

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5155–S5195

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3121–3135, and S. Res. 427–432. **Pages S5182–83**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2024”. (S. Rept. No. 118–108) **Page S5182**

Measures Passed:

Volleyball Day in Nebraska: Senate agreed to S. Res. 428, recognizing women’s collegiate athletics and the record-setting Volleyball Day in Nebraska event on August 30, 2023. **Page S5172**

National Early Childhood Literacy Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 430, designating October 20, 2023, as “National Early Childhood Literacy Awareness Day”. **Page S5177**

National Women’s Small Business Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 431, recognizing the month of October 2023 as “National Women’s Small Business Month”. **Page S5177**

Fifth Commemoration of the Antisemitic Attack at Tree of Life Synagogue: Senate agreed to S. Res. 432, recognizing the fifth commemoration of the antisemitic attack that occurred on October 27, 2018, at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. **Page S5177**

Measures Considered:

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S5155–63**

Adopted:

Murray (for Moran) Amendment No. 1250 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prohibit the use of funds appropriated by division A to change rates for reimbursement for transportation via a special mode of

transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and to reduce certain amounts available to the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Daines) Amendment No. 1185 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress an earned value analysis of the Veterans Electronic Health Record system of the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Sullivan/Rosen) Amendment No. 1216 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prioritize the use of funds for certain telehealth services and mental health programs for veterans. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Sullivan/Lummis) Amendment No. 1221 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prohibit the use of funds to procure seafood from China for use in school meals. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Peters/Cornyn) Amendment No. 1283 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide funding for the emergency and transitional pet shelter and housing assistance grant program. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Rosen) Amendment No. 1117 (to Amendment No. 1092), to make amounts available to the Veterans Health Administration to sustain and increase telehealth capacity and associated programmatic efforts. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Schatz) Amendment No. 1120 (to Amendment No. 1092), to extend the period of availability for fiscal year 2021 national infrastructure investments. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Booker/Tuberville) Amendment No. 1175 (to Amendment No. 1092), to increase funding for rural decentralized water systems. **Page S5160**

Murray (for Tillis) Amendment No. 1264 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require a review regarding veterans who engaged in toxic exposure risk activities while serving in Kosovo. **Pages S5160–61**

Murray (for Reed) Amendment No. 1202 (to Amendment No. 1092), to appropriate amounts for shellfish research, with an offset. **Page S5161**

Murray (for Britt) Amendment No. 1270 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide appropriations for certain research using plant genomics, with an offset. **Page S5161**

Murray (for Kelly/Tillis) Amendment No. 1116 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to share certain data with State cancer registries. **Page S5161**

Murray (for Hirono/Moran) Amendment No. 1113 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide funding for competitive grants for construction of agricultural research facilities and related activities, with an offset. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Warnock) Amendment No. 1351 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require the Secretary of Transportation to report on the Federal Aviation Administration's workforce development programs. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Smith/Ricketts) Amendment No. 1134 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require the submission of a report on improving staffing at Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service at the county level. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Rosen) Amendment No. 1220 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide funding for the suppression and control of Mormon crickets in western States. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Cardin/Van Hollen) Amendment No. 1277 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide funding for invasive catfish control. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Padilla) Amendment No. 1140 (to Amendment No. 1092), to improve housing assistance for veterans experiencing homelessness. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 1131 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require a report on the use of third-party contractors to conduct medical disability examinations of veterans. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Klobuchar/Moran) Amendment No. 1203 (to Amendment No. 1092), to make funds available for the aeronautical information management program. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Kelly/Sinema) Amendment No. 1133 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require a report relating to rural community facilities direct loan applicants. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Padilla) Amendment No. 1139 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide for the development of emergency evacuation route planning guidelines and best practices. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Ossoff) Amendment No. 1255 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide funds for the Office of Women's Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to expand access of women veterans to mammography initiatives and equipment. **Page S5162**

