

The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and upon the recommendation of the republican leader, in consultation with the ranking members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, reappoints the following individual to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: Daniel Blumenthal of Maryland for a term beginning January 1, 2012, and expiring December 31, 2013.

REPORTING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the Senate's recess, committees be authorized to report legislative and executive matters on Friday, January 13, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or 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 the law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the long list that I read into the RECORD while the Republican leader was here, I failed to note Calendar No. 544. If the Republican leader were here, he would object to that.

I wanted the RECORD to reflect that.

PROTECT IP ACT OF 2011—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 70, S. 968.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the bill (S. 968) to prevent online threats to economic creativity and theft of intellectual property, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 70, S. 968, a bill to prevent online threats to economic creativity and theft of intellectual property, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Dianne Feinstein, Bill Nelson, Max Baucus, Tom Harkin, Kay R. Hagan, Al Franken, Jeff Bingaman, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Barbara Boxer, Herb Kohl, Amy Klobuchar, Mary L. Landrieu, Tim Johnson, Christopher A. Coons.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to S. 968 occur at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24—that is the day after we start the session—and that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this is a bipartisan piece of legislation which is extremely important. Senator LEAHY and Senator GRASSLEY have worked very hard to get this to the floor. I repeat, it is bipartisan. I hope we can have a productive couple of days, pass this bill, and move on to other matters.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. KLOBUCHAR). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I understand cloture has been filed on the motion to proceed to the PIPA legislation. As one of the bipartisan group of Senators who strongly objects to proceeding to this bill, I believe it is important to begin to outline the very real dangers that are posed by the bill.

The primary architects of the Internet and our leading cyber security experts have made it clear this legislation will undermine the key technologies that prevent fraud and protect consumers on the Internet.

Our Nation's leading first amendment scholars have made it clear that this bill poses a serious threat to

speech and civil liberties for all who use the Internet, and our Nation's leading technology employers warn that this bill presents a clear and present danger to innovation and job growth in an area that is going to be a major source of new jobs for this century.

Today, along with Senator MORAN of Kansas and Senator CANTWELL of Washington, I have introduced the OPEN Act. We believe this is a reasonable and bipartisan alternative to the PIPA bill and to the legislation that is before the other body, and we hope the Senate will take the time to consider alternatives before taking action that could deal an enormous body blow to a vital job engine for our economy.

Over the past few weeks, more than 1 million Americans have weighed in strongly in opposition to this legislation. Therefore, I will be working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle over the next month to explain the basis for this widespread concern, and I intend to follow through on a commitment that I made more than 1 year ago to filibuster this bill when the Senate returns in January.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011 THROUGH MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2012

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session the Senate adjourn until the following pro forma session: Tuesday, December 20, at 11 a.m.; Friday, December 23, at 9:30 a.m.; Tuesday, December 27, at 12 p.m.; Friday, December 30, at 11 a.m.; and that the second session of the 112th Congress convene on Tuesday, January 3, at 12 p.m. for a pro forma session only, with no business conducted, and that following the pro forma session the Senate adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session the Senate adjourn until the following pro forma session: Friday, January 6, at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, January 10, at 11 a.m.; Friday, January 13, at 12 p.m.; Tuesday, January 17, at 10:15 a.m.; Friday, January 20, at 2 p.m.; and that the Senate adjourn on Friday, January 20, until 2 p.m. on Monday, January 23; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and

the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following any leader remarks the Senate be in a period of morning business until 4 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. WYDEN. The next rollcall vote will be on Monday, January 23, at 5:30 p.m. on confirmation of the Gerrard nomination.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011, AT 11 A.M.

Mr. WYDEN. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:33 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 20, 2011, at 11 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 17, 2011:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOYCE A. BARR, OF WASHINGTON, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (ADMINISTRATION).

