



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 166

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020

No. 212

House of Representatives

The House met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Lord of us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Continue to bless those who labor still to find agreement on omnibus and further coronavirus relief legislation. In the wake of the work of the electoral college, and the confirmation of our new President and Vice-President-elect, may our Nation now be more focused on what lies ahead.

Bring success to the work of Congress. Bring success to the rapid distribution of vaccines, and confidence to those who hesitate to trust, though history has given them cause for that hesitation. Help us, O Lord, to learn to trust and rely upon one another as citizens of this country.

Comfort those who suffer from the coronavirus, and those who mourn for lost loved ones during these holy seasons when, in normal times, families and friends have always gathered. Help us to look forward in hope and peace.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 14, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 14, 2020, at 2:29 p.m.:

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 461.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 4764.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,

Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 15, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 15, 2020, at 1:08 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 52.

That the Senate passed S. 1636.

That the Senate passed S. 2597.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 4704.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,

Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Chair of the House Republican Conference:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 15, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 5(b)(1) of Rule X, I am writing to inform you that Rep. Paul Mitchell has resigned as a member of the House Republican Conference.

Sincerely,

LIZ CHENEY,

Chair, House Republican Conference.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE,

December 15, 2020.

Hon. PETER DEFAZIO,

Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN DEFAZIO: This letter is to advise you that Representative Paul Mitchell's election to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 5(b) of rule X effective today.

Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE,

December 15, 2020.

Hon. ADAM SMITH,

Chairman, House Committee on Armed Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: This letter is to advise you that Representative Paul Mitchell's

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H7157

election to the Committee on Armed Services has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 5(b) of rule X effective today.

Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will take this occasion to update her announcements of July 29 and November 18 concerning the wearing of masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Chair wishes to again emphasize the importance of safe practices during House proceedings. Accordingly, masks will now be required at all times in the Hall of the House without exception, including while Members are under recognition. The Chair would reiterate that this is a matter of order and decorum in the Chamber under clause 2 of rule I.

To be clear, Members will not be recognized unless they are wearing a mask, and recognition will be withdrawn if they remove their mask while speaking. The Chair appreciates the continued attention of all Members and staff to these principles.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 967, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 3 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at noon for morning-hour debate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. NEAL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3436. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove cost-sharing responsibilities for chronic care management services under the Medicare program; with an amendment (Rept. 116-646, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 278. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain facilities, easements, and rights-of-way to the Kennewick Irrigation District, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-647). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3977. A bill to amend the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 to extend the jurisdiction of tribal courts to cover crimes involving sexual violence, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-648). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4444. A bill to require the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to establish a pilot project to provide increased transparency for cus-

tomers, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-649). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7099. A bill to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of Coconino National Forest land in the State of Arizona; with an amendment (Rept. 116-650). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6535. A bill to deem an urban Indian organization and employees thereof to be a part of the Public Health Service for the purposes of certain claims for personal injury, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-651, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4840. A bill to modify the boundary of the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-652). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 5330. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide a timetable for verification of medical debt and to increase the efficiency of credit markets with more perfect information, to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from issuing consumer reports containing information about debts related to medically necessary procedure, about and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 116-653). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 4403. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to restrict the debt collection practices of certain debt collectors; with an amendment (Rept. 116-654). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6535 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 8967. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award a contract to an eligible nonprofit entity to establish and maintain a health care claims database for purposes of lowering Americans' health care costs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Oversight and Reform, Armed Services, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GABBARD (for herself and Mr. YOUNG):

H.R. 8968. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to recommend certain projects in remote, coastal, and small watersheds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. GABBARD:

H.R. 8969. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the low-income

housing credit to incentivize affordable and transit-oriented development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. GABBARD (for herself and Mr. MASSIE):

H.R. 8970. A bill to repeal the USA PATRIOT Act and the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 8971. A bill to authorize assistance to aid in the prevention and treatment of obstetric fistula in foreign countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 8972. A bill to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 8973. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain interests in land in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.J. Res. 105. A joint resolution redesignating the Robert E. Lee Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery as the "Arlington House"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:

H. Res. 1263. A resolution honoring the 50th anniversary of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 1264. A resolution recognizing that the land that is now known as the United States of America was originally inhabited by Indigenous peoples known as Native Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. STEWART, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. EMMER, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H. Res. 1265. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of December 6, 2021, through December 12, 2021, as National United States Miners Week; to the Committee on Education and Labor.