Murray (for Merkley/Crapo) Amendment No. 1352 (to Amendment No. 1092), to increase the set-aside for multi-benefit projects under the watershed and flood prevention operations program. **Page S5163**

Murray (for Stabenow) Amendment No. 1115 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide funding for the Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Program. **Page S5163**

By 59 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 266), Vance Amendment No. 1210 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prohibit funds appropriated for the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 2024 from being used to enforce a mask mandate in response to the COVID-19 virus. **Pages S5163-64**

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 268), Kennedy Amendment No. 1354 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prohibit the availability of funds for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. **Page S5169**

Rejected:

By 47 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 267), Graham (for Rubio) Amendment No. 1237 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prohibit the use of funds to implement the final rule regarding energy efficient standards for certain subsidized housing. **Page S5168**

By 56 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 269), Lankford Amendment No. 1232 (to Amendment No. 1092), to provide for a period of continuing appropriations in the event of a lapse in appropriations under the normal appropriations process, and establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to enact appropriations. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S5177**

Withdrawn:

Schumer motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Schumer Amendment No. 1230, to change the effective date. **Page S5160**

Murray Amendment No. 1205 (to Amendment No. 1092), to change the effective date. **Page S5160**

Pending:

Schumer (for Murray/Collins) Amendment No. 1092, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5155**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, October 26, 2023, as provided under the order of Tuesday, October 24, 2023; that if Senator Paul makes a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 44, directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Niger that have not been authorized by Congress, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, Senate vote on the motion at 11:30 a.m.; that if the

motion to discharge is not agreed to, Senate vote on Braun Amendment No. 1182 to the bill; that upon disposition of the Braun Amendment, Senate move to the consideration of S.J. Res. 42, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Food and Nutrition Service relating to “Application of *Bostock v. Clayton County* to Program Discrimination Complaint Processing—Policy Update”; that there be up to 30 minutes for debate equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees, and that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution. **Page S5195**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 51 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 265), Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

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Messages from the House: **Page S5179**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S5179**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5179–80**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5182**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5183–84**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S5184–94

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5194–95**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5195**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5195**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—269) **Pages S5163, S5164, S5168, S5169, S5177**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:02 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2023. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5195.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress:

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment: Senators Menendez (Chair), Reed, Tester, Warner, Warren, Warnock, Butler, Rounds, Crapo, Tillis, Kennedy, Hagerty, and Vance.

Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance: Senators Warner (Chair), Tester,

Van Hollen, Cortez Masto, Butler, Hagerty, Britt, Cramer, and Daines.

Subcommittee on Economic Policy: Senators Warren (Chair), Reed, Menendez, Van Hollen, Smith, Fetterman, Kennedy, Rounds, Tillis, Lummis, and Daines.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development: Senators Smith (Chair), Reed, Menendez, Tester, Cortez Masto, Warnock, Fetterman, Butler, Lummis, Crapo, Rounds, Kennedy, Hagerty, Vance, and Britt.

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection: Senators Warnock (Chair), Warner, Warren, Van Hollen, Cortez Masto, Smith, Fetterman, Tillis, Crapo, Lummis, Vance, Britt, and Cramer.

Senators Brown and Scott (SC) are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUPPLY CHAINS

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how climate change threatens supply chains, after receiving testimony from Scott Kelly, Resilience, Cambridge, United Kingdom; Adam Rose, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Kathy Fulton, American Logistics Aid Network, Auburndale, Florida; David Barker, Barker Companies, Iowa City, Iowa; and Robert McNally, Rapidan Energy Group, Washington, D.C.

