

Thursday, September 17, 2026

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4765–S4836

Measures Introduced: Twenty-five bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5420–5444, and S. Res. 862–869. **Pages S4797–98**

Measures Reported:

S. 5441, to improve services provided to taxpayers by the Internal Revenue Service. (S. Rept. No. 119–145)

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

H.R. 3857, to amend the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program Authorization Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

H.R. 3872, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands to make that Act applicable to hardrock minerals.

H.R. 5254, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the Gateway Arch Park Foundation to host private events in Gateway Arch National Park buildings, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

H.R. 5631, to promote responsible geothermal energy development on public lands.

H.R. 6365, to require the Secretary of the Interior to issue a right-of-way for an emergency exit on certain National Park Service land in the State of Virginia, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

H.R. 7831, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill.

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

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

S. 1257, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the use of funds for certain additional Carey Act projects.

S. 1288, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to designate as a component of the National Heritage Area System the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area in the State of New York.

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. 1413, to authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act.

S. 2015, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and expand the use of prescribed fire on land managed by the Department of the Interior or the Forest Service, with an emphasis on units of the National Forest System in the western and southeastern United States, to acknowledge and support the long-standing use of cultural burning by Indian Tribes and Indigenous practitioners, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2016, to exchange non-Federal land held by the Chugach Alaska Corporation for certain Federal Land in the Chugach Region, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2437, to amend the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program Authorization Act to reauthorize the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2498, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend certain leases within units of the National Park System without opening the lease to bidding, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2554, to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2753, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize certain extraordinary operation and maintenance work for urban canals of concern, with amendments.

S. 2754, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the City of Ouray, Colorado, certain land

managed by the Forest Service, together with a reservoir, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2767, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the Gateway Arch Park Foundation to host private events in Gateway Arch National Park buildings, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2801, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating the Canterbury Shaker Village National Heritage Area, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2887, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Route 66 National Historic Trail.

S. 2933, to redesignate a playground in the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve in the State of West Virginia as the "Hearts of Gold Playground: In Honor of West Virginia Children and Families Impacted by Childhood Cancer".

S. 3194, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land in California as the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3693, to extend the authorization for a large-scale water recycling and reuse grant program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3715, to establish the Chiricahua National Park in the State of Arizona as a unit of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3720, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Bay Area Ridge as a national scenic trail, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3723, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a project to supply municipal, rural, and industrial water from the Missouri River to the Western Dakota Regional Water System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3725, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a project to supply municipal, rural, and industrial water to expand the capacity and reach of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc. (doing business as "Lewis & Clark Regional Water System"), in the States of Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3732, to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to authorize assistance under the storage program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3736, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a project to supply municipal, rural, and industrial water to the Dakota Mainstem Regional Water System service area in the States of South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3738, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the large-scale water recycling and reuse program, to establish a Water Conveyance Improvement Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3743, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a feasibility study on a selective water withdrawal system at Glen Canyon Dam, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3792, to provide for the establishment of a Water Project Navigators Program, with amendments.

S. 4040, to amend Public Law 89-108 to modify the authorization of appropriations for State and Tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies.

S. 4041, to reauthorize the Cooperative Watershed Management Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4238, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to designate as a component of the National Heritage Area System the Endless Mountains National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania.

S. 4538, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating Washington's Trail-1753 as a national historic trail.

S. 5039, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill. **Pages S4796-97**

Measures Passed:

Improving Social Security's Service to Victims of Identity Theft Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5345, to amend title VII of the Social Security Act to provide for a single point of contact at the Social Security Administration for individuals who are victims of identity theft, and the bill was then passed.

Page S4790

Honoring the Life and Legacy of Dolly Parton: Senate agreed to S. Res. 862, honoring the life and legacy of Dolly Parton, a daughter of Tennessee whose extraordinary contributions to music, philanthropy, literacy, education, health, conservation, and culture enriched the lives of countless Americans.

