

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S.J. Res. 33, Debt Limit Increase.

## Senate

### *Chamber Action*

*Routine Proceedings, pages S9127–S9166*

**Measures Introduced:** Seventeen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3379–3395, S.J. Res. 33, and S. Res. 478–479. **Pages S9161–62**

#### **Measures Passed:**

**Debt Limit Increase:** By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 498), Senate passed S.J. Res. 33, joint resolution relating to increasing the debt limit. **Pages S9134–53**

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

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 497), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. **Pages S9133–34**

**NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act:** Senate passed H.R. 5746, to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S9155**

Cantwell Amendment No. 4893, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S9155**

**STANDUP Act:** Senate passed S. 1543, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S9155–56**

**Federal Rotational Cyber Workforce Program Act:** Senate passed S. 1097, to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce. **Pages S9156–57**

**American Diabetes Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 479, supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month. **Page S9157**

#### **House Messages:**

**National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 1605, to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Page S9134**

Pending:

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill. **Page S9134**

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 4880 (to the House amendment), to add an effective date. **Page S9134**

Schumer Amendment No. 4881 (to Amendment No. 4880), to modify the effective date. **Page S9134**

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

By 86 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. 496), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill. **Pages S9133–34**

Schumer motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Schumer Amendment No. 4882, to add an effective date, fell when cloture was invoked on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill. **Page S9134**

Schumer Amendment No. 4883 (to the instructions (Amendment No. 4882) of the motion to refer), to modify the effective date, fell when Schumer motion to refer the message of the House on the

bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Schumer Amendment No. 4882 (listed above) fell.

**Page S9134**

Schumer Amendment No. 4884 (to Amendment No. 4883), to modify the effective date, fell when Schumer Amendment No. 4883 (to the instructions (Amendment No. 4882) of the motion to refer) (listed above) fell.

**Page S9134**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, December 15, 2021; that at 11:30 a.m., Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 4880 (to the House amendment) (listed above) be withdrawn, and Senate vote on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill; that following disposition of the House message to accompany the bill, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Jennifer Sung, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; and that at 2:15 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Samantha D. Elliott, of New Hampshire, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire.

**Page S9165**

**Elliott Nomination:** Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Samantha D. Elliott, of New Hampshire, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire.

**Pages S9127–33**

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

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 495), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

**Pages S9127–33**

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

Thea D. Rozman Kendler, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Alanna McCargo, of Virginia, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association.

Dawn N. Ison, of Michigan, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan for the term of four years.

Nickolas Guertin, of Virginia, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, Department of Defense.

John Bradley Sherman, of Texas, to be Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense.

Carrie Frances Ricci, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

10 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

1 Space Force nomination in the rank of general.

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

**Pages S9153–55**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:**

**Page S9160**

**Executive Communications:**

**Pages S9160–61**

**Executive Reports of Committees:**

**Page S9161**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Page S9162**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Pages S9162–64**

**Additional Statements:**

**Pages S9159–60**

**Amendments Submitted:**

**Page S9165**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

**Page S9165**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—498)

**Pages S9133–34, S9142**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:21 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 15, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9165.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### BUSINESS MEETING

**Committee on Armed Services:** Committee ordered favorably reported 11 nominations in the Army, Navy, and Space Force.

### STABLECOINS

**Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine stablecoins, focusing on how they work, how they are used, and their risks, after receiving testimony from Alexis Goldstein, Open Markets Institute, New York, New York; and Dante Alighieri Disparte, Circle, Jai Massari, Davis Polk and Wardwell, LLP, and Hilary J. Allen, American University Washington College of Law, all of Washington, D.C.

### NOMINATIONS

**Committee on Foreign Relations:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Donald Armin Blome, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, who was introduced by Senator Padilla, and Amy Gutmann, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, who was introduced by Senators Toomey and Casey, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

## NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, Michele Taylor, of Georgia, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as United States Representative to the UN Human Rights Council, who was introduced by Senator Kaine, and Joseph Donnelly, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, who was introduced by Senator Coons, all of the Department of State, Alice P. Albright, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Oren E. Whyche-Shaw, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank, Enoch T. Ebong, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agen-

cy, Leopoldo Martinez Nucete, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, who was introduced by Senator Kaine, and Maria Fabiana Jorge, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, who was introduced by Senators Warner and Blunt, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

## NOMINATION

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert McKinnon Califf, of North Carolina, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 39 public bills, H.R. 6256–6294; 1 private bill, H.R. 6295; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 850–851 and 853–856, were introduced.

**Pages H7821–23**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H7825–27**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 848, relating to the consideration of House Report 117–216 and an accompanying resolution (H. Rept. 117–217);

H. Res. 849, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5665) to establish in the Department of State the Office to Monitor and Combat Islamophobia, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–218); and

H. Res. 852, providing for consideration of the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 33) joint resolution relating to increasing the debt limit (H. Rept. 117–219).

**Page H7821**

**Moment of Silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the over 800,000 Americans who have passed away from the COVID–19 virus.

