

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1681–S1722*

**Measures Introduced:** Forty bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 973–1012, and S. Res. 124–126. **Pages S1703–05**

#### Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Legislative and Oversight Activities During the 118th Congress by the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.”. (S. Rept. No. 119–2) **Page S1703**

#### Measures Considered:

#### Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act—Cloture:

Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. **Page S1700**

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, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Stephen Feinberg, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Defense. **Page S1700**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1700**

**Vote Change—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Alsobrooks be permitted to change her vote on Roll Call Vote No. 114 from yea to nay, since it will not affect the outcome. **Page S1686**

**Feinberg Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stephen Feinberg, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Defense. **Page S1700**

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 S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act

with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances. **Page S1700**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1700**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1700**

**Phelan Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of John Phelan, of Florida, to be Secretary of the Navy. **Page S1700**

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 H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. **Page S1700**

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 S1700**

**Pulte and Kessler Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, March 13, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of William Pulte, of Florida, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency for a term of five years; that at 10:45 a.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of William Pulte; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of William Pulte, the post-cloture time expire at 1 p.m., and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Jeffrey Kessler, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security, the post-cloture time expire at 4:30 p.m., and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S1722**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 117), Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

**Pages S1681–85, S1690, S1722**

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

By 52 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 116), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1685**

By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 119), Keith Sonderling, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor. **Pages S1690–97, S1722**

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

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 118), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1690**

**Messages from the House: Page S1703**

**Measures Referred: Page S1703**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S1703**

**Measures Read the First Time: Page S1703**

**Executive Reports of Committees: Page S1703**

**Additional Cosponsors: Pages S1705–06**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S1706–17**

**Additional Statements: Pages S1702–03**

**Amendments Submitted: Pages S1717–21**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S1721**

**Privileges of the Floor: Pages S1721–22**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—119) **Pages S1685, S1690, S1697**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 7:31 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 13, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1722.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### JOINT FORCE READINESS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine the current readiness of the Joint Force, after receiving testimony from General James J. Mingus, USA, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, Department of the Army, Admiral James W. Kilby, USN, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, and General Christopher J. Mahoney, USMC, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, both of the Department of the Navy, and General Michael A. Guetlein, USSF, Vice Chief of Space Operations, and Lieutenant General Adrian L. Spain, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, both of the Department of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense; and

Diana C. Maurer, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, Government Accountability Office.

### HOUSING ROADBLOCKS

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine housing roadblocks, focusing on paving a new way to address affordability, after receiving testimony from Mayor Eric L. Johnson, Dallas, Texas; Lee Jelenic, United Wholesale Mortgage, Pontiac, Michigan; Edward Glaeser, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Renee Willis, National Low Income Housing Coalition, Washington, D.C.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 28, to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices;

S. 97, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production;

S. 244, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to conduct a study of the national security risks posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router, with an amendment;

S. 289, to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrate to individuals;

S. 323, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to develop a National Strategy to Synchronize Federal Broadband Programs, with an amendment;

S. 389, to establish consumer standards for lithium-ion batteries;

S. 414, to require covered digital advertising platforms to report their public service advertisements, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 428, to promote space situational awareness and space traffic coordination and to modify the functions and leadership of the Office of Space Commerce, with an amendment;

S. 433, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce;

S. 582, to provide for the authorized use of Federal vehicle transportation by certain astronauts;

S. 613, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to maintain the National Mesonet Program;

S. 759, to provide for standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 841, to require online dating service providers to provide fraud ban notifications to online dating service members, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 843, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program; and

The nominations of Mark Meador, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Michael Kratsios, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

### MINERAL BILLS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 362, to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 544, to provide for the location of multiple hardrock mining mill sites, to establish the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Fund, S. 596, to establish a pilot program to support domestic critical material processing, S. 714, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, S. 789, to require reports on critical mineral and rare earth element resources around the world and a strategy for the development of advanced mining, refining, separation, and processing technologies, and S. 859, to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land, after receiving testimony from Rich Haddock, Barrick Gold Corporation, Bountiful, Utah; Brian Somers, Utah Mining Association, Salt Lake City; and Chris Wood, Trout Unlimited, Arlington, Virginia.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Christopher Landau, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, Michael Rigas, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, and Matthew Whitaker, of Iowa, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador, all of the Department of State.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of William Briggs, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator, and Casey Mulligan, of Illinois, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, both of the Small Business Administration.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following the nomination of Paul Lawrence, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Also, committee approved Major Medical Lease Committee Resolution FY25, and Major Medical Lease Committee Resolution PACT Act.

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

### SENIOR LONELINESS

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine breaking the cycle of senior loneliness, focusing on strengthening family and community support, after receiving testimony from Andrew MacPherson, Foundation for Social Connection Action Network, and James Balda, Argentum, both of Washington, D.C.; Suzanne McCormick, YMCA of the USA, Tampa, Florida; and Tori Strawter-Tanks, Georgia Association of Senior Centers, Jonesboro.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

The House was not in session today. The House will meet in Pro Forma session at 9 a.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025.

## *Committee Meetings*

### CONFLICT AND PERSECUTION IN NIGERIA: THE CASE FOR A COUNTRY OF PARTICULAR CONCERN (CPC) DESIGNATION

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Africa Subcommittee held a hearing entitled “Conflict and Persecution in Nigeria: The Case for a CPC Designation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 127, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the Department of Government Efficiency’s access to the Treasury payment systems and confidential taxpayer information; and H. Res. 195, of inquiry requesting the President of the United States to furnish certain information to the House of Representatives relating to the operations of the Social Security Administration after January 20, 2025, including information on the Department of Government Efficiency’s access to the Social Security Administration and to information in the possession of such Administration. H. Res. 127 and H. Res. 195 were ordered reported, without amendment.

## *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, “GENIUS Act of 2025”, and S. 875, to curtail the political weaponization of Federal banking agencies by eliminating reputational risk as a component of the supervision of depository institutions, 10 a.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* business meeting to consider the nominations of David Fotouhi, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator, and Aaron Szabo, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, 1:45 p.m., S–120, Capitol.

*Committee on Finance:* business meeting to consider the nomination of Michael Faulkender, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, 4:15 p.m., SD–215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to Canada, George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to Japan, and Ronald Johnson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the United Mexican States, all of the Department of State, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, and Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, and other pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of David Weldon, of Florida, to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–562.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Dean Sauer, of Missouri, to be Solicitor General of the United States, and Harmmeet Dhillon, of California, and Aaron Reitz, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice, 9:15 a.m., SH–216.

### House

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Thursday, March 13

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Friday, March 14

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of William Pulte, of Florida, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency for a term of five years, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 10:45 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 1:45 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of William Pulte, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jeffrey Kessler, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 4:30 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Jeffrey Kessler, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on S. 331, Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act.

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 9 a.m.



## Congressional Record

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