Page S4790

Honoring 35 Years of Independence for the Countries of Central Asia: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 816, honoring 35 years of independence for the countries of Central Asia and recognizing the importance of the United States growing relationship with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S4790**

Measures Considered:

Protect College Sports Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 4668, to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S4765–74, S4777–88**

Pending:

Thune (for Cruz) Amendment No. 6776, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4789**

Thune Amendment No. 6777 (to Amendment No. 6776), to change the enactment date. **Page S4789**

Thune Amendment No. 6778 (to Amendment No. 6777), of a perfecting nature. **Page S4789**

Thune Amendment No. 6779 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 6776), to change the enactment date. **Page S4789**

Thune Amendment No. 6780 (to Amendment No. 6779), of a perfecting nature. **Page S4789**

Thune motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with instructions, Thune Amendment No. 6781, to change the enactment date. **Page S4789**

Thune Amendment No. 6782 (to the instructions (Amendment No. 6781) of the motion to recommit), of a perfecting nature. **Page S4789**

Thune Amendment No. 6783 (to Amendment No. 6782), of a perfecting nature. **Page S4789**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Thune (for Cruz) Amendment No. 6776 (listed above), 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 Angela Veronica Colmenero, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Pages S4789–90**

A motion was entered to close further debate on 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 Thune (for Cruz) Amendment No. 6776. **Page S4790**

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

By 77 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. 236), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S4773–74**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the filing deadline with respect to first degree amendments to Thune (for Cruz) Amendment No. 6776 to the bill, and first degree amendments to the underlying bill, be at 3:30 p.m., on Tuesday, September 22, 2026. **Page S4790**

Colmenero Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Angela Veronica Colmenero, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

Pages S4788–89

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, September 17, 2026, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 22, 2026. **Page S4789**

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 S4788**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, Senate resume consideration of the nomination. **Page S4836**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 49 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 238), Kasdin Miller Mitchell, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas. **Pages S4774–77, S4836**

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

By 49 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 237), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S4774–77**

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Jeffrey Anderson, of Georgia, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, with the rank of Ambassador, which was sent to the Senate on January 13, 2026.

Heidi Semann, of Missouri, to be Inspector General, Department of Education, which was sent to the Senate on May 11, 2026.

John Grunewald II, of Oklahoma, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, for a term expiring October 13, 2030, which was sent to the Senate on June 23, 2026.

Richard Schroyer, of Oklahoma, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, which was sent to the Senate on July 20, 2026.

Robert Stebbins, of New York, to be Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, which was sent to the Senate on August 7, 2026.

Page S4836

Messages from the House: Pages S4794–95

Measures Referred: Page S4795

Measures Discharged: Page S4795

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S4790, S4795

Executive Communications: Pages S4795–96

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S4797

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S4798–99

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S4799–S4804

Additional Statements: Pages S4792–94

Amendments Submitted: Pages S4804–36

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S4836

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—238) Pages S4773–74, S4776–77

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:42 p.m., until 9 a.m. on Friday, September 18, 2026. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4836.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee received a closed briefing on the implementation of the Na-

tional Defense Strategy and its impact on global defense posture from Elbridge A. Colby, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S.4395, to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2026; and

The nominations of Brian Johnson, of Ohio, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, Abby Warren, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and Irving Dennis, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, and Jeffrey Ledbetter, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Michael Young, of Utah, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, who was introduced by Senator Lee, Ronald Johnson, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Julia Nesheiwat, of Florida, to be Ambassador-at-Large for the Arctic, who was introduced by Senator Scott (FL), Steven Gillen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, and Nutan Patel, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 10477–10509; and 9 resolutions, and H. Res. 1558–1566, were introduced. Pages H5987–89

Additional Cosponsors: Page H5990

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Simpson to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H5987

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Dexter Skepple, Speak the Word Ministries, Frederiksted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Page H5987

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 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 7269, the “Helping Our People Act of 2026”; and H.R. 8674, the “Geese House Site Conveyance Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Randall and Begich; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9 a.m., Friday, September 18

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10:30 a.m., Monday, September 21

Senate Chamber

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

House Chamber

Program for Monday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10:30 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Cline, Ben, Va., E954
Guthrie, Brett, Ky., E953
Plaskett, Stacey E., Virgin Islands, E953
Smith, Adam, Wash., E954
Thompson, Glenn, Pa., E953
Wasserman Schultz, Debbie, Fla., E953
Wittman, Robert J., Va., E953



Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at www.govinfo.gov, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202-512-1800, or 866-512-1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, contactcenter@gpo.gov. ¶To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll-free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.