

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Douglas Collins, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Senate confirmed the nomination of Pamela Bondi, of Florida, to be Attorney General.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S567–S600

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 379–401, S.J. Res. 11–13, and S. Res. 52–56. **Page S593**

Measures Passed:

National Mentoring Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 55, recognizing January 2025 as “National Mentoring Month”. **Pages S599–S600**

Congratulating UVM Men’s Soccer Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 56, congratulating the University of Vermont men’s soccer team on winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I men’s soccer national championship. **Page S600**

Vote Change—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Padilla be permitted to change his vote on Roll Call Vote No. 26 from nay to aye, since it will not affect the outcome. **Page S574**

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

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, with respect to Burma; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–9) **Page S593**

Turner Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Eric Turner, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. **Pages S590, S590–91**

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

By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 34), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Pages S590, S590–91

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 5, 2025; and that at 11:30 a.m. all time be expired on the nomination.

Page S600

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 77 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. EX. 32), Douglas Collins, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Page S571

By 54 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 33), Pamela Bondi, of Florida, to be Attorney General.

Pages S567–71, S574–90

Executive Communications: **Page S593**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S593**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S595**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S595–99**

Additional Statements: **Pages S592–93**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S599**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S599**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—34) **Pages S571, S590**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 8:23 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 5, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S600.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

POISONING OF AMERICA

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the poisoning of America, focusing on fentanyl, its analogues, and the need for permanent class scheduling, after receiving testimony from Sheriff Don Barnes, Orange County Sheriff's Department, Orange County, California, on behalf of the Major County Sheriffs of America; Jaime Puerta,

Victims of Illicit Drugs, Santa Clarita, California; Bridgette Norring, Devin J. Norring Foundation, Hastings, Minnesota; Timothy W. Westlake, ProHealth Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin; and Cecilia Farfan-Mendez, University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, San Diego.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Tulsi Gabbard, of Hawaii, to be Director of National Intelligence.

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: 69 public bills, H.R. 908–976; and 19 resolutions, H.J. Res. 33–35; and H. Res. 91–106, were introduced.

Pages H455–59

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H461–62

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 93, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 27) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–2).

Page H455

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Begich to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H437

Recess: The House recessed at 12:36 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H441

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members to the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party: Representative Moolenaar, Chair; Representatives Wittman, Barr, Newhouse, LaHood, Dunn (FL), Johnson (SD), Hinson, Gimenez, Bilirakis, Kim, Moran, and Nunn (IA).

Page H442

Recess: The House recessed at 2:09 p.m. and reconvened at 4:01 p.m.

Page H442

Recess: The House recessed at 4:46 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H450

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

9/11 Memorial and Museum Act: H.R. 835, to provide a one-time grant for the operation, security, and maintenance of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center to commemorate the events, and honor the victims, of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001;

Pages H442–44

Alaska Native Settlement Trust Eligibility Act: H.R. 42, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to aged, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives or descendants of Alaska Natives from being used to determine eligibility for certain programs;

Pages H444–45

Alaska Native Village Municipal Lands Restoration Act of 2025: H.R. 43, 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, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 28;

Pages H445–47, H450–51

Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act: H.R. 226, to take certain Federal

lands in Tennessee into trust for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and **Pages H447–49**

Nutria Eradication and Control Reauthorization Act of 2025: H.R. 776, to reauthorize the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 361 yeas to 56 nays, Roll No. 29. **Pages H449–50, H451–52**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the mid-air collision in Washington, D.C. **Page H451**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H442.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings and appear on pages H450–51 and H451–52.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Committee Meetings

HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 27, the “Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–1, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 27, the “Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted, and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees. The rule makes in order only the further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. All points of order against the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report are waived. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Griffith, DeGette, and Hernández.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 119th Congress, committee rules for the 119th Congress, and subcommittee assignments for the 119th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine farmer and rancher views on the agricultural economy, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 119th Congress; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the real impacts of debanking in America, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 93, to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, S. 98, to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding, S. 99, to require the Secretary of Commerce to produce a report that provides recommendations to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of Department of Commerce programs related to supply chain resilience and manufacturing and industrial innovation, S. 161, to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue rules relating to the testing procedures used under the New Car Assessment Program of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, S. 195, to amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism, S. 216, to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, S. 245, to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a working group on cyber insurance, to require dissemination of informative resources for issuers and customers of cyber insurance, S. 246, to protect the right of law-abiding citizens to transport knives interstate, notwithstanding a patchwork of local and State prohibitions, S. 257, to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, S. 258, to improve forecasting and understanding of tornadoes and other hazardous weather, S. 260, to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, S. 278, to prohibit

users who are under age 13 from accessing social media platforms, to prohibit the use of personalized recommendation systems on individuals under age 17, and limit the use of social media in schools, S. 281, to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, to prohibit speculative ticketing, S. 283, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of seafood to support enforcement against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, S. 306, to establish and maintain a coordinated program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that improves wildfire, fire weather, fire risk, and wildfire smoke related forecasting, detection, modeling, observations, and service delivery, S. 314, to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, S. 315, to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles, and the nomination of Howard Lutnick, of New York, to be Secretary of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 119th Congress, S. 347, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to reauthorize brownfields revitalization funding, and S. 351, to establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out certain activities to collect and disseminate data on recycling and composting programs in the United States, 10:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Indian Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman, committee rules, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 119th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider S. 68, to prohibit the suspension of collections on loans made to small businesses related to COVID-19, S. 273, to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in certain loan programs of the Small Business Administration, S. 298, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate 30 percent of the employees assigned to headquarters to duty stations outside the Washington metropolitan area, S.

300, to improve accountability in the disaster loan program of the Small Business Administration, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 119th Congress, committee rules, and the nomination of Kelly Loeffler, of Georgia, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 11:15 a.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The State of American Education”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Powering America’s Future: Unleashing American Energy”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Make Community Banking Great Again”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Preparing the Pipeline: Examining the State of America’s Cyber Workforce”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing on H.R. 410, the “Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Extension Act of 2025”; H.R. 412, to authorize the Bay Mills Indian Community of the State of Michigan to convey land and interests in land owned by the Tribe; H.R. 504, the “Miccosukee Reserved Area Amendments Act”; and H.R. 741, the “Stronger Engagement for Indian Health Needs Act of 2025”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Rightsizing Government”, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “The State of U.S. Science and Technology: Ensuring U.S. Global Leadership”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hope on the Horizon: Prioritizing Small Business Growth in the 119th Congress”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “America Builds: Maritime Infrastructure”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Eric Turner, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, post-closure, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Eric Turner, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 5

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 27—Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act (Subject to a Rule).

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