PENDING LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a hearing to examine S. 175, to codify certain public land orders relating to the revocation of certain withdrawals of public land in the State of Alaska, S. 297, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to authorize certain construction activities on public lands, S. 1348, to redesignate land within certain wilderness study areas in the State of Wyoming, S. 1719, to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to establish emergency fire-shed management areas, S. 1764, to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, S. 1889, to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, S. 2132, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a pilot program for the establishment and use of a pre-fire-suppression stand density index, S. 2151, to amend the Southwest Forest Health and Wildlife Prevention Act of 2004 to require the establishment of an additional Institute under that Act, S. 2581, to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, S. 2615, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Village Corporations shall not be required to convey land in

trust to the State of Alaska for the establishment of Municipal Corporations, S. 2855, to modernize and streamline the permitting process for broadband infrastructure on Federal land, S. 2867, to address the forest health crisis on the National Forest System and public lands, S. 2991, to improve revegetation and carbon sequestration activities in the United States, S. 3033, to withdraw certain Federal land in the Pecos Watershed area of the State of New Mexico from mineral entry, S. 3036, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Utah certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, S. 3044, to redesignate the Mount Evans Wilderness as the “Mount Blue Sky Wilderness”, S. 3045, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, S. 3046, to make permanent the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity National Forest marina fees, H.R. 3324, to extend the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity Marina fees through fiscal year 2029, S. 3062, to provide for the removal of small-diameter trees in fire hazard areas, and S. 3079, to establish a policy regarding appraisal and valuation services for real property for a transaction over which the Secretary of the Interior has jurisdiction, after receiving testimony from Nada Wolff Culver, Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Jacqueline Emanuel, Associate Deputy Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and Mark Boshell, Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, Salt Lake City.

PAID LEAVE

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine paid leave, focusing on policy, practice, and impact on the workforce, after receiving testimony from Ben Verhoeven, Peoria Gardens, Inc., Albany, Oregon; and Jocelyn Frye, National Partnership for Women and Families, Rachel U. Greszler, The Heritage Foundation Grover M. Hermann Center for the Federal Budget, and Elizabeth Milito, National Federation of Independent Business, all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Jacob J. Lew, of New York, to be Ambassador to the State of Israel, 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, Paul K. Martin, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, United

States Agency for International Development, David E. White, Jr., of New York, to be Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, and routine lists in the Foreign Service.

BLACK SEA REGION SECURITY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation concluded a hearing to examine the Department of State’s strategy for security in the Black Sea region, after receiving testimony from James C. O’Brien, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 2685, to make data and internal guidance on excess personal property publicly available, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2866, to improve the customer experience of the Federal Government, ensure that Federal services are simple, seamless, and secure, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3029, to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase death gratuities and funeral allowances for Federal employees, with an amendment;

S. 2150, to establish an Interagency Council on Service to promote and strengthen opportunities for military service, national service, and public service for all people of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2087, to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2414, to require agencies with working dog programs to implement the recommendations of the Government Accountability Office relating to the health and welfare of working dogs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1258, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule;

S. 3071, to amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects, with amendments; and

S. 3067, to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct an evaluation and submit to Congress a report on ways to reduce the complexity of the cost effectiveness requirements for hazard mitigation assistance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Monica M. Bertagnolli, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Erika L. McEntarfer, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, and Amanda Wood Laihow, of Maine, to be a Member of Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW AND THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act in native communities, after receiving testimony from Jarred-Michael Erickson, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Nespelem, Washington; Jacob Keyes, Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Perkins; Timothy Nuvangyaoma, Hopi Tribe, Kykotsmovi, Arizona; Sherry Parker, Hualapai Tribe, Peach Springs, Arizona; Shawn Malia Kana'iaupuni, Partners in Development Foundation, Honolulu, Hawaii; Jasmine Boyle, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., Anchorage; and Susan Masten, Native American Finance Officers Association, Washington, D.C.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ensuring the safety and well-being of unaccompanied children, after receiving testimony from Joseph Salazar, Office Director, Office of Central American Affairs, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; Robin Dunn Marcos, Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, De-

partment of Health and Human Services; Seema Nanda, Solicitor of Labor, Office of the Solicitor, Department of Labor; and Cardell T. Morant, Assistant Director, Homeland Security Investigations, Center for Countering Human Trafficking, Department of Homeland Security.