**Page H7665**

**Capitol Police Emergency Assistance Act of 2021:** The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 3377, to empower the Chief of the United States Capitol Police to unilaterally request the assistance of the DC National Guard or Federal

law enforcement agencies in emergencies without prior approval of the Capitol Police Board.

**Pages H7803–04**

**Suspension:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

*Five-Stars for Safe Cars Act:* H.R. 6256, to require the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to update the motor vehicle information required to be submitted to the Administration to assist a consumer in buying a passenger motor vehicle.

**Pages H7804–08**

**Moment of Silence:** The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the recent outbreak of tornadoes in the Midwest.

**Page H7814**

**Recommending that the House of Representatives find Mark Randall Meadows in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with a subpoena duly issued by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol:** The House agreed to H. Res. 851, recommending that the House of Representatives find Mark Randall Meadows in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with a subpoena duly issued by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 447.

**Pages H7667–H7797, H7814–15**

During debate, exception was taken to certain words used and a demand was made to have the

words taken down. After review, the Chair ruled that the words were not in violation of the spirit of debate.

H. Res. 848, the rule relating to the consideration of House Report 117–216 and an accompanying resolution, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 442, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 441.

**Pages H7645–53, H7663–65**

**Combating International Islamophobia Act:** The House passed H.R. 5665, to establish in the Department of State the Office to Monitor and Combat Islamophobia, by a yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 448.

**Pages H7653–63, H7665–67, H7794–H7803, H7815–16**

During debate, exception was taken to certain words used and a demand was made to have the words taken down. After review, the Chair ruled that the words were in violation of the spirit of debate.

H. Res. 849, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5665) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 444, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 443.

**Pages H7653–63, H7665–67**

**Relating to increasing the debt limit:** The House passed S.J. Res. 33, relating to increasing the debt limit, by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 449.

**Pages H7808–14, H7816–20**

H. Res. 852, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 33) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 446, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 445.

**Pages H7808–13**

**Senate Referrals:** S. 854 was held at the desk. S. 2959 was held at the desk. S. 3377 was held at the desk.

**Page H7653**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7653, H7794, and H7803.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Nine yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7663–64, H7664–65, H7665–66, H7666–67, H7812, H7813, H7814–15, H7815–16, H7819–20.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 12:23 a.m.

## Committee Meetings

### A GLOBAL CRISIS NEEDS A GLOBAL SOLUTION: THE URGENT NEED TO ACCELERATE VACCINATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

*Committee on Oversight and Reform:* Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis held a hearing entitled “A Global Crisis Needs a Global Solution: The Urgent Need to Accelerate Vaccinations Around the World”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### COMBATING INTERNATIONAL ISLAMOPHOBIA ACT; A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND MARK RANDALL MEADOWS IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 5665, the “Combating International Islamophobia Act”; and a Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find Mark Randall Meadows in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a closed rule providing for consideration of the resolution accompanying House Report 117–216. The rule provides that if House Report 117–216 is called up by direction of the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, all points of order against the report shall be waived and it shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided among and controlled by Representative Thompson of Mississippi, Representative Cheney of Wyoming, and an opponent, or their respective designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the resolution accompanying the report. The rule provides that the resolution accompanying the report shall be considered as read. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5665, the “Combating International Islamophobia Act”. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–23, modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the

bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Meeks, Chairman Thompson of Mississippi, and Representatives McCaul, Cheney, and Armstrong.

## JOINT RESOLUTION RELATING TO INCREASING THE DEBT LIMIT

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on S.J. Res. 33, joint resolution relating to increasing the debt limit. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a closed rule providing for consideration of S.J. Res. 33, the Joint resolution relating to increasing the debt limit. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one motion to commit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Beyer and Arrington.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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## NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1337)

S. 610, to address behavioral health and well-being among health care professionals. Signed on December 10, 2021. (Public Law 117–71)

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine disaster recovery assistance, focusing on authorization of the Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery Program, 10 a.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* business meeting to consider S. 46, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, S. 3196, to enhance the policies, procedures, and training for midshipmen at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, an original bill entitled, “Omnibus Tourism Act”, S. 3309, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production, the nominations of Alan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and

Information, Jed David Kolko, of California, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Viqar Ahmad, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Commerce, and Mary T. Boyle, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. airline industry, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Marc R. Stanley, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, Rashad Hussain, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Ramin Toloui, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary (Economic and Business Affairs), Thomas Barrett, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Erik D. Ramanathan, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden, Scott Miller, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein, Jamie L. Harpootlian, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, John R. Bass, of New York, to be an Under Secretary (Management), Mark Brzezinski, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, and Michael M. Adler, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, all of the Department of State, Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Scott A. Nathan, of Massachusetts, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, Chantale Yokmin Wong, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador, and other pending calendar business, 10:45 a.m., SD–106.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 3:30 p.m., SD–106.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* business meeting to consider S. 3099, to amend title 44, United States Code, to establish the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program within the General Services Administration, S. 2932, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the “Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building”, H.R. 767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Fulton Street in Middletown, New York, as the “Benjamin A. Gilman Post Office Building”, H.R. 1170, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 League in Irvine, California, as the “Tuskegee Airman Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Friend Memorial Post Office Building”, H.R. 1444, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 132 North Loudoun Street, Suite 1 in Winchester, Virginia, as the “Patsy Cline Post Office”, H.R. 3210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 15th Street in Boulder, Colorado, as the “Officer Eric H. Talley Post Office Building”, and the nominations of Loren L. AliKhan, and John P. Howard III, both

