

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

**Routine Proceedings, pages S475–S495**

**Measures Introduced:** Eleven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3771–3781, S.J. Res. 105–106, and S. Res. 596. **Page S489**

**Measures Reported:**

S.J. Res. 102, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025. **Page S489**

**Measures Passed:**

**National School Counseling Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 596, designating the week of February 2 through 6, 2026, as “National School Counseling Week”. **Page S489**

**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 14014 of February 10, 2021, with respect to Burma; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–48) **Page S488**

**Lea Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Brian Charles Lea, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee. **Pages S486–87**

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

By 50 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 29), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S486**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, all post-cloture time be expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Brian Charles Lea at 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 5, 2026; that the motion to invoke cloture filed during Tuesday, February 3, 2026, session of the Senate ripen following disposition of the nomination of Brian Charles Lea; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Justin R. Olson, of Indiana, to be United States District

Judge for the Southern District of Indiana, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 1:45 p.m., on Thursday, February 5, 2026. **Page S487**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, February 5, 2026. **Page S495**

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

By 58 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. EX. 26), Aaron Christian Peterson, of Alaska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska. **Pages S475–80**

By 51 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 28), Megan Blair Benton, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. **Pages S480–86**

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

By 51 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 27), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S480–81**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Michael McDonald, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities for a term of four years.

9 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Army, and Marine Corps. **Page S495**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S488**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S488**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S488–89**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S489–91**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S491–92**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S487–88**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S492**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—29) **Pages S480, S481, S486**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:28 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2026. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S495.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### FUTURE OF SELF-DRIVING CARS

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of self-driving cars, after receiving testimony from Lars Moravy, Tesla, Austin, Texas; Mauricio Pena, Waymo, Mountain View, California; Jeff Farrah, Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association, Washington, D.C.; and Bryant Walker Smith, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 90, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to finalize and implement certain travel management plans in the State of Utah, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 91, to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 290, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to upgrade existing emergency communications centers in units of the National Park System to Next Generation 9-1-1 systems;

S. 291, to establish an interest-bearing account for the non-Federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program;

S. 446, to prohibit Big Cypress National Preserve from being designated as wilderness or as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title;

S. 700, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona, with an amendment;

H.R. 837, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona, with an amendment;

S. 790, to redesignate the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming, as the "Barbara L. Cubin National Historic Trails Interpretive Center";

S. 1321, to amend the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 to provide for the transfer of the Moab site to Grand County, Utah, with an amendment;

S. 1353, to extend the authority for modifications to the Second Division Memorial in the District of Columbia, with an amendment;

S. 1516, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Cahokia Mounds, Emerald Mounds, and Pulcher Mounds in the State of Illinois, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1518 and H.R. 1550, bills to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park; and

S. 2881, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, with an amendment.

### AMERICA'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND CYBER SECURITY

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine identifying and addressing cybersecurity challenges to protect America's water infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Scott Simonton, Marshall University Institute for Cyber Security, Charleston, West Virginia; Matt Odermann, North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association, Perth, on behalf of the National Rural Water Association; and Scott Dewhirst, Fairfax Water, Fairfax, Virginia, on behalf of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies.

### EUROPEAN ENERGY SECURITY

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation concluded a hearing to examine European energy security, after receiving testimony from Geoffrey R. Pyatt, Atlantic Council Energy Center, and Dan Byers, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Energy Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported S.J. Res. 102, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025.

### LEGISLATION

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2098, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southcentral Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska, S. 1055, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to modify the notification requirement for emergency

contract health services for certain beneficiaries, and S. 699, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of charges or costs associated with the provision of purchased/referred care services, after receiving testimony from Darrell LaRoche, Deputy Director for Management Operations Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Dayna Seymour, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Nespelem, Washington; and Leandra Ross, Southcentral Foundation, Anchorage, Alaska.

## NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Robert Cekada, of Florida, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, who was introduced by Senator Moran, Andrew B. Davis, and Christopher R. Wolfe, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, who were introduced by Senators Cornyn and Cruz, Anna St. John, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, who was introduced by Senator Kennedy, and John Thomas Shepherd, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, who was introduced by Senators Boozman and Cotton, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

## FIGHTING FRAUD

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights concluded a hearing to examine fighting fraud in Minnesota and beyond, after receiving testimony from Minnesota State Representative Kristin Robbins, Chair of the Fraud Prevention Committee, Crookston; Robert Weissman, Public Citizen, Washington, D.C.; and David Hoch, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## ADAPTIVE SPORTS

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine veteran health and healing through adaptive sports, after receiving testimony from Rachel McArdle, Deputy Executive Director, Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Service, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Gabriel George, Military Adaptive Court Sports, Manvel, Texas; Julie Howell, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Washington, D.C.; and Elizabeth Smith, Farmington, New York.

## INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 46 public bills, H.R. 7340–7385; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 1036–1039, were introduced. **Pages H2029–31**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H2032–33**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1355, to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to reauthorize the Weatherization Assistance Program, direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a weatherization readiness program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–480);

H.R. 3474, to clarify that the installation of mechanical insulation property is an energy or water efficiency measure that may be used in Federal buildings for purposes of section 543(f) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–481);

H.R. 3699, to prohibit States or local governments from prohibiting or limiting the connection, reconnection, modification, installation, transportation, distribution, or expansion of an energy service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–482);

H.R. 4690, to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to repeal certain Federal building energy efficiency performance standards, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–483, Part 1);

H.R. 4758, to repeal provisions of Public Law 117–169 relating to taxpayer subsidies for home electrification, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–484);

H.R. 1343, to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of

certain Form 299s, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–485);

H.R. 1588, to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to report to Congress on any barriers to establishing online portals to accept, process, and dispose of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–486, Part 1);

H.R. 1665, to require the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture to establish online portals to accept, process, and dispose of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–487, Part 1);

H.R. 1665, to require the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture to establish online portals to accept, process, and dispose of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–487, Part 2); and

H.R. 1731, to amend the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 to establish a uniform fee schedule applicable to the processing of forms for the consideration of applications for the placement of communications facilities on certain buildings and other property owned by the Federal Government, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–488, Part 1).

**Pages H2028–29**

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

**Page H1979**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

**Page H1991**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

**Pages H2008–09**

**Critical Mineral Dominance Act:** The House passed H.R. 4090, to codify certain provisions of certain Executive Orders relating to domestic mining and hardrock mineral resources, by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 55.

**Pages H1993–H2002, H2009–10**

Rejected the Leger Fernandez motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 209 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 54.

**Pages H2002, H2009**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted.

**Pages H1993–94**

H. Res. 1032, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 7148) and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 142) and the bill (H.R. 4090) was agreed to yesterday, February 3rd.

**Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income**

**and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025:** The House passed H.J. Res. 142, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the D.C. Income and Franchise Tax Conformity and Revision Temporary Amendment Act of 2025, by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 56.

**Pages H2002–08, H2010–11**

H. Res. 1032, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 7148) and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 142) and the bill (H.R. 4090) was agreed to yesterday, February 3rd.

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, February 5th; and further when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, February 9, 2026 for morning-hour debate.

**Page H2011**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President transmitting a notification stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond February 10, 2026—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 119–130).

**Page H2008**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three ye-a-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2009, H2009–10, and H2010–11.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### RUNAWAY COLLEGE SPENDING MEETS THE WORKING FAMILIES TAX CUTS

*Committee on Education and Workforce:* Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “Runaway College Spending Meets the Working Families Tax Cuts”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### EVALUATING FIRSTNET: PERFORMANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND REAUTHORIZATION

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Evaluating FirstNet: Performance, Accountability, and Reauthorization”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy held a markup on H.R. 7305, the “Energy

Threat Analysis Center Act of 2026”; H.R. 7258, the “Energy Emergency Leadership Act”; H.R. 7257, the “Securing Community Upgrades for a Resilient Grid Act”; H.R. 7272, the “Pipeline Cybersecurity Preparedness Act”; and H.R. 7266, the “Rural and Municipal Utility Cybersecurity Act”. H.R. 7305, H.R. 7258, H.R. 7257, and H.R. 7272 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 7266 was forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Annual Report of the Financial Stability Oversight Council”. Testimony was heard from Scott Bessent, Chairperson, Financial Stability Oversight Council, Department of the Treasury.