FOSTER CHILDREN

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law concluded a hearing to examine the human rights of foster children, after receiving testimony from Melissa D. Carter, Emory Law School, Decatur, Georgia; Emma M. Hetherington, University of Georgia School of Law Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic, Athens; Rachel Aldridge, Wray, Georgia; and Mon'a Houston, Savannah, Georgia.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine VA accountability and transparency, focusing on quality care and benefits for veterans, after receiving testimony from Tracey Therit, Chief Human Capital Officer, Office of Human Resources and Administration/Operations, Security and Preparedness, David Perry, Chief Officer, Workforce Management and Consulting, Veterans Health Administration, Aaron Robison, Senior Attorney-Advisor, Accountability, Office of General Counsel, and Ted Radway, Executive Director, Investigations, and Acting Executive Director, Compliance and Oversight, Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 27 public bills, H.R. 6040–6066; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 810–814, were introduced. **Pages H5103–05**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5107–08**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 3369, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to

conduct a study and hold public meetings with respect to artificial intelligence systems, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–244);

H.R. 3309, to amend the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 to establish a uniform fee schedule applicable to the processing of forms for the consideration of applications for the placement of communications facilities on certain buildings and

other property owned by the Federal Government, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–245, Part 1);

H.R. 3838, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize Federal support of States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–246);

H.R. 3821, to reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018 (H. Rept. 118–247);

H.R. 3343, to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–248);

H.R. 4510, to reauthorize the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, to update the mission and functions of the agency, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–249);

H.R. 1105, to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to reauthorize the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–250);

H.R. 3581, to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the family caregiver program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include services related to mental health and neurological disorders, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–251);

H.R. 4259, to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to require notification with respect to individualized education program teams, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–252);

H.J. Res. 88, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program” (H. Rept. 118–253);

H.R. 4957, to apply the requirements of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 to a vacancy in the office of the Secretary of Labor, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–254); and

H.R. 5349, to develop and disseminate a civic education curriculum and oral history resources re-

garding certain political ideologies, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–255).

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Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Jeremy Leganski, Immaculate Conception Church, Elmhurst, IL. **Page H5047**

Call of the House: Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XX, Representative Bost moved a call of the House. Accordingly, Members were counted and the Chair announced that 429 Members being counted, a quorum was present, Roll No. 526. **Pages H5047–48**

Election of Speaker: The House resumed proceedings from Tuesday, October 17th, Wednesday, October 18th, and Friday, October 20th. The House conducted an additional vote to elect a Speaker, from which a majority was ascertained, and a Speaker was elected. During the final vote for Speaker, the Honorable Mike Johnson (LA) received 220 votes and the Honorable Hakeem Jeffries received 209 votes, Roll No. 527. The Honorable Mike Johnson of Louisiana was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives. On Tuesday, October 17th, the Chair appointed Representatives Steil, Morelle, Loudermilk, and Sewell to act as Tellers. **Pages H5048–49**

Escort Committee: The Chair appointed the following committee to escort the Speaker-elect to the Chair: Representatives Scalise, Emmer, Stefanik, Hudson, Palmer, McClain, McCarthy, Donalds, Hern, Bergman, Rodgers, Arrington, Fallon, Molinaro, Cammack, Jeffries, Clark (MA), Aguilar, Lieu, DelBene, Clyburn, Neguse, Escobar, Underwood, Wasserman Schultz, Lee, Kildee, Jacobs, Crockett; and the members of the Louisiana delegation: Representatives Graves, Higgins, Letlow, and Carter. **Pages H5049–50**

Administration of the Oath of Office to the Speaker: The Dean of the House, the Honorable Hal Rogers, administered the oath of office to the Speaker. **Page H5052**

Notify the Senate of the Election of the Speaker: The House agreed to H. Res. 810, to inform the Senate of the election of the Speaker. **Page H5053**

