

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1229–S1260

Measures Introduced: Twenty-four bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3859–3882, S.J. Res. 42, and S. Res. 550–553.

Pages S1253–54

Measures Passed:

Safe Connections Act: Senate passed S. 120, to prevent and respond to the misuse of communications services that facilitates domestic violence and other crimes, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S1246–48

Cortez Masto (for Schatz/Fischer) Amendment No. 5001, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S1246–48**

Recognizing contributions of AmeriCorps: Senate agreed to S. Res. 551, recognizing the contributions of AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to the lives of the people of the United States.

Page S1248

Measures Considered:

America Competes Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4521, to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology.

Pages S1237–38

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, March 17, 2022, a vote on cloture will occur 5:30 p.m., on Monday, March 21, 2022. **Pages S1237–38**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1237**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 21, 2022;

and that the motion to invoke cloture thereon ripen at 5:30 p.m. **Pages S1259–60**

Nathan Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Alison J. Nathan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit. **Pages S1229–36, S1238–39**

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

By 51 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 96), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1239**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 63 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 94), Jacqueline Scott Corley, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California. **Pages S1236–37**

By 57 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 95), Fred W. Slaughter, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Page S1237

Bidtah N. Becker, of Arizona, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2022.

Gretchen Gonzalez Davidson, of Michigan, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2022.

Vanessa Northington Gamble, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026.

David Anthony Hajdu, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026. **Page S1246**

Messages from the House: **Page S1252**

Measures Referred: **Page S1252**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S1252**

Executive Communications: **Page S1252**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S1253**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1254–55**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1255–57**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1251–52**

Amendments Submitted: Pages S1257–59
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S1259
Privileges of the Floor: Page S1259
Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today.
 (Total—96) Pages S1237, S1239

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:07 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, March 21, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1259–60.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee received a closed briefing on Russia's invasion of Ukraine from Laura K. Cooper, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia, Blake Puckett, Senior Defense Intelligence Analyst for Russia and Eurasia, and Rear Admiral Oliver T. Lewis, USN, Deputy Director for Political-Military Affairs for Europe, NATO, Russia, Joint Staff J–5, all of the Department of Defense.

DIGITAL ASSETS IN ILLICIT FINANCE

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the role of digital assets in illicit finance, after receiving testimony from Jonathan Levin, Chainalysis Inc., New York, New York; Michael Mosier, Espresso Systems, Vienna, Virginia; Michael Chobanian, Blockchain Association of Ukraine, Kiev; and Shane T. Stansbury, Duke University School of Law, Durham, North Carolina.

NOMINATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of

Kathryn Huff, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear Energy), after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

CHARITABLE GIVING

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine charitable giving and trends in the non-profit sector, after receiving testimony from Daniel J. Cardinali, Independent Sector, and C. Eugene Steuerle, Urban Brookings Tax Policy Center, both of Washington, D.C.; Susannah Morgan, Oregon Food Bank, Portland; and Una Osili, Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Indianapolis.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine pandemic response and accountability, focusing on reducing fraud and expanding access to COVID–19 relief through effective oversight, after receiving testimony from Jason S. Miller, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office; Michael E. Horowitz, Chair, Pandemic Response Accountability Committee, and Inspector General, Department of Justice; and Larry D. Turner, Inspector General, Department of Labor.

FINANCIAL INCLUSION FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine building financial inclusion for America's underserved populations, after receiving testimony from Lori A. Trawinski, AARP, Alexandria, Virginia; Stephen Gilchrist, South Carolina African American Chamber of Commerce, Columbus; Kai Stinchcombe, True Link Financial, Healdsburg, California; and Shelley Jaspering, Ames, Iowa.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 40 public bills, H.R. 7108–7147; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 77; and H. Res. 989–991, were introduced.

Pages H3825–27

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H3828–29

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Jackson Lee to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H3779

Recess: The House recessed at 11:07 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. Page H3787

Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act: The House passed H.R. 963, to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration, by a

yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 81. **Pages H3788–98, H3811–13**

Rejected the Bentz motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a yea-and-nay vote of 208 yeas to 222 nays, Roll No. 80.

Page H3812

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–34 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. **Pages H3788–89**

Rejected:

Fitzgerald amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 117–273) that sought to strike the carve out for unions (by a yea-and-nay vote of 184 yeas to 246 nays, Roll No. 79). **Pages H3797–98, H3811–12**

H. Res. 979, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 963) and (H.R. 2116) was agreed to yesterday, March 16th.

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

Expressing the hope for justice for the victims of Bloody Sunday, one of the most tragic of days during the Troubles, on its 50th anniversary as well as acknowledging the progress made in fostering peace in Northern Ireland and on the island of Ireland in recent decades: H. Res. 888, amended, expressing the hope for justice for the victims of Bloody Sunday, one of the most tragic of days during the Troubles, on its 50th anniversary as well as acknowledging the progress made in fostering peace in Northern Ireland and on the island of Ireland in recent decades; **Pages H3798–H3802**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Condemning the killing of 14 individuals and violence on Bloody Sunday, one of the most tragic of days during the Troubles 50 years ago, and calling on all parties to take meaningful steps toward peace and reconciliation.”; **Page H3802**

Suspending Normal Trade Relations with Russia and Belarus: H.R. 7108, to suspend normal trade relations treatment for the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 424 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 78.

Pages H3802–10

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3810, H3811–12, H3812, and H3813.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Committee Meetings

United States Southern Command

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing entitled “United States Southern Command”. Testimony was heard from General Laura J. Richardson, Commander, U.S. Southern Command. This hearing was closed.

NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE GREATER MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activities in the Greater Middle East and Africa”. Testimony was heard from Sasha Baker, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense; General Stephen Townsend, U.S. Army, Commander, U.S. Africa Command; and General Kenneth McKenzie, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps, Commander, U.S. Central Command.

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE POSTURE TO SUPPORT THE WARFIGHTERS AND POLICY MAKERS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations held a hearing entitled “Defense Intelligence Posture to Support the Warfighters and Policy Makers”. Testimony was heard from Ronald M. Moultrie, Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, Department of Defense; General Paul M. Nakasone, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, Director, National Security Agency, and Chief, Central Security Service; and Lieutenant General Scott Berrier, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE: LEGISLATION TO ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND IMPROVE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “The Future of Medicine: Legislation to Encourage Innovation and Improve Oversight”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 7066, the “Russia and Belarus Financial Sanctions Act”; H.R. 7081, the “Ukraine Comprehensive Debt Repayment Relief Act”; H.R. 7080, the “Nowhere to Hide Oligarchs’ Assets”; H.R. 6891, the “Isolate Russian Government Officials Act”; and H.R. 6899, the “Russia and Belarus SDR Exchange Prohibition Act”. H.R. 7066, H.R. 6891, H.R. 7080, H.R. 7081, and H.R. 6899 were ordered reported, as amended.

THE TARGETING OF BLACK INSTITUTIONS: FROM CHURCH VIOLENCE TO UNIVERSITY BOMB THREATS

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Targeting of Black Institutions: From Church Violence to University Bomb Threats”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

VOTING IN AMERICA: ENSURING FREE AND FAIR ACCESS TO THE BALLOT IN TEXAS

Committee on House Administration: Subcommittee on Elections held a hearing entitled “Voting in America: Ensuring Free and Fair Access to the Ballot in Texas”. Testimony was heard from Andy Brown, Judge, Travis County, Texas; and public witnesses.

WORKPLACE PROTECTIONS FOR FEDERAL JUDICIARY EMPLOYEES: FLAWS IN THE CURRENT SYSTEM AND THE NEED FOR STATUTORY CHANGE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Workplace Protections for Federal Judiciary Employees: Flaws in the Current System and the Need for Statutory Change”. Testimony was heard from M. Margaret McKeown, Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; Julie A. Robinson, Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on H.R. 3431, the “Increasing Community Access to Resiliency Grants Act of 2021”; H.R. 6491, the “Salmon Focused Investments in Sustainable Habitats Act”; H.R. 6651, the “Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act”; H.R. 6785, the “Right Whale Coexistence Act of 2022”; and H.R. 6987, to establish programs to reduce the impacts of vessel traffic and underwater noise on marine mammals, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Representative Larsen of Washington; Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Deputy Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

HBCUS AT RISK: EXAMINING FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “HBCUs at Risk: Examining Federal Support for Historically Black Colleges and

Universities”. Testimony was heard from Michelle Asha Cooper, Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education; Sean Haglund, Associate Director, Office for Bombing Prevention, Department of Homeland Security; Ryan T. Young, Executive Assistant Director, Intelligence Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

MEMBER DAY HEARING ON PROXY VOTING AND REMOTE COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS AS ESTABLISHED BY H. RES. 965 OF THE 116TH CONGRESS

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Member Day Hearing on Proxy Voting and Remote Committee Proceedings as Established by H. Res. 965 of the 116th Congress” [Original Jurisdiction Hearing]. Testimony was heard from Chairman Takano, Chairman Castor of Florida, and Representatives Biggs, DeSaulnier, Bost, Escobar, Davis of Illinois, Hoyer, C. Scott Franklin of Florida, Sánchez, Gallagher, Rose, Roy, Rutherford, Smith of Missouri, and Westerman.

SETTING THE STANDARDS: STRENGTHENING U.S. LEADERSHIP IN TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a hearing entitled “Setting the Standards: Strengthening U.S. Leadership in Technical Standards”. Testimony was heard from James K. Olthoff, Acting Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

AVIATION NOISE: MEASURING PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “Aviation Noise: Measuring Progress in Addressing Community Concerns”. Testimony was heard from Kevin Welsh, Executive Director, Office of Environment and Energy, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation; Heather Krause, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

BUILDING A BETTER VA: ADDRESSING HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION CHALLENGES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a business meeting to approve Majority and Minority Subcommittee Assignments, and hearing entitled “Building a Better VA: Addressing Healthcare Workforce Recruitment and Retention Challenges”.

Subcommittee Assignments were approved. Testimony was heard from Gina Grosso, Assistant Secretary for Human Resources Administration/Operations, Security and Preparedness, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

HEARING WITH IRS COMMISSIONER RETTIG ON THE 2022 FILING SEASON

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “Hearing with IRS Commissioner Rettig on the 2022 Filing Season”. Testimony was heard from Charles P. Rettig, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury.

INNOVATIVE WORKPLACES, HISTORIC SPACES: MODERNIZING HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Innovative Workplaces, Historic Spaces: Modernizing House Office Buildings”. Testimony was heard from J. Brett Blanton, Architect of the Capitol; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

BALTICS UNDER PRESSURE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine the Baltics under pressure, after receiving testimony from Laima

Andrikiene, Foreign Relations Committee of the Seimas, Parliament of Lithuania; Marko Mihkelson, Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu, Parliament of Estonia; and Rihards Kols, Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saeima, Parliament of Latvia.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D268)

H.R. 2471, making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for providing emergency assistance for the situation in Ukraine. Signed on March 15, 2022. (Public Law 117–103)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to receive a briefing on Ukraine’s defensive needs, 10:30 a.m., WEBEX.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, March 21

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, March 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4521, America COMPETES Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of H.R. 2116—CROWN Act.

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