of Pennsylvania.

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Lewis Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Page S6734

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, September 29, 2021; that at 10:30 a.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that upon disposition of the nomination, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Robert T. Anderson, of Washington, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior; that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of the Senate of Monday, September 27, 2021, ripen at 2:30 p.m.; and that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jonathan Eugene Meyer, of Ohio, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, occur immediately after the vote on

the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert T. Anderson.

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Chopra Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Rohit Chopra, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

Page S6734

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 on Thursday, September 30, 2021.

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

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Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S6734

Stone-Manning Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Tracy Stone-Manning, of Montana, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

Pages S6734–35

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 Rohit Chopra, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

Pages S6734–35

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

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Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 73 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. EX. 386), Karen Erika Donfried, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European Affairs and Eurasian Affairs).

Pages S6717–18

By 61 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 387), Monica P. Medina, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

Page S6723

By 67 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. EX. 388), Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs). **Page S6728**

By 53 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 389), Todd D. Robinson, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs). **Page S6734**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Clare E. Connors, of Hawaii, to be United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii for the term of four years.

Zachary A. Cunha, of Rhode Island, to be United States Attorney for the District of Rhode Island for the term of four years.

Michael F. Easley, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Cole Finegan, of Colorado, to be United States Attorney for the District of Colorado for the term of four years.

Sandra J. Hairston, of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Nikolas P. Kerest, of Vermont, to be United States Attorney for the District of Vermont for the term of four years.

Dena J. King, of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Kenneth L. Parker, of Ohio, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio for the term of four years.

Delia L. Smith, of the Virgin Islands, to be United States Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands for the term of four years. **Page S6746**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S6737, S6746**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6737–38**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S6738–40**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6741–43**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S6743**

Additional Statements: **Page S6737**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6745**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—389) **Pages S6717–18, S6723, S6728, S6734**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:52 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6746.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MILITARY OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the conclusion of military operations in Afghanistan and plans for future counterterrorism operations, after receiving testimony from Lloyd J. Austin III, Secretary, General Mark A. Milley, USA, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and General Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr., USMC, Commander, United States Central Command, all of the Department of Defense.

CARES ACT OVERSIGHT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine CARES Act oversight of the Treasury and Federal Reserve, focusing on supporting an equitable pandemic recovery, after receiving testimony from Janet L. Yellen, Secretary of the Treasury; and Jerome H. Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

LAWS WITHIN FERC JURISDICTION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the administration of laws under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, after receiving testimony from Richard Glick, Chairman, and Mark C. Christie, Allison Clements, and James P. Danly, each a Commissioner, all of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jack A. Markell, of Delaware, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador, and Jeffry Lane Flake, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, who were both introduced by Senator Coons, Mark Gitenstein, of Washington, to be Representative of the United States of America to the European Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and Cindy Hensley McCain, of Arizona, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, who was introduced by Senator Graham, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

REPLACING LEGACY IT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight concluded a hearing to examine existing resources and innovations needed to replace legacy IT and save taxpayer dollars, after receiving testimony from Clare Martorana, Federal Chief Information Officer, and Mina Hsiang, Administrator, United States Digital Service, both of the Office of Management and Budget; and Dave Zvenyach, Director, Technology Transformation Services, Deputy Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service, General Services Administration.

TOXIC CONSERVATORSHIPS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution concluded a hearing to examine toxic

conservatorships, focusing on the need for reform, after receiving testimony from Clarissa C. Kripke, University of California Office of Developmental Primary Care, and Zoe Brennan-Krohn, American Civil Liberties Union, both of San Francisco, California; David Slayton, Court Consulting Services, Bellevue, Texas, on behalf of the National Center for State Courts; Morgan K. Whitlatch, Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities, Washington, D.C.; and Nicholas Clouse, Huntington, Indiana.

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

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 5390–5407; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 59; and H. Res. 686–687, were introduced.

Pages H5505–06

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H5507

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Al Green (H. Rept. 117–131); and Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (H. Rept. 117–132). Page H5505

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Stanton to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H5465

Recess: The House recessed at 10:55 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. Pages H5471–72

Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America Act: The House considered the Senate amendment to H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs. Consideration is expected to resume Thursday, September 30th. Pages H5473–77

H. Res. 601, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4) and consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3684) and providing for the adoption of the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 14) was agreed to Tuesday, August 24th.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Eliminating a Quantifiably Unjust Application of the Law Act of 2021: H.R. 1693, amended, to eliminate the disparity in sentencing for cocaine offenses, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 361 yeas to 66 nays, Roll No. 297; Pages H5477–81, H5492–93

Amending the Fentanyl Sanctions Act, to modify certain deadlines relating to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: H.R. 4981, to amend the Fentanyl Sanctions Act, to modify certain deadlines relating to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas to 14 nays, Roll No. 298; Pages H5481–82, H5493

War Crimes Rewards Expansion Act: H.R. 4250, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for rewards for the arrest or conviction of certain foreign nationals who have committed genocide or war crimes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 299; Pages H5482–83, H5494

Libya Stabilization Act: H.R. 1228, amended, to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas to 35 nays, Roll No. 300; and Pages H5483–89 H5494–95

Cambodia Democracy Act of 2021: H.R. 4686, amended, to promote free and fair elections, political freedoms, and human rights in Cambodia, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas to 17 nays, Roll No. 301. Pages H5490–92, H5495–96

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, July 26th.

