

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate met in Joint Session to receive a State of the Union Address from the President of the United States.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S627–S655

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3895–3907, and S. Res. 612. **Pages S650–51**

Measures Reported:

S. 1441, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to nonprofit entities to assist such entities in carrying out programs to provide service dogs to eligible veterans, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 119–113)

S. 3023, to limit liability for certain entities storing child sexual abuse material for law enforcement agencies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S650**

Measures Considered:

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act: By 50 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 39), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 7147, making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026. **Page S641**

Subsequently, Senator Thune entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S641**

Appointments:

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), as amended by Public Law 118–159, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy: Senator Peters (Appropriations). **Page S654**

United States Commission on Civil Rights: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 98–183, as amended by Public Law 103–419, appointed the following individual to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, for a term of six years: Sarah Frankenstein vice Gail Heriot.

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the report on the State of the Union delivered to a Joint Session of Congress on February 24, 2026; which was ordered to lie on the table. (PM–52) **Pages S645–49**

McCormack Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Ryan McCormack, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy. **Page S641**

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 John DeLeeuw, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board. **Page S641**

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 S641**

DeLeeuw Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of John DeLeeuw, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and notwithstanding Rule XXII, the motion to invoke cloture ripen at 11:45 a.m.; and if cloture is invoked, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m. **Pages S654–55**

Messages from the House:	Page S649
Measures Referred:	Pages S649–50
Measures Placed on the Calendar:	Pages S635–S650
Executive Communications:	Page S650
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S651–52
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S652–54
Additional Statements:	Pages S643–45
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Page S654
Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—39)	Page S641
Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 11:04 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday,	

February 25, 2026. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S654–55.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CRITICAL MINERALS SUPPLY CHAINS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine rebuilding American critical minerals supply chains, after receiving testimony from Michael P. Cadenazzi, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Industrial Base Policy, and Jeffrey Frankston, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Industrial Base Resilience, both of the Department of Defense.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 7654–7688; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 1076 were introduced. **Page H2296**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2297–98**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1075, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4626) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4758) to repeal provisions of Public Law 117–169 relating to taxpayer subsidies for home electrification, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–515);

H.R. 5419, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a plan for ensuring timely review of communications use authorizations, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 119–516, Part 1);

H.R. 1945, to designate the America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–517);

H.R. 2196, to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–518); and

H.R. 755, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 119–519). **Pages H2295–96**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller (IL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2261**

Recess: The House recessed at 11 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H2268**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:11 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. **Page H2276**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Monday, February 23rd.

Information Quality Assurance Act: H.R. 6329, To ensure that Federal agencies rely on the best reasonably available scientific, technical, demographic, economic, and statistical information and evidence to develop, issue or inform the public of the nature and bases of Federal agency rules and guidance, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 362 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 71. **Pages H2276–77**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Monday, February 23rd.

Rotorcraft Operations Transparency and Oversight Reform Act: S. 2503, to require all aircraft to be equipped with Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast In, to improve aviation safety, by a

$\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 264 yeas to 133 nays, Roll No. 72. **Page H2277**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:56 p.m. and reconvened at 4:01 p.m. **Page H2285**

Don't Mess With My Home Appliances Act: The House passed H.R. 4626, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 76. **Pages H2269–76, H2279–86**

Rejected the Suozzi motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce by a yea-and-nay vote of 197 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 75. **Pages H2285–86**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–20 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill. **Pages H2279–81**

H. Res. 1075, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4626) and (H.R. 4758) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 208 yeas to 187 noes, Roll No. 74, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 208 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 73. **Pages H2269–76, H2277–79**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, February 25th. **Page H2287**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:41 p.m. and reconvened at 8:35 p.m. **Page H2287**

State of the Union Address: President Donald Trump delivered his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 74. He was escorted into the House Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives Scalise, Emmer, McClain, Hudson, Reschenthaler, Moore (UT), Houchin, Hern (OK), Jeffries, Aguilar, Lieu, DelBene, and Dingell, and Senators Thune, Barrasso, Cotton, Capito, Lankford, Scott, Schumer, Durbin, and Klobuchar. The President's message was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 119–121). **Pages H2287–95**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2276–77, H2277, H2278, H2278–79, H2285–86, and H2286.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:06 p.m.

Committee Meetings

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs held an oversight hearing on the National Endowment for Democracy. Testimony was heard from Damon Wilson, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Endowment for Democracy.

MODERNIZATION OF THE ORGANIC INDUSTRIAL BASE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces; and Subcommittee on Readiness held a joint hearing entitled “Modernization of the Organic Industrial Base”. Testimony was heard from Brent Ingraham, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, Department of the Army; Lieutenant General Chris Mohan, U.S. Army, Commanding Officer, Army Materiel Command; and Major General John Reim, U.S. Army, Joint Program Executive Office, Armaments and Ammunition, and Commanding General, Picatinny Arsenal, Department of the Army.

BALANCING CAREERS AND CARE: EXAMINING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PAID LEAVE

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Balancing Careers and Care: Examining Innovative Approaches to Paid Leave”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-READY AMERICA: TEACHING IN THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AGE

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled “Building an AI-Ready America: Teaching in the AI Age”. Testimony was heard from Michele Blatt, State Superintendent of Schools, West Virginia Department of Education; and public witnesses.

