

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1879–S1915

Measures Introduced: Thirty-eight bills and ten resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1162–1199, S.J. Res. 40–44, and S. Res. 144–148.

Pages S1905–07

Measures Passed:

Overdraft Lending: By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 153), Senate passed S.J. Res. 18, disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Overdraft Lending: Very Large Financial Institutions”. **Pages S1879–84**

Honoring the Life of Former Senator Alan K. Simpson: Senate agreed to S. Res. 148, honoring the life of the Honorable Alan K. Simpson, former Senator for the State of Wyoming. **Page S1915**

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 13694 of April 1, 2015, with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–18)

Pages S1904–05

Whitaker Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of 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. **Pages S1892–S1901**

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 Thursday, March 27, 2025, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, March 31, 2025. **Page S1892**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1892**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1892**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 31, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination; and that if cloture is invoked, all time be considered expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader in consultation with the Democratic Leader. **Page S1915**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 51 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 155), Paul Lawrence, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs. **Pages S1884–92**

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

By 53 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 154), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1885**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1905**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1907–08**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1908–19**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1902–04**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1914–15**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1915**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—155) **Pages S1884–85, S1892**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Alan K. Simpson, former Senator for the State of Wyoming, in accordance with S. Res. 148, at 4:39 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1915.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Troy Meink, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Air Force, who was introduced by Senator Rounds, Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, who was introduced by Representative Fitzgerald, Emil Michael, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Research and Engineering, and Keith Bass, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jonathan Gould, of Virginia, to be Comptroller of the Currency for a term of five years, who was introduced by Senator Crapo, Luke Pettit, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Paul Atkins, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 5, 2026, who were both introduced by Senator Hagerty, and Marcus Molinaro, of New York, to be Federal Transit Administrator, who was introduced by Senator Britt, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DCA MIDAIR COLLISION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation, Space, and Innovation concluded a hearing to examine the National Transportation Safety Board preliminary report, focusing on the DCA midair collision, after receiving testimony from Jennifer Homendy, Chairwoman, National Transportation Safety Board; Chris Rocheleau, Acting Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation; and Brigadier General Matthew W. Braman, Director, Army Aviation, United States Army, Department of Defense.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Arielle Roth, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, after the nominee, who was introduced by former Senator Roy Blunt, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 860, to modify the information about countries exporting methamphetamine that is included in the annual International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, to require a report to Congress on the seizure and production of certain illicit drugs, to impose sanctions with respect to the production and trafficking into the United States, of synthetic opioids;

S. 868, to support democracy and the rule of law in Georgia;

S. Res. 86, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) and the harmful conflation of China's "One China Principle" and the United States' "One China Policy";

S. Res. 98, condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law;

S. Res. 106, supporting the goals of International Women's Day;

S. 821, to provide for increased reporting regarding Department of State Taiwan guidelines, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 555, to direct the Secretary of State to establish a national registry of Korean American divided families, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 842, to counter efforts by Hezbollah to conduct terrorist activities in Latin America, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 52, recognizing religious freedom as a fundamental right, expressing support for international religious freedom as a cornerstone of United States foreign policy, and expressing concern over increased threats to and attacks on religious freedom around the world; and

The nominations of Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to Canada, and George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to Japan, both of the Department of State.

PROTESTS AND CAMPUS SAFETY

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ensuring safe learning environments for all students, focusing on protests on campus, after receiving testimony from Carly F. Gammill, StandWithUs Center for Combatting Antisemitism, Los Angeles, California; Rabbi Levi Shemtov, American Friends of Lubavitch (Chabad), and David Saperstein, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, both of Washington, D.C.; Charles Asher Small, Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy, New York, New York; and Kenneth S. Stern, Bard Center for the Study of Hate, Brooklyn, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1047, to prohibit individuals convicted of defrauding the Government from receiving any assistance from the Small Business Administration; and

S. 1093, to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Rural Affairs; and

The nominations 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.

Committee recessed subject to the call of the Chair.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 85 public bills, H.R. 2395–2479; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 82; and H. Res. 259–268 were introduced.

