

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5055–S5092

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3066–3081, and S. Res. 412–416.

Pages S5087–88

Measures Passed:

Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act: By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 260), Senate passed S.J. Res. 32, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)”.
Pages S5055–62

National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 414, designating October 8, 2023, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

Pages S5082–83

Authorizing testimony and representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 415, to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Samsel.

Pages S5082–83

Authorizing testimony and representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 416, to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Sullivan.

Pages S5082–83

Executive Communications:

Pages S5085–87

Executive Reports of Committees:

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Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S5088–89

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S5089–91

Additional Statements:

Pages S5084–85

Amendments Submitted:

Page S5092

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S5092

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today.
(Total—260) Page S5062

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:08 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2023. (For Senate’s program, see the re-

marks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5092.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MILITARY TO CIVILIAN TRANSITION

Committee on Armed Services: with the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs concluded a joint hearing to examine military to civilian transition, focusing on success after service, after receiving testimony from Ashish Vazirani, Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness); Joshua D. Jacobs, Under Secretary for Benefits, and John W. Boerstler, Chief Veterans Experience Officer, both of the Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; James D. Rodriguez, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’ Employment and Training Service; John D. Sawyer, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Ryan Gallucci, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; Tom Porter, Blue Star Families; Kevin O’Neil, The American Legion; and Arthur DeGroat, Kansas State University.

ACHIEVING HEALTH CARE EFFICIENCY

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine achieving health care efficiency, focusing on improving care and lowering costs, after receiving testimony from Chapin White, Director of Health Analysis, Congressional Budget Office; Matthew Fiedler, The Brookings Institution, and Theo Merkel, Paragon Health Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; Leemore S. Dafny, Harvard Business School, Boston, Massachusetts; and G. Alan Kurose, Rhode Island Foundation, Providence.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Michael G. Whitaker, of Vermont, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, Rebecca Kelly Slaughter, of Maryland, Melissa Holyoak, of Utah, and Andrew N. Ferguson, of Virginia, each to be a

Federal Trade Commissioner, Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, Christopher Koos, of Illinois, and Joel Matthew Szabat, of Maryland, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Douglas Dziak, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

COMMERCIAL HUMAN SPACE ACTIVITIES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Space and Science concluded a hearing to examine promoting safety, innovation, and competitiveness in U.S. commercial human space activities, after receiving testimony from Brigadier General Wayne Monteith, USAF Ret., former Associate Administrator, Office of Commercial Space Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Arnold AFB, Tennessee; Caryn Schenewerk, CS Consulting, LLC, Rockville, Maryland; Sirisha Bandla, Virgin Galactic, Mojave, California; William H. Gerstenmaier, Space Exploration Technologies Corp., Hawthorne, California; and Phil Joyce, Blue Origin, Kent, Washington.

CLEAN WATER ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the implications of *Sackett v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* for Clean Water Act protections of wetlands and streams, after receiving testimony from S. Mazeika Patricio Sullivan, Clemson University Experiment Station Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, Clemson, South Carolina; Kourtney Revells, Bayou City Waterkeeper, Houston, Texas; and Susan Parker Bodine, Earth and Water Law, Washington, D.C.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Medicare Advantage annual enrollment, focusing on cracking down on deceptive practices and improving senior experiences, after receiving testimony from Christina Reeg, Ohio Department of Insurance, Columbus; Cobi Blumenfeld-Gantz, Chapter, New York, New York; and Krista Hoglund, Security Health Plan, Marshfield, Wisconsin.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jacob J. Lew, of New York, to be Ambassador to the State of Israel, Department of State, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Monica M. Bertagnolli, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Barrasso, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress:

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights: Senators Klobuchar (Chair), Whitehouse, Coons, Blumenthal, Hirono, Booker, Welch, Lee, Grassley, Hawley, Cotton, Tillis, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution: Senators Butler (Chair), Blumenthal, Booker, Ossoff, Cruz, Cornyn, and Lee.

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism: Senators Booker (Chair), Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Coons, Padilla, Ossoff, Butler, Cotton, Grassley, Cornyn, Lee, Cruz, and Kennedy.

