Friday, March 14, 2025

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S.331, Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act, as amended.

Senate passed H.R.1968, Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1753–S1786

Measures Introduced: Eighteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1070–1087, and S. Res. 127–131. **Pages S1776–77**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2025". (S. Rept. No. 119–3)

S. 195, to amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism. (S. Rept. No. 119–4) **Page S1776**

Measures Passed:

Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act: By 84 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 127), Senate passed S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, after agreeing to the committee reported substitute amendment, and taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1762–68**

Withdrawn:

Thune (for Grassley) Amendment No. 1237, of a perfecting nature. **Page S1765**

Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act: By 54 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 133), Senate passed H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1768–72**

Rejected:

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 129), Merkley Amendment No. 1273, to except the application of certain rescissions. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S1769**

By 47 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 130), Duckworth Amendment No. 1274, to make veteran Federal employees who were involuntarily dismissed without cause eligible for reinstatement and to require reports from Executive agencies on the number of veteran employees fired from such agencies. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S1770–71**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 131), Van Hollen Amendment No. 1272, to prohibit the use of appropriated amounts by DOGE. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S1771**

By 27 yeas to 73 nays (Vote No. 132), Paul Amendment No. 1266, to reduce the amount appropriated for the United States Agency for International Development. **Page S1771**

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

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, be withdrawn. **Page S1768**

By 62 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 128), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Pages S1768–69**

District of Columbia Local Funds Act: Senate passed S. 1077, to approve local funds for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2025, in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2025 Local Budget Act of 2024, and to establish provisions for the use of such funds. **Pages S1772–73**

National Board Certification Teachers: Senate agreed to S. Res. 129, recognizing and honoring teachers who have earned or maintained National Board Certification. **Page S1785**

Honoring Dr. Mary Edwards Walker: Senate agreed to S. Res. 130, honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker. **Page S1785**

National CACFP Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 131, designating the third week of March 2025 as ''National CACFP Week''. **Page S1785**

Use of Emancipation Hall: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 17, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page S1785**

Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S1786**

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Committees be authorized to report out legislation on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, from 12 noon until 12:30 p.m. **Page S1786**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times: Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 12:15 p.m.; Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 12 noon; and that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, March 20, 2025, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Monday, March 24, 2025. **Page S1786**

Phelan Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of John Phelan, of Florida, to be Secretary of the Navy. **Page S1773**

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

By 64 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. EX. 134), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1773**

Landau Nomination: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Christopher Landau, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State. **Page S1773**

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

By 63 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. EX. 135), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1773**

Phelan and Landau Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time on the nominations of John Phelan, of Florida, to be Secretary of the Navy, and Christopher Landau, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State, be expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, no earlier than Monday, March 24, 2025. **Page S1786**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 24, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of John Phelan, of Florida, to be Secretary of the Navy, and that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of John Phelan, followed by a vote on confirmation of the nomination of Christopher Landau, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of the Senate of Friday, March 14, 2025, ripen on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. **Page S1786**

Kratsios Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Michael Kratsios, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. **Pages S1773–74**

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, March 14, 2025, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. **Page S1786**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1773**

Bhattacharya Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health. **Page S1774**

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 Michael Kratsios, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. **Page S1774**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S1774

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S1774

Makary Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services. Page S1774

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 Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health. Page S1774

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S1774

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S1774

Bishop Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Page S1774

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 Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services. Page S1774

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S1774

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S1774

Reitz Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Aaron Reitz, of Texas, to be an Assistant Attorney General. Page S1774

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 James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Page S1774

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S1774

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S1774

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 59 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 126), Stephen Feinberg, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Defense. Pages S1753–55 S1786

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

By 56 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. EX. 125), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Pages S1754–55

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Marine Corps. Page S1786

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Adam Boehler, of Tennessee, to be Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, with the rank and status of Ambassador, which was sent to the Senate on January 28, 2025 Page S1786

Messages from the House: Page S1776

Measures Discharged: Page S1776

Privileged Nominations Referred to Committee: Page S1776

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S1776

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S1777–78

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S1778–83

Additional Statements: Pages S1775–76

Amendments Submitted: Pages S1783–85

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S1785

Record Votes: Eleven record votes were taken today. (Total—135) Pages S1754–55, S1762, S1765, S1768–73

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:14 p.m., until 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1786.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Michael Faulkender, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Mehmet Oz, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Centers for

Medicare and Medicaid Services, after the nominee, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 77 public bills, H.R. 2092–2168; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 221–226, were introduced. **Pages H1158–62**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1164**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1048, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen disclosure requirements relating to foreign gifts and contracts, to prohibit contracts between institutions of higher education and certain foreign entities and countries of concern, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–16). **Page H1158**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Smith (NE) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1155**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Daniel Carson, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1155**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the passing of the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. Grijalva, the whole number of the House is 431. **Page H1155**

Senate Referral: S. 960 was held at the desk. **Page H1155**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1155.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12:15 p.m., Tuesday, March 18

Senate Chamber

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

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Tuesday, March 18

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 12 noon.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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