MICHAEL ANTHONY MCFaul, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BRAD CARSON, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

MICHAEL A. SHEEHAN, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. MERLE D. HART

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. FRANK GORENC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. BRIAN E. DOMINGUEZ

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOHN P. CURRENTI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JOHN D. BANSEMER
COLONEL DAVID B. BEEN
COLONEL MICHAEL T. BREWER
COLONEL THOMAS A. BUSSIÈRE
COLONEL CLINTON E. CROSIER
COLONEL ALBERT M. ELTON II
COLONEL MICHAEL A. FANTINI
COLONEL TIMOTHY G. FAY
COLONEL EDWARD A. FIENGA
COLONEL STEVEN D. GARLAND
COLONEL THOMAS W. GEARY
COLONEL CEDRIC D. GEORGE
COLONEL BLAINE D. HOLT
COLONEL SCOTT A. HOWELL
COLONEL RONALD L. HUNTLEY
COLONEL ALLEN J. JAMERSON
COLONEL JAMES C. JOHNSON
COLONEL MARK D. KELLY
COLONEL SCOTT A. KINDSVATER
COLONEL DONALD E. KIRKLAND
COLONEL BRUCE H. MCCLINTOCK
COLONEL MARTHA A. MEEKER
COLONEL JOHN E. MICHEL
COLONEL CHARLES L. MOORE, JR.
COLONEL GREGORY S. OTEY
COLONEL JOHN T. QUINTAS
COLONEL MICHAEL D. ROTHSTEIN
COLONEL KEVIN B. SCHNEIDER
COLONEL SCOTT F. SMITH
COLONEL FERDINAND B. STOSS
COLONEL JACQUELINE D. VAN OVOST
COLONEL JAMES C. VECHERY
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER P. WEGGEMAN
COLONEL KEVIN B. WOOTON
COLONEL SARAH E. ZABEL

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL J. LALLY III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JOHN W. BAKER
COLONEL MARGARET W. BURCHAM
COLONEL RICHARD D. CLARKE, JR.
COLONEL ROGER L. CLOUTIER, JR.
COLONEL TIMOTHY R. COFFIN
COLONEL PEGGY C. COMBS
COLONEL BRUCE T. CRAWFORD
COLONEL JASON T. EVANS
COLONEL STEPHEN E. FARMEN
COLONEL JOHN G. FERRARI
COLONEL KIMBERLY FIELD
COLONEL DUANE A. GAMBLE
COLONEL RYAN F. GONSALVES
COLONEL WAYNE W. GRIGSBY, JR.
COLONEL STEVEN R. GROVE
COLONEL WILLIAM B. HICKMAN
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER P. HUGHES
COLONEL DANIEL P. HUGHES
COLONEL DANIEL L. KARBLER
COLONEL RONALD F. LEWIS
COLONEL JAMES B. LINDER
COLONEL MICHAEL D. LUNDY
COLONEL DAVID K. MACEWEN
COLONEL TODD B. MCCAFFREY
COLONEL PAUL M. NAKASONE
COLONEL PAUL A. OSTROWSKI
COLONEL LAURA J. RICHARDSON
COLONEL STEVEN A. SHAPIRO
COLONEL JAMES E. SIMPSON
COLONEL MARK R. STAMMER
COLONEL MICHAEL C. WEHR
COLONEL ERIC P. WENDT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. LYNN A. COLLYAR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MARY A. LEGERE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 3064 AND 3069(B):

To be major general

COL. JIMMIE O. KEENAN

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTINE L. BLICEBAUM AND ENDING WITH ABNER PERRY V. VALENZUELA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2011.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOEL O. ALMOSARA AND ENDING WITH ANNETTE J. WILLIAMSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2011.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEITH ALLEN ALLBRITTEN AND ENDING WITH GREGORY S. WOODROW, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTON MICHAEL GIBB AND ENDING WITH THAD M. REDDICK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL S. FUNK AND ENDING WITH JOHN W. RUEGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JARROD W. HUDSON AND ENDING WITH CHARLES B. WAGENBLAST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KARI L. CRAWFORD, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HENRY H. BEAULIEU AND ENDING WITH ERIC K. LITTLE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DONALD B. ABSHER AND ENDING WITH IRENE M. ZOPPI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES S. ARANYI AND ENDING WITH MARK A. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MITCHELL J. ABEL AND ENDING WITH THOMAS M. ZUBIK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NANCY L. DAVIS AND ENDING WITH SHEILA VILLINES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GENEVIEVE L. COSTELLO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT J. NEWSOM AND ENDING WITH RICHARD Y. YOON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD A. DANIELS AND ENDING WITH STEPHEN M. LANGLOIS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ARTHUR E. RABENHORST AND ENDING WITH STEVEN J. SVABEK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2011.