to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Adrienne Jennings Noti, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, 11:30 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Alison J. Nathan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Georgette Castner, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, Ruth Bermudez Montenegro, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Julie Rebecca Rubin, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Cristina D. Silva, and Anne Rachel Traum, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Nevada, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine the impact of consolidation and monopoly power on American innovation, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* business meeting to consider S. 731, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the management of information technology projects and investments of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 1607, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve how the Department of Veterans Affairs discloses to individuals entitled to educational assistance from the Department risks associated with using such assistance at particular educational institutions and to restore entitlement of students to such assistance who are pursuing programs of education at educational institutions that are subject to Federal or State civil enforcement action, S. 1664, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take certain actions to improve the processing by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for disability compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder, S. 1850, to preserve the memorials to chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery, S. 1936, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for extensions of the time limitations for use of entitlement under Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance programs by reason of school closures due to emergency and other situations, S. 1944, to improve Vet Centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 2089, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that grants provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for State veterans' cemeteries do not restrict States from authorizing the interment of certain deceased members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces in such cemeteries, S. 2431, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to require the employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive training developed by the Inspector General of the Department on reporting wrongdoing to, responding to requests from, and cooperating with the Office of Inspector General, S. 2513, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the application and review process of the Department of

Veterans Affairs for clothing allowance claims submitted by veterans, S. 2514, to rename the Provo Veterans Center in Orem, Utah, as the “Col. Gail S. Halvorsen ‘Candy Bomber’ Veterans Center”, S. 2533, to improve mammography services furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 2624, to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2022, S. 2627, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve assistance for veterans with travel necessary for counseling, mental health services, health care, and others services furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 2644, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to members of the National Guard who perform certain full-time duty, S. 2687, to provide the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs testimonial subpoena authority, S. 2720, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national clinical pathway for prostate cancer, S. 2761, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to maintain demographic information regarding veterans and publish such information on a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 2787, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 2794, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase automatic maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program and the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, S. 2852, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the payment of care in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently, S. 3025, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, S. 3094, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve homeless veterans reintegration programs, S. 3163, to improve access to medical examinations required by veterans to obtain disability compensation or pension under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, S. 3293, to expand access of veterans to mental health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, an original bill entitled, ‘Veterans Benefits Improvement Act’, and the nomination of Kurt D. DelBene, of Washington, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Information and Technology), 3 p.m., SR-418.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SVC-217.

## House

No hearings are scheduled.

## Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 15

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 1605, National Defense Authorization Act, and vote on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 1605, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Jennifer Sung, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Samantha D. Elliott, of New Hampshire, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire at 2:15 p.m.

## Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Thursday, December 16

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Aderholt, Robert B., Ala., E1364, E1366  
 Babin, Brian, Tex., E1361  
 Banks, Jim, Ind., E1373  
 Bishop, Dan, N.C., E1376  
 Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E1369  
 Bost, Mike, Ill., E1373  
 Brown, Anthony G., Md., E1375  
 Bush, Cori, Mo., E1364  
 Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E1374  
 Courtney, Joe, Conn., E1368  
 Crawford, Eric A. "Rick", Ark., E1365  
 Fortenberry, Jeff, Nebr., E1371  
 Foxx, Virginia, N.C., E1372

Garcia, Sylvia R., Tex., E1369  
 Gimenez, Carlos A., Fla., E1362  
 Graves, Sam, Mo., E1362, E1366, E1369  
 Guest, Michael, Miss., E1361, E1362, E1365, E1369, E1374  
 Hudson, Richard, N.C., E1368  
 Johnson, Mike, La., E1371  
 Krishnamoorthi, Raja, Ill., E1372  
 LaMalfa, Doug, Calif., E1361  
 Lee, Barbara, Calif., E1364  
 McCollum, Betty, Minn., E1370  
 McGovern, James P., Mass., E1363, E1366  
 Morelle, Joseph D., N.Y., E1370  
 Neal, Richard E., Mass., E1373  
 Norman, Ralph, S.C., E1367, E1374

Posey, Bill, Fla., E1369  
 Ross, Deborah K., N.C., E1370  
 Scott, Robert C. "Bobby", Va., E1372  
 Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E1362, E1371  
 Slotkin, Elissa, Mich., E1362, E1363, E1371  
 Smucker, Lloyd, Pa., E1366  
 Spatz, Victoria, Ind., E1374, E1376  
 Speier, Jackie, Calif., E1367  
 Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E1361, E1372  
 Stevens, Haley M., Mich., E1373  
 Titus, Dina, Nev., E1365  
 Tlaib, Rashida, Mich., E1368  
 Wexton, Jennifer, Va., E1366, E1367  
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E1374, E1376



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