#### A NEW DAY AT THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION: RESTORING ACCOUNTABILITY, DUE PROCESS, AND PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Capital Markets held a hearing entitled “A New Day at the SEC: Restoring Accountability, Due Process, and Public Confidence”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### DEFENDING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AROUND THE WORLD

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Africa Subcommittee; and Western Hemisphere Subcommittee held a joint hearing entitled “Defending Religious Freedom Around the World”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### EUROPE’S THREAT TO AMERICAN SPEECH AND INNOVATION: PART II

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Europe’s Threat to American Speech and Innovation: Part II”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on H.R. 3276, the “Local Communities and Bird Habitat Stewardship Act of 2025”; H.R. 6021, the “Archie Cavanaugh Migratory Bird Treaty Amendment Act”; H.R. 6568, the “Lower Yellowstone River Native Fish Conservation Act”; and H.R. 7159, the “Protecting Local Zoos Act of 2026”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Gosar, Begich, and Downing; and public witnesses.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 7274, the “Federal Acquisition Security Council Improvement Act of 2026”; H.R. 2985, the “Modernizing Government Technology Reform Act”; H.R. 4123, the “Federal Improvement in Technology Procurement Act”; H.R. 7256, the “Federal Workforce Early Separation Incentives Act”; H.R. 7283, the “Ensuring Federal Purchasing Efficiency Act”; H.R. 1111, the “Value Over Cost Act of 2025”; H.R. 5438, the “Incentivize Savings Act”; H.R. 5000, the “Cybersecurity Hiring Modernization Act”; H.R. 7265, the “Vote by Mail Tracking Act”; H.R. 6808, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 417 West 7th Street in Columbia, Tennessee, as the “Pharmacist’s Mate First Class John Harlan Willis Post Office Building”; H.R. 6020, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14855 South Van Dyke Road in Plainfield, Illinois, as the “Staff Sergeant Jose Dueñez Jr. Post Office Building”; and H.R. 6995, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 825 Highway 198 in Beaumont, Mississippi, as the “Jeremy Malone Post Office”. H.R. 7274, H.R. 2985, H.R. 4123, H.R. 7256, H.R. 7283, H.R. 1111, H.R. 5438, H.R. 5000, and H.R. 7265 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 6808, H.R. 6020, and H.R. 6995 were ordered reported, without amendment.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 7273, the “NASA Reauthorization Act of 2026”. H.R. 7273 was ordered reported, as amended.

#### DIGITAL G.I. BILL UNDELIVERED: CONTRACTING CHALLENGES AND THE NEED FOR ACQUISITION REFORM

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Subcommittee on Technology Modernization; and Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a joint hearing entitled “Digital G.I. Bill Undelivered: Contracting Challenges and the Need for Acquisition Reform”. Testimony was heard from Kenneth Smith, Executive Director, Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

#### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

## NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D119)

H.R. 7148, making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026. Signed on February 3, 2026. (Public Law 119–75)

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 5, 2026**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

**Senate**

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the Financial Stability Oversight Council's Annual Report to Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* to hold hearings to examine secure retirement, focusing on the success of the Railroad Retirement Board, 10 a.m., SD–430.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider S. 2544, to permit State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies and grantees that receive eligible Federal grant funds to use such funds for investigating elder financial fraud, pig butchering, and general financial fraud,

and to clarify that Federal law enforcement agencies may assist State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies in the use of tracing tools for blockchain and related technology, S. 1809, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking or transmitting video of defense information, S. 3023, to limit liability for certain entities storing child sexual abuse material for law enforcement agencies, H.R. 6719, to prohibit threats to a minor, S. 3398, to amend title 18, United States Code, to criminalize intentional threats to distribute child sexual abuse material, and to provide appropriate penalties for the use of child sexual abuse material to extort or coerce victims, S. 3397, to make coercion of children to commit harm a criminal offense, S. 3394, to direct the United States Sentencing Commission to amend the sentencing guideline relating to child sexual abuse material, and the nominations of Thomas Govan, Jr., to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama, Zachary Keller, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana, and Ryan Raybould, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, 10:15 a.m., SH–216.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* closed business meeting to consider certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., Room to be announced.

**House**

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Thursday, February 5

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Thursday, February 5

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Brian Charles Lea, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Brian Charles Lea, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Justin R. Olson, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 1:45 p.m.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Barragán, Nanette Diaz, Calif., E105  
Courtney, Joe, Conn., E105  
Crenshaw, Dan, Tex., E103  
Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E109  
Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E105

Graves, Sam, Mo., E107  
Johnson, Mike, La., E99  
Landsman, Greg, Ohio, E101  
Lofgren, Zoe, Calif., E101  
McBath, Lucy, Ga., E101  
McClellan, Jennifer L., Va., E108  
Moulton, Seth, Mass., E108

Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E107  
Pressley, Ayanna, Mass., E99, E101, E103, E105, E108  
Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E103  
Smith, Adam, Wash., E110  
Stauber, Pete, Minn., E105  
Walberg, Tim, Mich., E103  
Wilson, Joe, S.C., E100



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