

account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 53—ESTABLISHING A WOMEN’S BILL OF RIGHTS TO REAFFIRM LEGAL PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO WOMEN UNDER FEDERAL LAW

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LEE, and Mrs. BRITT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 53

Whereas males and females possess unique and immutable biological differences that manifest prior to birth and increase as they age and experience puberty;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes mean that only females may get pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed children;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes mean that males are, on average, larger in size and possess greater body strength than females;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes can expose females to more harm than males from specific forms of violence, including sexual violence;

Whereas women have achieved inspirational and significant accomplishments in education, athletics, and employment; and

Whereas recent misguided court rulings related to the definition of “sex” have led to endangerment of spaces and resources dedicated to women, thereby necessitating clarification of certain terms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate reaffirms that—

(1) for the purposes of Federal law, the “sex” of an individual means his or her biological sex (either male or female) at birth;

(2) for the purposes of Federal laws addressing sex, the terms “woman” and “girl” refer to human females, and the terms “man” and “boy” refer to human males;

(3) for the purposes of Federal law, the word “mother” means a parent of the female sex and “father” is defined as a parent of the male sex;

(4) there are important reasons to distinguish between the sexes with respect to athletics, prisons, domestic violence shelters, restrooms, and other areas, particularly where biology, safety, and privacy are implicated;

(5) policies and laws that distinguish between the sexes are subject to intermediate constitutional scrutiny and permitted when they serve an important governmental objective and are substantially related to achieving that objective; and

(6) for the purposes of complying with Federal laws that require State and local government agencies to collect or report data disaggregated by sex, such as Federal anti-discrimination laws, agencies are required to base such data on the biological sex of individuals at birth.

SENATE RESOLUTION 54—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 2023 AS “MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH”

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. TESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 54

Whereas music has been present in every known human culture throughout history and modern times;

Whereas music is one of the most important manifestations of the cultural heritage of the United States, as music embodies our national identity and illustrates our shared history;

Whereas music education helps communities share ideas and values among cultures and generations, promoting a more cooperative and inclusive citizenry;

Whereas singing has existed in classrooms in the United States since before the signing of the Declaration of Independence;

Whereas, in 1838, music as its own curriculum was first adopted by public authority in the public schools of Boston, Massachusetts;

Whereas the development of a musical people has been and remains dependent on a public commitment to the teaching of music in all schools;

Whereas State legislatures and educational agencies have supported music as part of the regular school curriculum;

Whereas the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95; 129 Stat. 1802) identified music as part of a well-rounded education;

Whereas music is a means for exploring the emotional and aesthetic dimensions of the human experience;

Whereas music holds intrinsic value as an art form, providing opportunity for self-expression, fellowship, and spiritual fulfillment;

Whereas research has documented that participation in school music programs promotes student engagement, leading to improved social and academic outcomes, particularly for at-risk students;

Whereas research has documented that participation in school music programs also promotes cognitive, social, and emotional development, exercising skills valuable to the workforce such as motivation, attentiveness, self-discipline, teamwork, persistence, empathy, respect, and leadership; and

Whereas students attending public school in urban or rural communities, public schools with a high percentage of students from low-income families, and public schools that are majority Black, Hispanic, or Native American, experience the most inequity in access to music education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of “Music in Our Schools Month”; and

(2) recognizes—

(A) the fundamental importance of music to the culture of the United States;

(B) the long history of music as an integral part of the schools in the United States;

(C) the disparate access to high-quality music education that exists across the United States; and

(D) the need to do more to support the teaching and learning of music in public schools.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. REED. Madam President, I have 15 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an organizational meeting.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117-263, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as member of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN of Maryland.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94-304, as amended by Public Law 99-7, ap-

points the following Senator as a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) during the 118th Congress: The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN of Maryland (and designate him Co-Chairman).

The Chair announced on behalf of the Committee on Finance, pursuant to section 8002 of title 26, U.S. Code, the designation of the following Senators as members of the Joint Committee on Taxation: The Senator from Oregon, Mr. WYDEN; The Senator from Michigan, Ms. STABENOW; The Senator from Washington, Ms. CANTWELL; The Senator from Idaho, Mr. CRAPO; and The Senator from Iowa, Mr. GRASSLEY.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 299

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 299) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

Mr. PETERS. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 185

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 185) to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

Mr. PETERS. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Mr. PETERS. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, February 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Mendez-Miro nomination.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:29 p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 13, 2023, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate February 9, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

DEANDREA GIST BENJAMIN, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT.