

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5681–S5697

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3364–3384, and S. Res. 480–482. **Pages S5692–93**

Measures Reported:

S. 2219, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to expand access to breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace. (S. Rept. No. 118–115)

S. 1332, to require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–116)

S. 2256, to authorize the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish an apprenticeship program and to establish a pilot program on cybersecurity training for veterans and members of the Armed Forces transitioning to civilian life, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 118–117)

S. 2283, to prohibit the procurement of certain items containing perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) or perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and prioritize the procurement of products not containing PFAS, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–118)

S. 2291, to establish the Northern Border Coordination Center, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–119) **Page S5692**

Measures Passed:

Stomach Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 481, expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month. **Page S5695**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the text of an Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear En-

ergy; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–32) **Pages S5691–92**

Ramirez Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Irma Carrillo Ramirez, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit. **Pages S5685–87**

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

By 80 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. EX. 325), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5688–89**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, December 4, 2023; and that all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m. **Pages S5696–97**

AliKhan Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Loren L. AliKhan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. **Page S5687**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. **Page S5687**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5687**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5687**

Richard Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Elizabeth H. Richard, of Virginia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large. **Page S5687**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Loren L. AliKhan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia. **Page S5687**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5687**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5687**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 324), Shanlyn A.S. Park, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii. **Page S5685**

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force. **Page S5697**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Juan Carlos Iturregui, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

Deven J. Parekh, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States International Development Finance Corporation for a term of three years. **Page S5697**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5692**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S5693**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S5694–95

Additional Statements: **Pages S5690–91**

Notices of Intent: **Page S5696**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5696**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—325) **Pages S5685, S5688–89**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:08 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 4, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5697.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Basil Ivanhoe Gooden, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, and Summer K. Mersinger, of South Dakota, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, who was introduced by Senator Thune, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CFPB SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing the Consumer Fi-

nancial Protection Bureau's Semi-Annual Report to Congress, including S.954, to provide for appropriate cost-sharing for insulin products covered under private health plans, and to establish a program to support health care providers and pharmacies in providing discounted insulin products to uninsured individuals, after receiving testimony from Rohit Chopra, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR COMMERCIALIZATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities and challenges associated with advanced nuclear reactor commercialization, after receiving testimony from John C. Wagner, Laboratory Director, Idaho National Laboratory, Department of Energy; Jeff Waksman, Program Manager, Strategic Capabilities Office, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Edward Stones, Dow Inc., Midland, Michigan; and Jeffrey S. Merrifield, former Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Industry Council.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, and Henry J. Kerner, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An authorization for subpoenas relating to the Supreme Court ethics investigation; and

The nominations of Mustafa Taher Kasubhai, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, Eumi K. Lee, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Seth Robert Aframe, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Edward Sunyol Kiel, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, Sarah French Russell, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, and Christopher Charles Fonzone, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 29 public bills, H.R. 6513–6541; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 897–901, were introduced. **Pages H6048–49**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6051–52**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Molinaro to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5987**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:38 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H5997**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Santos announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Pages H5999–H6000**

No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act: The House passed H.R. 5961, to freeze certain Iranian funds involved in the 2023 hostage deal between the United States and Iran, by a yea-and-nay vote of 307 yeas to 119 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 687. **Pages H6026–27**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–14, modified by the amendment printed in part B of the report of H. Rept. 118–280, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendment recommended by the Committee on Foreign Affairs now printed in the bill.

Pages H6005–06

Agreed to:

Cherfilus-McCormick amendment (No. 2 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that adds a sense of Congress that the terrorist-funding, human rights-violating Iranian regime should receive no additional funds but that basic humanitarian assistance for the people of Iran is important; **Pages H6006–07**

Gottheimer amendment (No. 3 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that corrects the number of hostages being held by Hamas; **Page H6007**

Norman amendment (No. 4 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that requires a 45 day waiting period between Presidential certification and removal of sanctions to provide an opportunity for congressional oversight; **Page H6008**

Ogles amendment (No. 7 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that expresses a Sense of Congress that Qatar should condemn Hamas, turn over Hamas leadership to US and Israeli custody, and pledge never to facilitate the transfer of covered Iranian funds to Iran; **Pages H6009–11**

Porter amendment (No. 11 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that commissions a report regarding Iranian internet censorship and applicable United States licensing requirements; **Pages H6013–14**

