

SEC. 4007. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of each House or of that House to which they specifically apply, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either the Senate or the House of Representatives to change those rules (insofar as they relate to that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate or House of Representatives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table.

The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, tonight, one amendment at a time, Democrats exposed Republicans' true colors here on the Senate floor. For the first time this year, Senate Republicans were forced to go on record and defend their plans to cut taxes for Donald Trump's billionaire friends.

What happened tonight was only the beginning. This debate is going to go on for weeks and maybe months. Democrats will be ready to come back and do this over and over again because Americans deserve to know the truth. And what is the truth? Under Donald Trump's Republican Party, billionaires win and American families lose. Billionaires win and American families lose. That is it. That is the Republican agenda.

Tonight, we gave Republicans one chance after another to do the right thing and put the needs of American families first. We voted on amendments to prevent any tax cuts for billionaires paid for with cuts to Medicaid. Republicans said no. We voted on an amendment to protect maternal and children's healthcare from draconian cuts. Republicans said no. We voted on an amendment to make it easier for Americans to rent or own a home. Republicans said no. Again and again and again, Republicans sent a clear and consistent message from the Senate floor: Under their agenda, billionaires win and American families lose.

If Republicans continue with this reckless plan to help their billionaire buddies at the expense of American families, Democrats will make sure the American people know the truth at every opportunity.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION**EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 21.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 21, Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army.

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Steve Daines, Tim Sheehy, Marsha Blackburn, Eric Schmitt, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Mike Rounds, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Justice, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James Lankford, Ted Budd, Mike Lee.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION**EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 22.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 22, Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Steve Daines, Tim Sheehy, Marsha Blackburn, Eric Schmitt, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Tommy Tuberville, Mike Rounds, Jim Justice, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James Lankford, Ted Budd, Mike Lee.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**TRIBUTE TO JOEL FLATOW**

• Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, earlier this month, Joel Flatow celebrated his 30th anniversary working with the Recording Industry Association of America, RIAA. I rise today to recognize his three decades of dedication to the music industry, fighting to protect the rights of musicians across the country.

The son of naturally gifted singers Meyer and Elinor Flatow, Joel was raised to love music. Growing up on Long Island alongside his brother Edward and sister Paula, he was immersed in the world of music from an early age. In school, he mastered everything from the piano to the French horn to childhood operas, even training at the Juilliard and Manhattan School of Music Pre-College Divisions from ages 6 to 18.

When he left New York to attend Yale University, he found a community of artists just like him and began to perform as a soloist with the Yale Bach Society and Yale Glee Club. His senior year, he even earned a spot with the famed a capella group the Yale Whiffenpoofs that took him around the world.

After graduation, Joel found himself in Washington, DC, advocating for more Federal funding for the arts with the Congressional Arts Caucus and later working for New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Even through busy days and nights on the Hill, his love for performing never stopped. Soon after arriving, Joel had auditioned and earned a full year contract as a tenor for the Washington Opera at the Kennedy Center, the first of what would become 10 seasons with the company.

In 1995, he was hired by RIAA and was quickly making waves mobilizing support for the Digital Performance Right in Sound Recordings Act, which was signed into law in 1995. By 2000, Joel headed west for Los Angeles, tasked with setting up RIAA's West Coast office.

As senior vice president of artist and industry relations and chief of West

Coast operations, Joel has spent decades promoting the music industry, protecting artists' work, and helping musicians shape the policy and politics that impact their careers.

From preparing Johnny Cash to testify before Congress, to booking performances for Republican and Democratic National Conventions, even reuniting Fleetwood Mac to perform at President Bill Clinton's 1993 inauguration—there is a reason why the Los Angeles Times has dubbed him the “musical diplomat.” Joel Flatow embodies the best not only of Los Angeles, not only of the diverse music industry, but of all that music and the arts can do for our country.

On behalf of the State of California, I want to thank Joel for his commitment to strengthening an industry at the heart and soul of our State and for representing the voices of musicians across the country in the halls of power.●

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S. J. Res. 12, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Waste Emissions Charge for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems: Procedures for Facilitating Compliance, Including Netting and Exemptions” and, further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

John Hoeven, Steve Daines, James Lankford, Tim Sheehy, Tommy Tuberville, Thom Tillis, Cynthia M. Lummis, Roger W. Marshall, Kevin Cramer, Rand Paul, James E. Risch, John Cornyn, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Pete Ricketts, Shelley Moore Capito, Mike Crapo, John Barrasso, Markwayne Mullin, Katie Boyd Britt, James C. Justice, Deb Fischer, John Kennedy, Ted Budd, Roger Wicker, Ted Cruz, Jon Husted, John Boozman, Mike Rounds, Rick Scott.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S. J. Res. 12. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Waste Emissions Charge for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems: Procedures for Facilitating Compliance, Including Netting and Exemptions”.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. COTTON, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Special Report entitled “Report of the Select Committee on Intelligence United

States Senate covering the period January 3, 2023 to January 3, 2025” (Rept. No. 119-1).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. CASSIDY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Linda McMahon, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 643. A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 644. A bill to improve retrospective reviews of Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. 645. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals and communities who volunteered or donated items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Nebraska, during World War II from December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 646. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to carry out Executive Order 14160; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SHEEHY, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 647. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to create regional wildland fire research centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 648. A bill to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 649. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to members of the National Guard who perform certain full-time duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. 650. A bill to designate America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. SHEEHY, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 651. A bill to repeal programs relating to funding for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 652. A bill to provide for the regulation of certain communications regarding prescription drugs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BUDD:

S. 653. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat membership in a health care sharing ministry as a medical expense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 654. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an external provider scheduling program to assist the Department of Veterans Affairs in scheduling appointments for care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. MCCORMICK):

S. 655. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States national who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 656. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports containing adverse items of information about a consumer that resulted from that consumer being unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad or held hostage abroad; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KAINE, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 657. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to provide retirement security to United States nationals who were unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. MORAN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. LEE):

S. 658. A bill to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring that personally identifiable information be collected under consolidated audit trail reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 659. A bill to establish a grant program within the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to award grants to States that require the recording of all child welfare interviews with children and adults, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 660. A bill to establish limitations on advanced payments for bus rolling stock, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.