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights: Senators Whitehouse (Chair), Blumenthal, Hirono, Booker, Padilla, Welch, Butler, Kennedy, Grassley, Lee, Cruz, Tillis, and Hawley.

Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law: Senators Ossoff (Chair), Blumenthal, Welch, Butler, Blackburn, Kennedy, and Hawley.

Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety: Senators Padilla (Chair), Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Coons, Hirono, Booker, Welch, Cornyn, Grassley, Cruz, Cotton, Tillis, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property: Senators Coons (Chair), Hirono, Padilla, Ossoff, Welch, Tillis, Cornyn, Cotton, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law: Senators Blumenthal (Chair), Klobuchar, Coons, Hirono, Padilla, Ossoff, Hawley, Kennedy, Blackburn, Lee, and Cornyn.

IMMIGRATION COURTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety concluded a hearing to examine the nation's immigration courts, focusing on preserving due process and the rule of law and actions needed to address workforce planning and other management challenges, after receiving testimony from Rebecca Gambler, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; Charles D. Stimson, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.; Jeremy L.

McKinney, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Greensboro, North Carolina; and Mimi

Tsankov, National Association of Immigration Judges, New York, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 5978–5987; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 794–796, were introduced. **Pages H5028–29**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5029–30**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Call of the House: Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XX, Representative Johnson (LA) moved a call of the House. Accordingly, Members were counted and the Chair announced that 432 Members being counted, a quorum was present, Roll No. 522. **Pages H5025–26**

Election of Speaker: The House conducted one vote to elect a Speaker, from which a majority of 218 was not ascertained, therefore a Speaker was not elected. During the vote for Speaker, the Honorable Hakeem Jeffries received 212 votes, the Honorable Jim Jordan received 199 votes, the Honorable Steve Scalise received 7 votes, the Honorable Kevin McCarthy received 5 votes, the Honorable Lee Zeldin received 3 votes, the Honorable Mike Garcia (CA) received 1 vote, the Honorable Tom Emmer received 1 vote, the Honorable Byron Donalds received 1 vote, the Honorable Candice Miller (MI) received 1 vote, the Honorable John Boehner received 1 vote, the Honorable Kay Granger received 1 vote, and the Honorable Bruce Westerman received 1 vote, Roll No. 523. On Tuesday, October 17th, the Chair appointed Representatives Steil, Morelle, Loudermilk, and Sewell to act as Tellers. Additional proceedings are expected tomorrow, October 19th. **Pages H5026–28**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:16 p.m. and reconvened at 5:11 p.m. **Page H5028**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 p.m. tomorrow, October 19th. **Page H5028**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There was one quorum call, Roll No. 522, which appears on pages H5025–26.

Adjournment: The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SAFEGUARDING DATA AND INNOVATION: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce held a hearing entitled “Safeguarding Data and Innovation: Building the Foundation for the Use of Artificial Intelligence”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXPOSING EPA EFFORTS TO LIMIT CHEMICALS NEEDED FOR LIFE-SAVING MEDICAL DEVICES AND OTHER ESSENTIAL PRODUCTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials held a hearing entitled “Exposing EPA Efforts to Limit Chemicals Needed for Life-Saving Medical Devices and Other Essential Products”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S UNPRECEDENTED OBSTRUCTION OF THE BOEM OFFSHORE LEASING PROGRAM

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Examining the Biden Administration’s Unprecedented Obstruction of the BOEM Offshore Leasing Program”. Testimony was heard from Jerry Moses, Director of State and Federal Relations, Alaska; Liz Klein, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on H.R. 4389, the “Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act of 2023”; H.R. 4770, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023”; and H.R. 5009, the “WILD Act”. Testimony was heard from Representative Sarbanes; Robert T. Caccese, Director of Policy, Planning and Communications, Fish and

Boat Commission, Pennsylvania; Carrie Selberg Robinson, Director, Office of Habitat Conservation, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Program Management and Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

SECURING OUR BORDER, SAVING OUR NATIONAL PARKS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Securing Our Border, Saving Our National Parks”. Testimony was heard from Michael Reynolds, Deputy Director, U.S. National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Chris French, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; John Nores, Jr., Special Operations, Marijuana Enforcement Team, California Department of Fish and Wildlife; and public witnesses.