Fitzpatrick amendment (No. 1 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that adds findings that condemn Hamas and Iran-backed terror groups for using human shields and that only the unconditional surrender of Hamas and other Iran-backed terror groups will save innocent civilian lives (by a recorded vote of 412 yeas to 11 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 680); **Pages H6006, H6022**

Ogles amendment (No. 5 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that expresses a Sense of Congress that all US allies in the Middle East should publicly and unequivocally condemn the antisemitism displayed by Iranian-backed terror groups, including Hamas (by a recorded vote of 422 yeas to 1 no with one answering “present”, Roll No. 681); **Pages H6008–09, H6022–23**

Ogles amendment (No. 6 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that prohibits the use of federal funds to make any funds (as such term is defined in section 2339C(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code) available to Iran (by a recorded vote of 241 yeas to 181 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 682); **Pages H6009, H6023–24**

Ogles amendment (No. 8 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that expresses a Sense of Congress that the Houthis continue to benefit from the Biden Administration’s unwillingness to unequivocally condemn them (by a recorded vote of 226 yeas to 199 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 683); **Pages H6011–12, H6024**

Pfluger amendment (No. 9 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that prohibits the President from exercising the waiver authority described in section 1245(d)(5) of the 2012 NDAA and sections 1244(i) and 1247(f) of the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (by a recorded vote of 231 yeas to 198 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 684); and **Pages H6012–13, H6024–25**

Porter amendment (No. 10 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that requires the President to issue a report to Congress within 120 days of the enactment of this Act to outline Administration policy related to human rights, nuclear proliferation, the ballistic missile program, and regional terrorism in Iran (by a recorded vote of 399 yeas to 28 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 685).

Pages H6013, H6025–26

Rejected:

Jackson amendment (No. 12 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that sought to add a five-year sunset provision requirement (by a recorded vote of 194 ayes to 236 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 686).

Pages H6014–15, H6026

H. Res. 891, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5283), (H.R. 5961), and the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 32) was agreed to yesterday, November 29th.

Providing for the expulsion of Representative George Santos from the United States House of Representatives: The House considered H. Res. 878, providing for the expulsion of Representative George Santos from the United States House of Representatives. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, December 1st.

Pages H6015–21

Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023: The House passed H.R. 5283, to prohibit the use of Federal funds to provide housing to specified aliens on any land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Federal land management agencies, by a recorded vote of 224 ayes to 203 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 689. Consideration began yesterday, November 29th.

Pages H6028–29

Rejected:

Velázquez amendment (No. 12 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–280) that was debated on November 29th that sought to allow the Interior Secretary to provide housing when the originating state has failed to meet certain criteria (by a recorded vote of 206 ayes to 223 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 688).

Pages H6027–28

H. Res. 891, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5283), (H.R. 5961), and the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 32) was agreed to yesterday, November 29th.

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Tuesday, November 28th.

Requiring the Inspector General of the Small Business Administration to submit a quarterly report on fraud relating to certain COVID–19 loans: H.R. 4666, amended, to require the Inspector General of the Small Business Administration to submit a quarterly report on fraud relating to certain COVID–19 loans; and

Page H6029

Returning Erroneous COVID Loans Addressing Illegal and Misappropriated Taxpayer Funds Act: H.R. 4667, amended, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue guidance and rules for lenders and the Small Business

Administration on handling amounts of Paycheck Protection Loans returned by borrowers. **Page H6029**

Clerk to Correct: Agreed by unanimous consent that the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 5961, to include corrections in spelling, punctuation, section numbering and cross-referencing, and the insertion of appropriate headings.

Page H6029

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President transmitting written approval, authorization, and determination of an Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and an unclassified Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement concerning the Agreement—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–86).

Pages H6029–30

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and nine recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6022–29.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SAFEGUARDING WORKERS' RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Safeguarding Workers’ Rights and Liberties”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNMASKING CHALLENGES CDC FACES IN REBUILDING PUBLIC TRUST AMID RESPIRATORY ILLNESS SEASON

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Unmasking Challenges CDC Faces in Rebuilding Public Trust Amid Respiratory Illness Season”. Testimony was heard from Mandy Cohen, M.D., Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

OVERSIGHT OF PRESIDENT BIDEN'S BROADBAND TAKEOVER

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Oversight of President Biden’s Broadband Takeover”. Testimony was heard from the following Federal Communications Commission officials: Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman; Brendan Carr, Commissioner; Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner; Nathan

Simington, Commissioner; and Anna Gomez, Commissioner.

