

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S79–S102

Measures Introduced: Twelve bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3577–3588, and S. Res. 519–524. **Pages S93–94**

Measures Passed:

Congratulating the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits: Senate agreed to S. Res. 519, congratulating the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits on winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title. **Page S81**

Authorize Testimony and Representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 522, to authorize testimony and representation in *United States v. Todd*. **Pages S97–98**

Honoring the Life of Senator Herb Kohl: Senate agreed to S. Res. 523, honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Herb Kohl. **Page S98**

Working Dog Health and Welfare Act: Senate passed 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, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S98**

Taiwan Democratic Elections: Senate agreed to S. Res. 521, commending Taiwan for its history of democratic elections, and expressing support of Taiwan's democratic institutions. **Pages S98–101**

Measures Considered:

Amending the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2872, to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow the Secretary of the Interior to issue electronic stamps under such Act. **Page S87**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, Jan-

uary 11, 2024, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. **Page S87**

Prior to the consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S87**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 3 p.m., on Tuesday, January 16, 2024; and that the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill ripen at 5:45 p.m. **Page S98**

Israel's Human Rights Practices—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that if a motion to discharge the Committee on Foreign Relations from further consideration of S. Res. 504, requesting information on Israel's human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, is made during the session of Tuesday, January 16, 2024, Senate vote on or in relation to the motion to discharge at 5:30 p.m. **Page S98**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 86 yeas 8 nays (Vote No. EX. 7), Erika L. McEntarfer, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of four years. **Pages S79–81, H81–87**

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

By 88 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. EX. 6), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S84**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James R. Ives, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of the Treasury.

Nelson W. Cunningham, of the District of Columbia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor, and Environment), with the rank of Ambassador.

Stuart Alan Levey, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of three years.

Leonardo Martinez-Diaz, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

Jennifer M. Adams, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde.

B. Bix Aliu, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Montenegro.

Arthur W. Brown, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador.

Robert William Forden, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

David J. Kostelancik, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania.

Richard Mills, Jr., of Georgia, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Lisa Peterson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi.

Richard H. Riley IV, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia.

Elizabeth Rood, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Turkmenistan.

Michael Sfraga, of Alaska, to be Ambassador at Large for Arctic Affairs.

Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador.

Margaret L. Taylor, of Maryland, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

Mark Toner, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Liberia.

Pamela M. Tremont, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Stephen H. Ravas, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Corporation for National and Community Service.

Moshe Z. Marvit, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of six years expiring August 30, 2028.

Adrienne Jennings Noti, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Tanya Monique Jones Bosier, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Danny Lam Hoan Nguyen, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Kenekukwu Onyemaechi Okocha, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Katherine E. Oler, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Judith E. Pipe, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Charles J. Willoughby, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years, William M. Jackson, retired.

Anne Marie Wagner, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2024.

Anne Marie Wagner, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2029.

Gary D. Grimes, Sr., of Arkansas, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas for the term of four years.

Joseph R. Adams, of West Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of West Virginia for the term of four years.

John Gleeson, of New York, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2029.

Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2029.

Johnny C. Gogo, of California, to be United States Attorney for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Attorney for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

Joshua S. Levy, of Massachusetts, to be United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts for the term of four years.

April M. Perry, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Rebecca C. Lutzko, of Ohio, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio for the term of four years.

Roy W. Minter, Jr., of Georgia, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

Michael Purnell, of Mississippi, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Mississippi for the term of four years.

Dale L. Bell, of Mississippi, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Mississippi for the term of four years.

David O. Barnett, Jr., of New Mexico, to be United States Marshal for the District of New Mexico for the term of four years.

Clinton J. Fuchs, of Maryland, to be United States Marshal for the District of Maryland for the term of four years.

David L. Lemmon II, of West Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of West Virginia for the term of four years.

Pages S101–102

Executive Communications: **Pages S89–93**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S94–95**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S95–97

Additional Statements: **Pages S88–89**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S97**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—7) **Pages S84, S87**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator Herb Kohl, at 3:11 p.m., until 8:45 a.m. on Friday, January 12, 2024. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S101.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FENTANYL

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine stopping

the flow of fentanyl, focusing on public awareness and legislative solutions, including S. 1271, to impose sanctions with respect to trafficking of illicit fentanyl and its precursors by transnational criminal organizations, including cartels, S. 993, to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, S. 1507, to provide grants to State, local, territorial, and Tribal law enforcement agencies to purchase chemical screening devices and train personnel to use chemical screening devices in order to enhance law enforcement efficiency and protect law enforcement officers, S. 1532, to suspend the entry of covered aliens in response to the fentanyl public health crisis, S. 2824, to secure the borders of the United States, S. 1514, to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, S. 2059, to impose sanctions with respect to pharmaceutical companies of the People's Republic of China and certain cartels that traffic fentanyl into the United States, and S. 2669, to require the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to issue guidance on digital assets, after receiving testimony from Patrick Yoes, Fraternal Order of Police, and Jason DeFord, both of Nashville, Tennessee; and Christopher J. Urben, Nardello and Co., Washington, D.C.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine federal electric vehicle incentives including the federal government's role in fostering reliable and resilient electric vehicle supply chains, after receiving testimony from David Turk, Deputy Secretary of Energy; and Adewale Adeyemo, Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 6951–6985; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 957–961, were introduced. **Pages H105–107**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H108–109**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows: H.R. 3400, to amend the National Labor Relations Act to adjust the dollar thresholds for National Labor Relations Board jurisdiction over certain labor disputes, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–343). **Page H105**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Williams to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H55**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H64**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

No Russian Agriculture Act: H.R. 4768, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the United States Executive Directors at the international financial institutions to advocate for investment in projects that decrease reliance on Russia for agricultural commodities. **Pages H68–69**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:42 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. **Page H69**

Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2023: The House passed H.R. 788, to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, by a yea-and-nay vote of 211 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 7.