Notify the President of the Election of the Speaker: The House agreed to H. Res. 811, authorizing the Clerk to inform the President of the election of the Speaker. **Page H5053**

Policies of the Chair: The Chair announced that the Speaker’s announced policies with respect to particular aspects of the legislative process placed in the Record on January 9, 2023, will continue in effect for the remainder of the 118th Congress. **Page H5053**

Speaker Pro Tempore: The Chair announced that the Speaker delivered to the Clerk a letter dated October 25, 2023, listing Members in the order in which each shall act as Speaker pro tempore under clause 8(b)(3) of rule 1. **Page H5053**

Succession of the Speaker of the House: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Scalise to exercise authority regarding any assembly, reassembly, or reconvening. **Page H5053**

Speaker Pro Tempore Designations: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative McHenry, Representative Smith (NE), Representative Harris, Representative Reschenthaler, Representative Wittman, Representative Cline, Representative Hudson, and Representative Joyce (PA) to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through the remainder of the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress. **Page H5053**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:49 p.m. and reconvened at 3:31 p.m. **Page H5053**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure: Standing with Israel as it defends itself against the barbaric war launched by Hamas and other terrorists: H. Res. 771, standing with Israel as it defends itself against the barbaric war launched by Hamas and other terrorists, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 10 nays with six answering “present”, Roll No. 528. **Pages H5053–64**

Extension of Time: Agreed by unanimous consent that debate on H. Res. 771 be extended by 10 minutes on each side. **Page H5054**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Johnson (LA) wherein he resigned from the Committee on Armed Services. **Page H5064**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Johnson (LA) wherein he resigned from the Committee on the Judiciary and the House Judiciary Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government. **Page H5064**

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024: The House considered H.R. 4394, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, October 26th. **Page H5066**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–242 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. **Pages H5071–83**

Agreed to:

Fleischmann amendment en bloc No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242: Lawler (No. 1) that increases and decreases funding for the Army Corps of Engineers by \$1 million with the intent to direct the Secretary to ensure that the New York-New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study (HATS) complies with the Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA) of 2020 and 2022; Molinaro (No. 2) that increase/decrease amendment to highlight the importance of shoreline and flood management along the Hudson River; Graves (LA) (No. 4) that increases and decreases the Army Corps-Civil Works Construction budget by \$1.746 billion to direct the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to prioritize the completion of overbudget projects originally “fully funded” by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018; Molinaro (No. 5) that increase/decrease amendment to highlight the importance of shoreline and flood management along the Susquehanna River; Phillips (No. 6) that increases and decreases funding for the Army Corps of Engineers Operation and Maintenance account by \$3 million to provide funding for the implementation of Section 11207 of the FY 2023 NDAA regarding the establishment of an Aqua Alert notification system pilot program; Moylan (No. 7) that includes Typhoons on same basis as Hurricanes; Lawler (No. 8) that increases and decreases funding for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies with the intent to direct the Secretary to implement disaster response to assist the communities impacted by recent flooding in New York as soon as possible; Moylan (No. 9) that increases funding for flood control and coastal emergencies with offsets; Boebert (No. 10) that transfers \$1 million from Departmental Administration Account to the Upper Colorado River Basin Development Fund for Colorado River Dam Fund to increase water storage; Boebert (No. 11) that transfers funds from Departmental Administration Account to the Colorado River Storage Project to help combat drought in the West; Fallon (No. 17) that increases and decreases funding for the Department of Energy Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response by \$5,000,000 to prioritize critical infrastructure programs such as CyTRICS and Consequence-driven Cyber-informed Engineering (CCE); Walberg (No. 18) that increases and decreases funding for the Department of Energy Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response with the intent to direct the Director to prioritize the testing, analysis, certification, and integration applicability of commercially available non-certificate and non-public

key infrastructure based advanced cyber security software to secure the Electrical Power Grid from internal and external unauthorized access and attacks; Peltola (No. 21) that increases and decreases by \$3 million the Department of Energy Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program to provide loan guarantees in support of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline; Jackson (No. 23) that brings funding for the HE Synthesis, Formulation, and Production facility at the Pantex Plant into accordance with the House-passed NDA; and Lawler (No. 33) that increases and decreases funding for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with the intent to direct the Commissioner to ensure coordination with federal, state, local, and public stakeholders to explore alternatives to disposing of radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River from Indian Point Energy Center;

