

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S725–S756

Measures Introduced: Eighteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3655–3672. **Pages S752–53**

Measures Reported:

S. 442, to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to procure the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting products and to issue guidance on the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of those products. (S. Rept. No. 117–80) **Page S752**

Measures Passed:

Health Care for Burn Pit Veterans Act: Senate passed S. 3541, to improve health care and services for veterans exposed to toxic substances. **Pages S733–35**

Appointments:

Cyprus, Greece, Israel, and the United State 3+1 Interparliamentary Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–81, appointed the following individuals to serve as members of the Senate Delegation to the Cyprus, Greece, Israel, and the United State 3+1 Interparliamentary Group: Senators Menendez, Gillibrand, and Duckworth. **Page S756**

Further Additional Extending Government Funding Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 17, 2022, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 6617, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022; and that at 1 p.m., the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed thereon ripen. **Page S756**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 83 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. EX. 58), Celeste Ann Wallander, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. **Page S747**

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

By 81 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. EX. 56), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S732**

By 94 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 59), David A. Honey, of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. **Pages S747–48**

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

By 93 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. EX. 57), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S732**

Messages from the House: **Page S751**

Executive Communications: **Pages S751–52**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S753–54**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S754–55**

Additional Statements: **Page S751**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S755–56**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S756**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—59) **Pages S732, S747–48**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:20 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S756.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

EPA’S RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD PROGRAM

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency’s Renewable Fuel Standard program, focusing on challenges and opportunities, after receiving testimony from Cory-Ann Wind, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Portland; and Emily Skor, Growth Energy, Lucian Pugliaresi, Energy Policy Research Foundation, Inc., and LeAnn Johnson Koch, Perkins Coie LLP, all of Washington, D.C.

WESTERN BALKANS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation concluded a hearing to examine the Western Balkans, focusing on supporting peace and prosperity, after receiving testimony from Gabriel Escobar, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State; and Lisa Magno, Deputy Assistant Administrator, United States Agency for International Development.

U.S.-COLOMBIA RELATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reinvigorating United States-Colombia relations, after receiving testimony from Brian A. Nichols, Assistant Secretary for Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, and Todd D. Robinson, Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, both of the Department of State; Marcela Escobari, Assistant Administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean, United States Agency for International Development; and Daniel A. Restrepo, Center for American Progress, and Celina B. Realuyo, The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, both of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2264, to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996.

INDIAN AFFAIRS LEGISLATION

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 3123, to amend the Siletz Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, S. 3126, to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand

Ronde Community, S. 3273, to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, and S. 3381, to require the Bureau of Indian Affairs to process and complete all mortgage packages associated with residential and business mortgages on Indian land by certain deadlines, after receiving testimony from Kathryn Isom-Clause, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Development for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Delores Pigsley, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, Siletz; Cheryle A. Kennedy, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Grand Ronde, Oregon; Reid Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Palm Springs, California; and Sharon Vogel, Cheyenne River Housing Authority, Eagle Butte, South Dakota, on behalf of the South Dakota Native Homeownership Coalition.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Trina L. Thompson, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, who were both introduced by Senator Padilla, Nina Morrison, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, who was introduced by Senator Schumer, and Paul Monteiro, of Maryland, to be Director, Community Relations Service, Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

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

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 18, 2022.

Committee Meetings**WHY CONGRESS NEEDS TO ABOLISH THE DEBT LIMIT**

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Why Congress Needs to Abolish the Debt Limit”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

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

SERVING ALL STUDENTS: PROMOTING A HEALTHIER, MORE SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled “Serving All Students: Promoting a Healthier, More Supportive School Environment”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CONNECTING AMERICA: OVERSIGHT OF NTIA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Connecting America: Oversight of NTIA”. Testimony was heard from Alan Davidson, Assistant Secretary, Communications and Information, and Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce.

