

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Kashyap Patel, of Nevada, to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 7, Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1061–S1303

Measures Introduced: Forty bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 643–682, S.J. Res. 20–23, and S. Res. 86–89. **Pages S1126–27**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Report of the Select Committee on Intelligence United States Senate covering the period January 3, 2023 to January 3, 2025”. (S. Rept. No. 119–1) **Page S1126**

Measures Passed:

Budget Resolution: By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 87), Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 7, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S1061–64, S1075–S1125

Adopted:

By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 70), Sullivan Amendment No. 1029, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to protecting Medicare and Medicaid. **Page S1105**

By 53 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 85), Lee Amendment No. 922, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to Congress continuing its work to rein in the administrative state by supporting legislation that prevents Federal agencies from finalizing major rules without congressional approval, strengthens the Article I law-making powers of Congress, cuts spending resulting from costly regulations, reduces inflation, and unleashes economic growth.

Page S1117

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 64), Merkley Amendment No. 473, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the impacts of hedge fund ownership of single-family homes and rent prices.

Pages S1100–01

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 66), Murray Amendment No. 878, to strike the reconciliation instructions and create a reserve fund to implement a bipartisan, multi-year agreement to provide up to \$171,000,000,000 in discretionary funding for defense and up to \$171,000,000,000 in discretionary funding for other programs, accounts, and activities to address border, veterans, farmers, food and nutrition, disaster relief, and other needs. **Page S1102**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 68), Bennet Amendment No. 540, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reinstating the fired Federal employees at the Forest Service, National Park Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management. **Pages S1103–04**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 69), Schiff Amendment No. 316, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting Federal wildland firefighters and associated personnel. **Page S1104**

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 72), Ossoff Amendment No. 407, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to protecting access to maternal and pediatric health care through Medicaid.

Page S1106

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 76), Reed Amendment No. 299, to ensure continued United States support for the Government of Ukraine to stand firm against aggression by the Government of Russia in Europe.

Pages S1108–09

By 24 yeas to 76 nays (Vote No. 77), Paul Amendment No. 999, to require an adequate amount of deficit reduction as part of reconciliation.

Pages S1109–10

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 78), Slotkin/Klobuchar Amendment No. 664, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to preventing reductions in funding and staffing necessary to respond to, control, and prevent avian flu.

Page S1110

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 80), Shaheen/Baldwin Amendment No. 436, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to preserving and extending vital tax credits enacted under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which make health care accessible and affordable and that have led to the lowest uninsured rate in our Nation's history.

Pages S1111–12

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 81), Luján Amendment No. 699, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting police, which may include initiatives that provide funding directly to law enforcement agencies to hire or rehire additional career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.

Page S1112

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 82), Duckworth/Booker Amendment No. 971, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to protecting access to fertility services, and eliminating barriers for families in need of high-quality, affordable fertility services by expanding nationwide coverage for in vitro fertilization.

Pages S1112–13

Heinrich Amendment No. 101, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to funding for grants awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women.

Page S1113

By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 83), Blumenthal Amendment No. 659, to ensure full and uninterrupted funding for Department of Veterans Affairs health care and benefits provided by the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–168), also known as the "PACT Act", preventing any cuts or delays.

Pages S1113–14

Markey Amendment No. 911, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing funding for research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Page S1114

Coons/Schiff Amendment No. 1223, to protect Americans' privacy from unauthorized access by DOGE.

Pages S1114–15

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 84), Luján/Klobuchar Amendment No. 957, to strike reconciliation instructions requiring damaging cuts to programs critical to rural Americans and food assistance for American families.

Pages S1115–16

Warren Amendment No. 734, to modify the provisions relating to the general reserve fund.

Page S1116

Kelly Amendment No. 984, to modify the provision relating to the general reserve fund.

Page S1116

King/Merkley Amendment No. 198, to modify the provision relating to the general reserve fund.

Pages S1116–17

Blunt Rochester Amendment No. 311, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to preventing the indiscriminate termination of Federal employees who protect the health or safety of Americans, which may include scientists, emergency preparedness staff, frontline health care workers, drug or medical device reviewers, or other employees at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Pages S1117–18

Murray/Durbin Amendment No. 880, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reversing the Trump Administration's indiscriminate cut to biomedical research and the lifesaving work supported by the National Institutes of Health at research institutions across the country.