STRENGTHENING BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY STANDARDS: PROTECTING AGAINST FUTURE PANDEMICS

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic held a hearing entitled “Strengthening Biosafety and Biosecurity Standards: Protecting Against Future Pandemics”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BALANCING KNOWLEDGE AND GOVERNANCE: FOUNDATIONS FOR EFFECTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a joint hearing entitled “Balancing Knowledge and Governance: Foundations for Effective Risk Management of Artificial Intelligence”. Testimony was heard from Elham Tabassi, Associate Director for Emerging Technologies, Information Technology Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

RUNNING ON EMPTY: THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled “Running on Empty: The Highway Trust Fund”. Testimony was heard from Kris Strickler, Director, Oregon Department of Transportation; Chad Shirley, Principal Analyst, Microeconomics Studies Division, Congressional Budget Office, U.S. Con-

gress; Reema Griffith, Executive Director, Washington State Transportation Commission; and a public witness.

PROTECTING BENEFICIARIES FROM THE HARM OF IMPROPER PAYMENTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing entitled “Protecting Beneficiaries from the Harm of Improper Payments”. Testimony was heard from Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner, U.S. Social Security Administration; Tonya Eickman, Program Audit Division Director, Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Social Security Administration; and Elizabeth Curda, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the findings of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tanya F. Otsuka, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board, Mark Toshiro Uyeda, of California, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Spencer Bachus III, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Jennifer L. Fain, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and Claudia Slacik, of New York, and William Brodsky, of Illinois, both to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's due diligence process for awarding competitive grants and loans funded through the Inflation Reduction Act and the bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Department's overall innovation investment strategy, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard H. Riley IV, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia, Mark Toner, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Liberia, and Herro Mustafa Garg, of California, to be Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt, all of the Department of State, David E. White, Jr., of New York, to be Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, Paul K. Martin, of Maryland, to be Inspector General,

United States Agency for International Development, and other pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-419.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation, hearing entitled “Can it work? Outside Perspectives on DOD’s Replicator Program”, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Sounding the Alarm: Examining the Need for a Fiscal Commission”, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled “Protecting Kids: Combating Graphic, Explicit Content in School Libraries”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security, hearing entitled “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Powering America’s Energy Future”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “What’s the Prognosis?: Examining Medicare Proposals to Improve Patient Access to Care and Minimize Red Tape for Doctors”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 559, declaring it is the policy of the United States that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable; H.R. 340, to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for terrorist organizations, including Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad; H.R. 3266, to require the Secretary of State to submit annual reports reviewing the curriculum used by the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes; H.R. 3774, to impose additional sanctions with respect to the importation or facilitation of the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes; H.R. 5826, to require a report on sanctions under the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act, and for other purposes; H.R. 2973, to require the Secretary of Defense to develop, in cooperation with allies and partners in the Middle East, an integrated maritime domain awareness and interdiction capability, and for other purposes; H. Res. 599, urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization; and H.R. 1809, to require the development of strategies and options to prevent the export to Iran of certain technologies related to unmanned aircraft systems, and for other purposes, 10:20 a.m., 210-HVC.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security, hearing entitled “The Role of Technology in Aviation Security”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability, hearing entitled “Exploitation and Enforcement: Evaluating the Department of Homeland Security’s Efforts to Counter Uyghur Forced Labor”, 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled “IP and Strategic Competition with China: Part III—IP Theft, Cybersecurity, and AI”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 1727, the “Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission Extension Act”; H.R. 5283, the “Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023”; legislation on the Trash Reduction And Suppressing Harm from Environmental Degradation at the Border Act; and legislation on the Ensuring Border Access and Protection on Federal Land Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing on legislation on the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023, 3 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of the U.S. General Services Administration”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Burdensome Regulations: Examining the Effects of DOL Rulemaking on America’s Job Creators”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled “Regional Commissions: A Review of Federal Economic Development Program Effectiveness”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled “Investigating Pandemic Fraud: Preventing History from Repeating Itself”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meeting

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine Israel and Ukraine against terror, 2 p.m., 2247-RHOB.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Thursday, October 19

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 noon, Thursday, October 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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