Consider Teachers Act of 2021: S. 848, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the service obligation verification process for TEACH Grant recipients, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 302; **Page H5496**

Great Dismal Swamp National Heritage Area Act: H.R. 1154, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Great Dismal Swamp National Heritage Area, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 391 yeas to 36 nays, Roll No. 303; and **Pages H5496–97**

Performance Enhancement Reform Act: H.R. 2617, amended, to amend section 1115 of title 31, United States Code, to amend the description of how performance goals are achieved, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 304.

Pages H5497–98

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H5473.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eight yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5492–93, H5493, H5494, H5494–95, H5495–96, H5496, H5496–97, and H5497–98.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Committee Meetings

HOW TO SAVE A LIFE: SUCCESSFUL MODELS FOR PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM COVID–19

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services; and Subcommittee on Health, Labor, Employment, and Pensions held a joint hearing entitled “How to Save a Life: Successful Models for Protecting Communities from COVID–19”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ACCESS DENIED: ELIMINATING BARRIERS AND INCREASING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion held a hearing entitled “Access Denied: Eliminating Barriers and Increasing Economic Opportunity for Justice-Involved Individuals”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

STRENGTHENING U.S. TIES WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation held a hearing entitled “Strengthening U.S. Ties with Southeast Asia”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNDERSTANDING CONFLICT IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights; and Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism held a joint hearing entitled “Understanding Conflict in Africa”. Testimony was heard from Michael C. Gonzales, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and Robert Jenkins, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, U.S. Agency for International Development.

REVIVING COMPETITION, PART 4: 21ST CENTURY ANTITRUST REFORMS AND THE AMERICAN WORKER

Committee on The Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law held a hearing entitled “Reviving Competition, Part 4: 21st Century Antitrust Reforms and the American Worker”. Testimony was heard from Christine S. Wilson, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission; and public witnesses.

THE DISINFORMATION BLACK BOX: RESEARCHING SOCIAL MEDIA DATA

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing entitled “The Disinformation Black Box: Researching Social Media Data”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE ROLE OF FERRIES IN IMPROVING MOBILITY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled “Examining the Role of Ferries in Improving Mobility”. Testimony was heard from Patty Rubstello, Assistant Secretary for Ferries, Washington State Department of Transportation; Kyle Godar, County Engineer, Calhoun County Highway Department, Illinois; Seamus Murphy, Executive Director, San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority; and a public witness.

THE INTERCONNECTED ECONOMY: THE EFFECTS OF GLOBALIZATION ON US ECONOMIC DISPARITY

Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Interconnected Economy: The Effects of Globalization on US Economic Disparity”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine protecting consumer privacy, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to receive a closed briefing on Administration efforts regarding energy security, including Nord Stream 2, 9:30 a.m., SVC-217.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Atul Atmaram Gawande, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and C.B. Sullenberger III, of Texas, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, Claire D. Cronin, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to Ireland, Kent Doyle Logsdon, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, Sharon L. Cromer, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia, Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, and Howard A. Van Vranken, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Botswana, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations, 2 p.m., VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the threat of worsening natural disasters, 10 a.m., SD-342/VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine Texas's abortion law, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled “The 2021 Wildland Fire Year: Responding to and Mitigating Threats to Communities”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee, hearing entitled “Ending the U.S. Military Mission in Afghanistan”, 9:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled “Back to School: Highlighting Best Practices for Safely Reopening School”, 10:15 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Protecting Communities from Industrial Accidents: Revitalizing the Chemical Safety Board”, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “The Future of Banking: How Consolidation, Nonbank Competition, and Technology are Reshaping the Banking System”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee, hearing entitled “20 Years After 9/11: The State of the Transportation Security Administration”, 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5374, the “SHOP SAFE Act”; H.R. 2883, the “Stop Stalling Access to Affordable Medications”; H.R. 2891, the “Preserve Access to Affordable Generics and Biosimilars Act”; H.R. 2873, the “Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Through Promoting Competition Act of 2021”; H.R. 2884, the “Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Through Improvements to Patent Litigation Act”; H.R. 3617, the “MORE Act of 2021”; H.R. 2116, the “CROWN Act of 2021”; H.R. 187, for the relief of Victoria Galindo Lopez; H.R. 680, for the relief of Arpita Kurdekar, Girish Kurdekar, and Vandana Kurdekar; H.R. 681, for the relief of Rebecca Trimble; H.R. 739, for the relief of Median El-Moustrah; H.R. 785, for the relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “Confronting Violent White Supremacy (Part VI): Examining the Biden Administration’s Counterterrorism Strategy”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled “Upgrading Public Health Infrastructure: The Need to Protect, Rebuild, and Strengthen State and Local Public Health Departments”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Rules: Full Committee, hearing on S. 1301, the “Promoting Physical Activity for Americans Act” [Temporary Extension of Public Debt Limit], 10 a.m., H-313 Capitol and Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee, hearing entitled “Members’ Day Hearing: House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Underserved, Agricultural, and Rural Development, hearing entitled “Sustainable Forestry’s Role in Climate Solutions”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 29

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs), post-closure, and vote on confirmation thereon at 10:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Jessica Lewis, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Robert T. Anderson, of Washington, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 2:30 p.m.

Following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert T. Anderson, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jonathan Eugene Meyer, of Ohio, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security. Additional roll call votes are expected during Wednesday's session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, September 29

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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