Page S1118

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 86), Merkley Amendment No. 1207, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ending price gouging on prescription drugs.

Pages S1118–19

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

By 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 62), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Schumer Amendment No. 454, to prevent unwarranted tax cuts for the ultra-rich. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S1099–S1100

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 63), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Klobuchar Amendment No. 494, to stop tax cuts for the ultra-rich while families struggle to put food on the table. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Page S1100

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 65), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion

to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Warner Amendment No. 130, to create a point of order against any reconciliation bill that would not decrease the cost of housing for American families. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S1101–02**

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 67), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Hickenlooper Amendment No. 925, to create a point of order against legislation that would raise energy costs for Americans, including higher monthly electricity bills, building material expenses, and transportation costs. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S1103**

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 71), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Schumer Amendment No. 776, to prevent tax cuts for the wealthy if a single dollar of Medicaid funding is cut. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S1105–06**

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 73), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Wyden Amendment No. 1156, to prevent millions of Americans from being kicked off their health coverage, suffering needlessly, getting sicker, and dying sooner. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S1106–07**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 74), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Baldwin Amendment No. 276, to create a point of order against legislation that would take away health care from seniors, including those re-

ceiving care in nursing homes, through cuts to the Medicaid program. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S1107–08**

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 75), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Reed Amendment No. 172, to create a point of order against legislation that would reduce Medicare and Medicaid benefits for Americans. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S1108**

By 49 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 79), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Van Hollen Amendment No. 233, to create a point of order against legislation that would cut funding from the school lunch or school breakfast programs. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was in violation of section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S1110–11**

American Heart Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 87, designating February 2025 as “American Heart Month”. **Page S1303**

National Speech and Debate Education Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 88, designating March 7, 2025, as “National Speech and Debate Education Day”. **Page S1303**

National FFA Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 89, expressing support for the designation of February 15 through February 22, 2025, as “National FFA Week”, recognizing the important role of the National FFA Organization in developing the next generation of leaders who will change the world, and celebrating the 90th anniversary of New Farmers of America and the 75th anniversary of the Future Farmers of America Federal charter. **Page S1303**

Budget Resolution—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the consideration of S. Con. Res. 7, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034, the Majority and the Democrat managers of the concurrent resolution, while seated or standing at the managers’ desk, be permitted to

deliver floor remarks, retrieve, review, and edit documents, and send email and other data communications from text displayed on wireless personal assistant devices and tablet devices; provided further that the use of calculators be permitted on the floor during consideration of the concurrent resolution; that the staff be permitted to make technical and conforming changes to the concurrent resolution, if necessary, consistent with amendments adopted during Senate consideration, including calculating the associated change in the net interest function and incorporating the effect of such adopted amendments on the budgetary aggregates for Federal revenue, the amount by which the Federal revenue should be changes, new budget authority, budget outlays, deficits, public debt, and debt held by the public; and that there be two minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to each vote during consideration of the concurrent resolution. **Pages S1090–91**

Driscoll Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army.

Page S1125

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, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Friday, February 21, 2025, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 24, 2025. **Page S1125**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1125**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, February 24, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture with respect to the nominations of Daniel Driscoll, and Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 24, 2025.

Page S1303

Greer Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador. **Page S1125**

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 Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army. **Page S1125**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1125**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1125**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 61), Kashyap Patel, of Nevada, to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a term of ten years.

Pages S1064–75, S1303

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

By 51 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 60), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1064**

Measures Discharged: **Page S1126**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1126**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1127–29**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1129–37**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1125–26**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1137–S1302**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1302–03**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1303**

Record Votes: Twenty-eight record votes were taken today. (Total—87)

Pages S1064, S1075, S1099–S1119

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., on Thursday, February 20, 2025, and adjourned at 4:51 a.m., on Friday, February 21, 2025, until 3 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1303.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

USS GRAVELY AND RED SEA OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee received a closed briefing on the USS Gravelly and operations in the Red Sea from Rear Admiral D. Wilson Marks, USN, Commander, Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center, and Rear Admiral Thomas J. Dickinson, USN, Program Executive Office for Integrated Warfare Systems, both of the Department of Defense.