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Neguse amendment (No. 13 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that increases the Water and Related Resources Account by \$500,000, to be directed to the Endangered Species Recovery Implementation Program (Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins);

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Cammack amendment (No. 34 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that prohibits funds from being used to finalize any rule or regulation that has resulted in or is likely to result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; and

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Fallon amendment (No. 35 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that prohibits any funding to be used to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed rule titled, “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Furnaces.”

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Proceedings Postponed:

Perry (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce the funding for Army Corps of Engineers—Civil; Investigations by \$715,000 for the purpose of eliminating funding for the Delaware River Basin Commission;

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Neguse (No. 12 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to increase the Water and Related Resources Account by \$1 million to be directed to the Colorado River Compliance Activities account, specifically for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Endangered Fish Recovery programs;

Pages H5085–86

Westerman (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce funding for the Bureau of Reclamation Policy and Administration to Fiscal Year 2022 levels consistent with the Limit, Save, Grow Act;

Pages H5086–87

Griffith (No. 15 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to increase funds for the Fossil

Energy and Carbon Management program within the Department of Energy by \$600 million and reduces funds for the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program by \$1.1 billion;

Pages H5087–88

Roy (No. 16 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to eliminate funding for DOE’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy;

Pages H5088–89

Perry (No. 19 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to strike funding for Clean Energy Demonstrations;

Pages H5089–90

Norman (No. 20 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to eliminate funding (\$470,000,000) for Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy;

Pages H5090–92

Perry (No. 25 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce the funding level in this bill for the Appalachian Regional Commission to FY19 levels;

Pages H5092–93

Perry (No. 26 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce the funding level for the Delta Regional Commission to the FY19 level;

Pages H5093–94

Perry (No. 27 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce funding for the Denali Commission to FY19 levels;

Page H5094

Perry (No. 28 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to eliminate funding for the Denali Commission (\$17 million);

Pages H5094–95

Perry (No. 29 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce funding for the Northern Border Regional Commission to FY19 levels;

Page H5095

Perry (No. 30 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to reduce funding for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission to FY19 level;

Pages H5095–96

Perry (No. 31 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to cut funding for the Southwest Border Regional Commission in half; and

Pages H5096–97

Perry (No. 32 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–242) that seeks to cut the funding for the Great Lakes Authority in half.

Page 5097

H. Res. 756, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4394) and (H.R. 4364) was agreed to on Tuesday, October 3rd.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, October 26th.

Page H5100

Presidential Messages: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Columbia is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2023—referred to

the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 118–70). **Page H5065**

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo is to continue in effect beyond October 27, 2023—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 118–71). **Page H5065**

Senate Referrals: S. 2854 was held at the desk. S. 2231 was held at the desk. S.J. Res. 32 was held at the desk. **Page H5064**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H5064.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one quorum call, Roll No. 527, developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5049.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE SUBMARINE INDUSTRIAL BASE AND ITS ABILITY TO SUPPORT THE AUKUS FRAMEWORK