FROM SOURCE TO TAP: A HEARING TO EXAMINE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SAFE, RELIABLE, AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “From Source to Tap: A Hearing to Examine Challenges and Opportunities for Safe, Reliable, and Affordable Drinking Water”. Testimony was heard from Nicole N.

Murley, Acting Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency; and public witnesses.

ADVANCING NATIONAL SECURITY THROUGH COMMERCIAL DIPLOMACY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Advancing National Security through Commercial Diplomacy”. Testimony was heard from Jacob Helberg, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, Department of State.

STRENGTHENING EXPORT CONTROL ENFORCEMENT

Committee on Foreign Affairs: South and Central Asia Subcommittee held a hearing entitled “Strengthening Export Control Enforcement”. Testimony was heard from David Peters, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce.

BEFORE THE WHISTLE: ASSESSING INFORMATION SHARING AND SECURITY COLLABORATION AHEAD OF MAJOR EVENTS

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Before the Whistle: Assessing Information Sharing and Security Collaboration Ahead of Major Events”. Testimony was heard from Joseph Mabin, Deputy Chief, Police Department, Kansas City, Missouri; Travis Nelson, Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security Advisor, Office of the Governor, Maryland; and public witnesses.

BUREAUCRATIC DELAYS AND THE COSTS TO RATEPAYERS AND ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries hearing entitled “Bureaucratic Delays and the Costs to Ratepayers and Electric Power Systems”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources hearing on H.R. 1501, the “Protecting Domestic Mining Act of 2025”; H.R. 2969, the “Finding ORE Act”; H.R. 4781, the “RESCUE Act of 2025”; H.R. 5929, the “Critical Minerals Supply Chain Resiliency Act”; H.R. 7126, the “SECURE Minerals Act of 2026”; and H.R. 7458, the “Domestic ORE Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Barr, Hageman, and Wittman; and public witnesses.

AN UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE’S STRUGGLING BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “An Update on DoD’s Struggling Background Check System”. Testimony was heard from Alissa Czyz, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, Government Accountability Office; and Justin Overbaugh, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, and Acting Director, Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, U.S. Department of War.

POWERING AMERICA’S AI FUTURE: ASSESSING POLICY OPTIONS TO INCREASE DATA CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing entitled “Powering America’s AI Future: Assessing Policy Options to Increase Data Center Infrastructure”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION: DEVELOPING THE FUTURE OF MAIN STREET SUCCESS

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Career and Technical Education: Developing the Future of Main Street Success”. Testimony was heard from Keith Gunuskey, Superintendent of Schools, Wallenpaupack Area School District, Pennsylvania; Nikki Nix, Chief Academic Officer, Godley Independent School District, Texas; and public witnesses.

PROPOSALS FOR A WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2026—ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2026—Administration Priorities”. Testimony was heard from Adam R. Telle, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Army (Civil Works); and Lieutenant General William H. Butch Graham, Jr., Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a markup on H.R. 7049, the “Improving Mental Health Care and Coordination for Homeless Veterans Act”; H.R. 3159, the “Improving SCRA Benefit Utilization Act”; H.R. 5436, to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit an educational institution from withholding a

transcript from an individual who pursued a course or program of education at such institution using Post-9/11 educational assistance; H.R. 7150, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a quarterly report on housing loans insured, guaranteed, or under laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes. H.R. 1957, the “End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2025”; H.R. 1965, the “Veteran Education Assistance Adjustment Act”; H.R. 7083, the “CRUISE Act”; H.R. 7141, the “Affordable Housing Guarantee Act”; H.R. 982, the “Warriors to Workforce Act”; H.R. 5634, the “Veterans Flight Training Responsibility Act of 2025”; H.R. 7103, the “Improving Emerging Tech Opportunities for Veterans Act”; and H.R. 1803, the “Fair Access to Co-ops for Veterans Act of 2025”. H.R. 7049, H.R. 3159, H.R. 5436, H.R. 7150, H.R. 1957, H.R. 1965, H.R. 7083, H.R. 7141, and H.R. 982 were forwarded to the Full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 5634, H.R. 7103, and H.R. 1803 were forwarded to the Full Committee, as amended.

ADVANCING THE NEXT GENERATION OF AMERICA’S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Advancing the Next Generation of America’s Health Care Workforce”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AND MULTI VSOs LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATION

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of Disabled American Veterans and multi VSOs, after receiving testimony from Coleman Nee, Barry Jesinoski, Bryan VanBoxel, Jim Marszalek, Scott Hope, Jon Retzer, John Kleindienst, Ron Minter, and Melissa Pierce, all of the Disabled American Veterans; Lieutenant General

Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America; Lindsay Knight, Blue Star Families; Tom Burke, Vietnam Veterans of America; Larry Wright, Jr., National Congress of American Indians; Rita Graham, Service Women’s Action Network; Barbara Burt, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.; and Richard Brookshire, Black Veterans Project.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stevan Pearce, of New Mexico, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Kyle Haustveit, of North Dakota, to be Under Secretary of Energy, and David LaCerte, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine Water Resources Development Act of 2026, focusing on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects, programs, and priorities, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Casey Means, of California, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service for a term of four years, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Colin McDonald, of California, to be an Assistant Attorney General, 10:15 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine from fraud to recovery, focusing on restoring integrity in small business programs, 2:30 p.m., SR-428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 25

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, February 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of John DeLeeuw, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:45 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

(Senate will recess from 12:45 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 4758—Homeowner Energy Freedom Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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