ETHIOPIA: PROMISE OR PERILS, THE STATE OF U.S. POLICY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa held a hearing entitled “Ethiopia: Promise or Perils, The State of U.S. Policy”. Testimony was heard from Mike Hammer, Special Envoy to the Horn of Africa, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and Tyler Beckelman, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Africa, U.S. Agency for International Development.

AN URGENT APPEAL TO LET BISHOP ALVAREZ GO

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “An Urgent Appeal to Let Bishop Alvarez Go”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE U.S. BORDER CRISIS AND THE AMERICAN SOLUTION TO AN INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The U.S. Border Crisis and the American Solution to an International Problem”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 4460, the “NO VOTE for Non-Citizens Act”; H.R. 4396, the “American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia Citizen Voter Act”; H.R. 4316, the “Citizen Ballot Protection Act”; H.R. 3162, the “Protecting American Voters Act”; H.R. 3229, the “Stop Foreign Funds in Elections Act”; H.R. 6513, the “Confirmation of Congressional Observer Access Act of 2023”; H.R. 4555, the “Federal Election Audit Act”; and H.R. 6493, the “Promoting Free and Fair Elections Act of 2023”. H.R. 4396, H.R. 3162, H.R. 4460, and H.R. 6513 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 4316, H.R. 4555, H.R. 3229, and H.R. 6493 were ordered reported, as amended.

HEARING ON THE WEAPONIZATION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government held a hearing entitled “Hearing on the Weaponization of the Federal Government”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HEARING ON COMPLIANCE WITH COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Responsiveness and Accountability to Oversight held a hearing entitled “Hearing on Compliance with Committee Oversight”. Testimony was heard from Naz Darakoglu, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State; Jeanne Bumpus, Director, Office of Congressional Relations, Federal Trade Commission; Christopher Dunham, Acting Assistant Director, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on legislation on the EXPLORE Act. Testimony was heard from Katherine Andrews, Director, Office of Outdoor Recreation, Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, Arkansas; Chris French, Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and Michael T. Reynolds, Deputy Director for Congressional and External Relations, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

DIGGING DEEPER: ENSURING SAFETY AND SECURITY IN THE CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY CHAIN

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing entitled “Digging Deeper: Ensuring Safety and Security in the Critical Mineral Supply Chain”. Testimony was heard from Steve Feldgus, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Lands and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior; Isabel Munilla, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Multilateral Engagement, Climate and Market Development, Office of International Affairs, Department of Energy; and Halimah Najieb-Locke, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Industrial Base Resilience, Department of Defense.

THE ROLE OF FEDERAL RESEARCH IN ESTABLISHING A ROBUST U.S. SUPPLY CHAIN OF CRITICAL MINERALS AND MATERIALS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Role of Federal Research in Establishing a Robust U.S. Supply Chain of Critical Minerals and Materials”. Testimony was heard from Ryan Peay, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Resource Sustainability, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

MISSING THE TARGET: CEQ'S MERITLESS SELECTION OF SBTi

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Environment held a joint hearing entitled “Missing the Target: CEQ’s Meritless Selection of SBTi”. Testimony was heard from Andrew Mayock, Federal Chief Sustainability Officer, Council on Environmental Quality, Executive Office of the President.

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Member Day”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kiggans of Virginia, Case, and Moore of Utah.

TURBULENCE AHEAD: CONSEQUENCES OF DELAYING A LONG-TERM FAA BILL

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “Turbulence Ahead: Consequences of Delaying a Long-Term FAA Bill”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5988, the “United States-Taiwan Expedited Double-Tax Relief Act”; H.R. 6408, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations; H.R. 1432, the “VETT Act”; H.R. 2426, the “Find and Protect Foster Youth Act”;

H.R. 3058, the “Recruiting Families Using Data Act of 2023”; and H.R. 529, the “Extending Limits of U.S. Customs Waters Act”. H.R. 5988, H.R. 6408, H.R. 1432, H.R. 2426, H.R. 3058, and H.R. 529 were ordered reported, as amended.

DISCOURSE POWER: THE CCP'S STRATEGY TO SHAPE THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SPACE

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Discourse Power: The CCP’s Strategy to Shape the Global Information Space”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 1, 2023**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, December 4

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Irma Carrillo Ramirez, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, December 1

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of 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). Complete consideration of H. Res. 878—Providing for the expulsion of Representative George Santos from the United States House of Representatives.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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