AN UNPRECEDENTED INVESTMENT FOR HISTORIC RESULTS: HOW FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR MDIS AND CDFIS HAVE LAUNCHED A NEW ERA FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “An Unprecedented Investment for Historic Results: How Federal Support for MDIs and CDFIs Have Launched a New Era for Disadvantaged Communities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BIG DATA: PRIVACY RISKS AND NEEDED REFORMS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Big Data: Privacy Risks and Needed Reforms in the Public and Private Sectors”. Testimony was heard from Hugh Halpern, Director, Government Publishing Office; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1546, the “Combating Online Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2021”; H.R. 3525, the “Commission To Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act”; H.R. 3540, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2021”; H.R. 4458, the “KELP Act”; H.R. 4677,

the “New York-New Jersey Watershed Protection Act”; H.R. 5973, the “Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Reauthorization Act of 2021”; H.R. 6023, the “Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2021”; H.R. 6142, the “Buckeye National Scenic Trail Feasibility Study Act of 2021”; H.R. 6199, the “Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act”; H.R. 6201, the “National Liberty Memorial Preservation Act”; H.R. 6337, the “Biking on Long-Distance Trails Act”; H.R. 6434, the “Japanese American World War II History Network Act”; H.R. 6435, the “Self-Determination Act of 2000 for Fiscal Year 2021”; and H. Res. 641, recognizing and celebrating the 75th anniversary of the National Association of Conservation Districts and their commitment to our lands. H.R. 1546, H.R. 6199, H.R. 6201, H.R. 6337, H.R. 6434, H.R. 6435, and H. Res. 641 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 3525, H.R. 3540, H.R. 4458, H.R. 4677, H.R. 5973, H.R. 6023, and H.R. 6142 were ordered reported, as amended.

DEFENDING U.S. ALLIES AND INTERESTS AGAINST RUSSIAN AGGRESSION IN EASTERN EUROPE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “Defending U.S. Allies and Interests Against Russian Aggression in Eastern Europe”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FEMA PRIORITIES FOR 2022: STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled “FEMA Priorities for 2022: Stakeholder Perspectives”. Testimony was heard from Chris Currie, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

CONGRESS BACK HOME: MODERNIZING DISTRICT OFFICE OPERATIONS

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Congress Back Home: Modernizing District Office Operations”. Testimony was heard from Danielle Radovich Piper, Office of Representative Perlmutter; Sarah Youngdahl, Office of Representative Reschenthaler; and a public witness.

Joint Meetings

TURKEY

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission received a briefing on foreign policy and human rights in Turkey from Soner Cagaptay,

Washington Institute for the Near East Turkish Research Program; and Deniz Yuksel, Amnesty International.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Franklin R. Parker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Agnes Schaefer, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, and Ravi Chaudhary, of Virginia, and Frank Calvelli, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the state of the American economy, focusing on a year of unprecedented economic growth and future plans, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine Warrior Met, focusing on what corporate raiders are doing to workers and consumers, 11 a.m., SH-216/VTC.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine IRS customer service challenges, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the gaps in America's biosecurity preparedness, 10:15 a.m., SD-342/VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9 a.m., SD-106.

HOUSE

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled "Exploring Pathways to Affordable, Universal Health Coverage", 12 p.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Americans

in Need: Responding to the National Mental Health Crisis", 11:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy, hearing entitled "The Role of the International Monetary Fund in a Changing Global Landscape", 12 p.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled "Small Businesses, Big Impact: Ensuring Small and Minority-Owned Businesses Share in the Economic Recovery", 3 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation, hearing entitled "The Burma Crisis, One Year After the Coup", 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight, Management, and Accountability, hearing entitled "Call to Action: Private Sector Investment in the Northern Triangle and its Impact on Homeland Security", 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Oversight of the January 6th Capitol Attack: Ongoing Review of the United States Capitol Police Inspector General Flash Reports", 3 p.m., 1310 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled "The Rise in Violence Against Minority Institutions", 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled "Securing the Future of Climate Adaptation Science at the United States Geological Survey", 1 p.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Office of Insular Affairs Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 6504, the "Native Pacific Islanders of America Equity Act", 4 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled "H2Success: Research and Development to Advance a Clean Hydrogen Future", 10 a.m., Zoom.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Thursday, February 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 6617, Further Additional Extending Government Funding Act. At 1 p.m., the motion to invoke cloture thereon ripen.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Friday, February 18

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.



Congressional Record

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