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing entitled “The Submarine Industrial Base and its Ability to Support the AUKUS Framework”. Testimony was heard from Mara E. Karlin, Performing the Duties of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense; Erik K. Raven, Under Secretary of the Navy, Department of the Navy; Vice Admiral William Houston, Commander, Naval Submarine Forces, Department of the Navy; and Rear Admiral Jonathan Rucker, Program Executive Officer, Attack Submarines, Department of the Navy.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security concluded a markup on legislation on the Advanced Reactor Fee Reduction Act; legislation on the Advanced Nuclear Reactor Prize Act; legislation on the Nuclear for Brownfields Site Preparation Act; legislation on the Strengthening American Nuclear Competitiveness Act; legislation on the NRC Mission Alignment Act; legislation on the Nuclear Licensing Efficiency Act; legislation on the Advanced Nuclear Deployment Act; legislation on the Modernize Nuclear Reactor Environmental Reviews Act; legislation on the Advancing Nuclear Regulatory Oversight Act; H.R. 995, the “Global Nuclear Energy Assessment and

Cooperation Act”; H.R. 5718, the “Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023”; H.R. 4528, the “Strengthening the NRC Workforce Act of 2023”; H.R. 4167, the “Protecting America’s Distribution Transformer Supply Chain Act”; legislation on the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act; legislation on the GRID Act; legislation on the Affordable HOMES Act; and H.R. 4045, the “Hydropower Clean Energy Future Act”. Legislation on the Advanced Reactor Fee Reduction Act, legislation on the Advanced Nuclear Reactor Prize Act, legislation on the Nuclear for Brownfields Site Preparation Act, legislation on the Strengthening American Nuclear Competitiveness Act, legislation on the NRC Mission Alignment Act, legislation on the Nuclear Licensing Efficiency Act, legislation on the Advanced Nuclear Deployment Act, legislation on the Modernize Nuclear Reactor Environmental Reviews Act, legislation on the Advancing Nuclear Regulatory Oversight Act, legislation on the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act, legislation on the GRID Act, legislation on the Affordable HOMES Act, H.R. 5718, and H.R. 4167 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 995, H.R. 4528, and H.R. 4045 were forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

SUPPORTING ACCESS TO LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS: AN EXAMINATION OF THE IMPACTS OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON WORKFORCE AND ACCESS TO CARE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Supporting Access to Long-Term Services and Supports: An Examination of the Impacts of Proposed Regulations on Workforce and Access to Care”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MODERNIZING FINANCIAL SERVICES THROUGH INNOVATION AND COMPETITION

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology and Inclusion held a hearing entitled “Modernizing Financial Services Through Innovation and Competition”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HOW AMERICA AND ITS ALLIES CAN STOP HAMAS, HEZBOLLAH, AND IRAN FROM EVADING SANCTIONS AND FINANCING TERROR

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions held a hearing entitled “How America and Its Allies Can Stop Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran from Evading Sanctions and Financing Terror”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE U.S.-HONDURAS BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP: ANALYZING THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT XIOMARA CASTRO DE ZELAYA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled “The U.S.-Honduras Bilateral Relationship: Analyzing the Socialist Government of President Xiomara Castro de Zelaya”. Testimony was heard from Eric Jacobstein, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; and Mileydi Guilarte, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, U.S. Agency for International Development.

THE GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER: HELPING OR HURTING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability held a hearing entitled “The Global Engagement Center: Helping or Hurting U.S. Foreign Policy”. Testimony was heard from Daniel Kimmage, Principal Deputy Coordinator, Global Engagement Center, Bureau of Global Public Affairs, Department of State.

AN EXAMINATION OF THE IRANIAN REGIME’S THREATS TO HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “An Examination of the Iranian Regime’s Threats to Homeland Security”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EVALUATING FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY GOVERNANCE

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection held a hearing entitled “Evaluating Federal Cybersecurity Governance”. Testimony was heard from Eric Goldstein, Executive Assistant Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; and Chris DeRusha, Federal Chief Information Security Officer, Office of Management and Budget, and Deputy National Cyber Director for Federal Cybersecurity, Office of the National Cyber Director.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1792, the “South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023”; H.R. 2560, the “Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023”; H.R. 3415, the “Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act”; H.R. 4587, the “Red Snapper Act”; H.R. 4770, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023”; H.R. 5009, the “WILD