Pages H70–77, H83–85

Rejected the Foushee motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a yea-and-nay vote of 189 yeas to 205, Roll No. 6. **Page H83**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–18 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. **Page H71**

Agreed to:

McCormick amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 118–342) that requires the violation audits within this Act submitted by each Inspector General to be made available on a publicly accessible website.

Page H77

H. Res. 947, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 788) and the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 98) and (S.J. Res. 38) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 211 yeas to 202 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 5, after the motion to reconsider the vote was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 201 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 4. Consideration began yesterday, January 10th.

Pages H70–71

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to “Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers”: The House passed S.J. Res. 38, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to “Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers”, by a yea-and-vote of 209 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 8.

Pages H77–82, H84–85

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Pages H70–71

Public Interest Declassification Board—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appoint-

ment of the following individual on the part of the House to the Public Interest Declassification Board for a term of three years: Mr. Ezra Cohen of Chevy Chase, Maryland. **Page H88**

Quorum Calls Votes—Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H70, H71, H83, H83–84, and H84–85.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LOWERING COSTS AND INCREASING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE WITH EMPLOYEE-DRIVEN INNOVATION

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Lowering Costs and Increasing Access to Health Care with Employer-Driven Innovation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SAFEGUARDING AMERICANS’ COMMUNICATIONS: STRENGTHENING CYBERSECURITY IN A DIGITAL ERA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Safeguarding Americans’ Communications: Strengthening Cybersecurity in a Digital Era”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Housing Administration”. Testimony was heard from Marcia Fudge, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S AFGHANISTAN POLICY SINCE THE U.S. WITHDRAWAL: PART II

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia held a hearing entitled “Examining the Biden Administration’s Afghanistan Policy Since the U.S. Withdrawal: Part II”. Testimony was heard from Thomas West, Special Representative for Afghanistan, and Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State; Rina Amiri, Special Envoy for Afghan Women, Girls, and Human

Rights, Office of Global Women's Issues, Department of State; and Michael Schiffer, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia, U.S. Agency for International Development.

EXPLOITATION AND ENFORCEMENT PART II: IMPROVING ENFORCEMENT IN COUNTERING UYGHUR FORCED LABOR

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability held a hearing entitled "Exploitation and Enforcement Part II: Improving Enforcement in Countering Uyghur Forced Labor". Testimony was heard from Christa Brzozowski, Acting Assistant Secretary for Trade and Economic Security Policy, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, Department of Homeland Security; Thea Lee, Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Department of Labor; and Eric Choy, Executive Director, Trade Remedy Law Enforcement Directorate, Office of Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

THE IMPACT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Integrity, Security, and Enforcement held a hearing entitled "The Impact of Illegal Immigration on Social Services". Testimony was heard from Manuel Mello III, Fire Department Chief, Eagle Pass, Texas; Danyela Souza Egorov, Vice President, Community Education Council, New York City School District 2, New York; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S LIMITS ON ACCESS TO THE OCS: IMPACTS ON CONSUMERS, STATES, AND OPERATORS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled "Examining the Biden Administration's Limits on Access to the OCS: Impacts on Consumers, States, and Operators". Testimony was heard from Chris Blankenship, Commissioner, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; Mark Heavens, Chief Clerk, Texas General Land Office; Walter Cruickshank, Deputy Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

THE RISKS OF PROGRESSIVE IDEOLOGIES IN THE U.S. MILITARY

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs held a hearing entitled "The Risks of Progressive Ideologies in the U.S. Military". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CRIME ON THE RISE: HOW LAWLESSNESS IS IMPACTING MAIN STREET AMERICA

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Crime on the Rise: How Lawlessness is Impacting Main Street America". Testimony was heard from Chief Reuben Roach, Chief of Police, Norwich, New York; and public witnesses.

PROPOSALS FOR A WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2024: MEMBERS' DAY HEARING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled "Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2024: Members' Day Hearing". Testimony was heard from Chairman Steil, and Representatives Miller of West Virginia, Meng, Case, Higgins of Louisiana, Kaptur, Houchin, Kilmer, Newhouse, Perez, Fry, Tlaib, Luna, Budzinski, Donalds, Fletcher, Sorensen, LaLota, Costa, Mullin, Davis of North Carolina, Schrier, Miller of Illinois, Wasserman Schultz, Garbarino, Pascarella, Lee of Nevada, Moylan, Carter of Georgia, Allen, Garcia of Texas, Scott of Virginia, Soto, Sewell, and Porter.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a business meeting on a committee resolution to authorize a subpoena. The committee resolution to authorize a subpoena was agreed to.

RURAL ACCESS: IS VA MEETING ALL VETERANS WHERE THEY LIVE?

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Rural Access: Is VA Meeting All Veterans Where They Live?". Testimony was heard from Alyssa Hundrup, Director, Healthcare, Government Accountability Office; Shereef Elnahal, Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Joshua Jacobs, Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Marisa Schultz, Veteran, U.S. National Guard; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 6918, the "Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act". H.R. 6918 was ordered reported, as amended.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
JANUARY 12, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

8:45 a.m., Friday, January 12

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, January 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of H.J. Res. 98—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to “Standard for Determining Joint Employer Status”.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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