Pages H1333–38

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H1340

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1155, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to elect to receive certain replacement refunds electronically, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–41);

H.R. 998, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require additional information on math and clerical error notices, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–42);

H.R. 1491, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the postponement of certain deadlines by reason of disasters applicable to the limitation on credit or refund, and to take postponements into account for purposes of sending collection notices, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–43);

H.R. 517, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules for postponing certain deadlines by reason of disaster, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–44);

H.R. 1152, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the application of the mailbox rule to documents and payments electronically submitted to the Internal Revenue Service, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–45);

H.R. 997, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform to the intent of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, as set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–599, that the National Taxpayer Advocate be able to hire and consult counsel as appropriate, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–46);

H.R. 1450, to require the Office of Foreign Assets Control to develop a program under which private

sector firms may receive a license to conduct nominal financial transactions in furtherance of the firms' investigations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–47, Part 1); and

H.R. 1716, to deter Chinese aggression towards Taiwan by requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to publish a report on financial institutions and accounts connected to senior officials of the People's Republic of China, to restrict financial services for certain immediate family of such officials, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–48, Part 1).

Page H1333

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

Page H1305

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rabbi Pinchus Ciment, Lubavitch of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Page H1305

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Walk-In Coolers and Walk-In Freezers": The House passed H.J. Res. 24, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Walk-In Coolers and Walk-In Freezers", by a yea-and-nay vote of 203 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 77.

Pages H1307–11

H. Res. 242, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 24) and (H.J. Res. 75) and the bill (H.R. 1048) was agreed to Tuesday, March 25th.

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy

relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator Freezers”: The House passed H.J. Res. 75, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator Freezers”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 78. Consideration began yesterday, March 26th. **Page H1312**

H. Res. 242, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 24) and (H.J. Res. 75) and the bill (H.R. 1048) was agreed to Tuesday, March 25th.

Defending Education Transparency and Ending Rogue Regimes Engaging in Nefarious Transactions Act: The House passed 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, by a yea-and-nay vote of 241 yeas to 169 nays, Roll No. 83. Consideration began Tuesday, March 25th.

Pages H1312–16

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–1 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Workforce now printed in the bill.

Page H1312

Rejected:

Scott (VA) amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 119–38) that was debated on March 25th that sought to amend Section 117 to streamline foreign gift and contract reporting, aligns reporting with other federal research security compliance requirements, establishes common-sense sanctions for non-compliance and requires the Secretary of Education to conduct negotiated rulemaking to receive stakeholder feedback (by a recorded vote of 199 yeas to 214 noes, Roll No. 79); **Pages H1312–13**

Self amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 119–38) that was debated on March 25th that sought to amend the threshold value at which gifts must be reported from \$50,000 to \$1 (by a recorded vote of 92 yeas to 321 noes, Roll No. 80);

Pages H1313–14

Tlaib amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 119–38) that was debated on March 25th that sought to amend the definition of “Foreign Country

of Concern” to include any country that is defending a case before the International Court of Justice relating to an alleged violation of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 or their Additional Protocols or the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; and to include any country the government of which includes officials that have outstanding arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court (by a recorded vote of 3 yeas to 410 noes, Roll No. 81); and **Page H1314**

Tlaib amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 119–38) that was debated on March 25th that sought to amend the definition of “Investment of Concern” to include any entity that the Secretary of State determines consistently, knowingly, and directly facilitates and enables state violence and repression, war and occupation, or severe violations of international law and human rights (by a recorded vote of 4 yeas to 404 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 82. **Pages H1314–15**

H. Res. 242, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 24) and (H.J. Res. 75) and the bill (H.R. 1048) was agreed to Tuesday, March 25th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, March 31, 2025 for morning-hour debate. **Page H1316**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate appears on page H1321.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1311, H1312, H1313, H1313–14, H1314, H1315, and H1315–16.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Committee Meetings

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT SHOULD FIGHT CRIME, NOT FIGHT CONSERVATIVES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Western Hemisphere Subcommittee held a hearing entitled “INL Should Fight Crime, Not Fight Conservatives”. Testimony was heard from Chelsa Kenney, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY,
MARCH 31, 2025**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1526, the “No Rogue Rulings Act of 2025”; H.R. 22,

the “Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act”; S.J. Res. 18, disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Overdraft Lending: Very Large Financial Institutions”; S.J. Res. 28, disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Defining Larger Participants of a Market for General-Use Digital Consumer Payment Applications”, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, March 31

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, March 31

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of 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, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

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