Act”; H.R. 5283, the “Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023”; and H.R. 5616, the “BRIDGE Production Act of 2023”.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 1449, the “CLEAN Act”; H.R. 2855, the “Sinkhole Mapping Act of 2023”; legislation on the Right of Way Application Transparency and Accountability Act; and legislation on the Restoring American Energy Dominance Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Soto, Boebert, and Fulcher; Tom Kropatsch, Oil and Gas Supervisor, Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on H.R. 520, to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that artificially propagated animals shall be treated the same under that Act as naturally propagated animals; H.R. 2990, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2023”; H.R. 5103, the “FISHES Act”; H.R. 5504, to require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to withdraw proposed rules relating to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes; H.R. 5509, the “Electronic Permitting Modernization Act”; H.R. 5874, the “TAAP Act”; and legislation to prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice’s whale. Testimony was heard from Representatives McClintock, Bonamici, Newhouse, Porter, and Ciscomani; Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

FAITH UNDER FIRE: AN EXAMINATION OF GLOBAL RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs held a hearing entitled “Faith Under Fire: An Examination of Global Religious Persecution”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**THE POWER OF APPRENTICESHIPS:
FASTER, BETTER PATHS TO PROSPEROUS
JOBS AND LESS WASTE IN HIGHER
EDUCATION**

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing entitled “The Power of Apprenticeships: Faster, Better Paths to Prosperous Jobs and Less Waste in Higher Education”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM AND
OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES,
STUDENTS, AND WORKERS**

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Educational Freedom and Opportunity for American Families, Students, and Workers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

FREEING INTERNATIONAL CAPTIVES

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Hamas’ hostages, Putin’s prisoners, and freeing international captives, after receiving testimony from Irwin Cotler, Raul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights; Davyd Arakhamia, Servant of the People Party; Jared Genser, Perseus Strategies; and Evgenia Kara-Murza, Free Russia Foundation.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 26, 2023**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine combating the networks of illicit finance and terrorism, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine Federal offshore energy strategy and policies, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight, to hold hearings to examine evaluating alternative materials for single-use plastics, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments, and the nominations of Mustafa Taher Kasubhai, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, John A. Kazen, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Eumi K. Lee, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Shanlyn A.S. Park, and Micah W.J. Smith, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, and Jamel Semper, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine access to therapies for people with rare, progressive, and serious diseases, 10 a.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Moving the Money: Understanding the Iranian Regime’s Access to Money Around the World and How They Use It to Support Terrorism”, 9 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 1792, the “South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023”; H.R. 2560, the “Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023”; H.R. 3415, the “Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act”; H.R. 4587, the “Red Snapper Act”; H.R. 4770, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023”; H.R. 5009, the “WILD Act”; H.R. 5283, the “Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023”; and H.R. 5616, the “BRIDGE Production Act of 2023”, 9:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled “One Million Claims and Growing: Improving Social Security’s Disability Adjudication Process”, 9 a.m., 2020 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Thursday, October 26

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Thursday, October 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 4366, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

At 11:30 a.m., Senate is expected to vote on or in relation to Paul motion to discharge S.J. Res. 44, Niger War Powers Resolution, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, followed by a vote on or in relation to Braun Amendment No. 1182 to H.R. 4366.

At 1:45 p.m., Senate will vote on passage of S.J. Res. 42, School Lunch CRA.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Continue consideration of H.R. 4394—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024.

HOUSE

Carson, André, Ind., E1014
Castor, Kathy, Fla., E1015
Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E1016
Hern, Kevin, Okla., E1013
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Huizenga, Bill, Mich., E1014
Kiggans, Jenniver A., Va., E1014
Moskowitz, Jared, Fla., E1013
Nadler, Jerrold, N.Y., E1013
Norman, Ralph, S.C., E1011
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1014

Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E1011, E1013
Ryan, Patrick, N.Y., E1011
Smith, Christopher H., N.J., E1012
Spanberger, Abigail Davis, Va., E1015
Tlaib, Rashida, Mich., E1015



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