

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8281. An act to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 8281. An act to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 4727. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5268. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance for Taxpayers to Allocate Basis in Digital Assets to Wallets or Accounts as of January 1, 2025" (Rev. Proc. 2024-28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5269. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reporting and Penalty Relief for Brokers for Certain Digital Asset Transactions Under Section 6045" (Notice 2024-57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5270. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transitional Relief Under Sections 3403, 3406, 6721, 6651, and 6656 with Respect to the Reporting of Information and Backup Withholding on Digital Assets by Brokers under Section 6045" (Notice 2024-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5271. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Gross Proceeds and Basis Reporting by Brokers and Determination of Amount Realized and Basis for Digital Asset Transactions" (RIN1545-BP71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5272. A communication from the Chief of Listing Policy and Support, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for Pearl River Map Turtle with Section 4(d) Rule; and Threatened Species Status for Alabama Map Turtle, Barbour's Map Turtle, Escambia Map Turtle, and Pascagoula Map

Turtle Due to Similarity of Appearance with Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN1018-BF42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5273. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; California; South Coast Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 10530-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5274. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; Milwaukee Second 10-Year 2006 24-hour PM2.5 Limited Maintenance Plan" (FRL No. 11761-02-R5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5275. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "North Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 11972-02-R4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5276. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Source Performance Standards; Incorporation by Reference; Correction" (FRL No. 12032-01-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5277. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Connecticut; Low Emissions Vehicles Program" (FRL No. 12048-01-R1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5278. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Pennsylvania; Interim Final Determination to Stay and Defer Sanctions Related to Reasonably Available Control Technology Requirements for Keystone, Conemaugh, Homer City and Montour Generating Facilities for the 1997 and 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 12064-03-R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-143. A joint memorial adopted by the legislature of the State of Colorado urging the United States Congress to fully fund the authorized thirty-five million dollars to the "Water Infrastructure Improvements for the

Nation Act" according to the recommendations of the Colorado River Drought Task Force; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 24-002

Whereas, The Ute People were the original inhabitants of what is now the state of Colorado, and the two federally recognized tribes in Colorado are the sovereign nations of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe; and

Whereas, The Pine River Indian Irrigation Project, or "PRIIP", is a series of canals and ditches, largely located in southwestern Colorado on Southern Ute Indian tribal land, that is intended to bring water to tribal lands for agriculture and that was constructed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs during the late 1800s and early 1900s; and

Whereas, The PRIIP system should be providing water to approximately 14,495 acres and nearly 400 individual users, including approximately 100 non-Native users and the town of Ignacio, Colorado, but due to extreme deterioration of infrastructure, its actual output falls far below that goal; and

Whereas, The deteriorated condition of the PRIIP system means that some of its users are unable to access and use water for agricultural irrigation; this neglect has had a devastating effect on many farmers and ranchers; and

Whereas, Making efforts toward rehabilitation and improvement of the PRIIP system, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe started a multiyear program to rehabilitate portions of the PRIIP system using \$4.88 million of tribal funding in 2018, but funding to finish construction on completed engineering designs is running low; and

Whereas, in 2023, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which still operates the PRIIP system, completed a modernization plan for the system that has a rough cost estimate of \$60.7 million, and there are other cost estimates for modernization that range as high as \$109 million; and

Whereas, PRIIP system water users pay 100% of the system's operations and maintenance annual assessments; however, these fees are simply insufficient to accomplish the necessary annual operations and maintenance work, much less the millions required to address deferred maintenance; and

Whereas, The growing disrepair of the PRIIP system has still not been adequately catalogued, though the following issues have been highlighted by studies done in 2000 and 2008 by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and illustrate the system's dilapidated condition:

- Only an estimated 15% of the PRIIP system's 175 miles of canals can be considered to be in good condition;
- Some of the system's major diversion structures date back to the 1930s, with no major rehabilitation or improvements since the early 1960s;
- The system's largest canal, the Dr. Morrison canal, which serves over 4,500 irrigable acres of Tribal land and non-Tribal land, has breached 3 times;
- The Dr. Morrison canal also has multiple large, antiquated flumes in danger of failing;
- Dozens of smaller irrigation structures constructed before the 1920s have collapsed and have simply been abandoned;
- Ditches have also been abandoned, and lands that were previously irrigated have become derelict, requiring costly rehabilitation;
- Erosion has created miles of incised channels and ditches, where elevated headgates no longer allow for the diversion of water to lands that were historically irrigated; and
- Neglect of operation and maintenance roads has made access to many structures and sections of ditch either unsafe or impossible altogether; and

Whereas, This ongoing lack of efficient water delivery to both Tribal lands and non-Tribal lands presents a significant barrier to agricultural development for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, as well as the local community; and

Whereas, Recently, the Bureau of Indian Affairs received \$466 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as enacted in 2021 by the federal “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act”, to be used over the next 5 years; however, of that funding, only \$35 million, \$7 million annually, is allocated to the 16 Indian Irrigation Projects in the western United States; and

Whereas, The Bureau of Indian Affairs’ report for the fourth quarter of the 2021 fiscal year outlines an initial spending plan for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding and recognizes that, altogether, there is \$788 million in deferred maintenance for all 16 Indian Irrigation Projects; and

Whereas, Funding to address some of the PRIIP system’s needs was authorized in the federal “Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act”, or the “WIIN Act”, which was enacted in 2016; and

Whereas, The “WIIN Act” established the Indian Irrigation Fund in the United States Department of the Treasury to address the deferred maintenance, repair, and replacement needs of Indian Irrigation Projects in the western United States; and

Whereas, The “WIIN Act” came as a great relief to the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and many other tribes who had been requesting help with decaying federal irrigation projects for decades, but repairs under the “WIIN Act” met an unexpected delay; while the “WIIN Act” authorized funding for this critical purpose, the actual appropriations have not come close to the authorized amounts; and

Whereas, in 2020, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Southern Ute Agency received “WIIN Act” funding, and the amount awarded was approximately \$135,000; this money was spent by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to purchase much-needed heavy equipment, but the needs for the PRIIP system go well beyond what heavy equipment can do; and

Whereas, The “WIIN Act” directs the United States Secretary of the Treasury to deposit \$35 million annually through the 2028 fiscal year into the Indian Irrigation Fund, with such sums plus accrued interest to be transferred to the United States Secretary of the Interior for distribution by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; however, since its inception, Congress has only appropriated \$10 million per year to the fund, less than one-third of the \$35 million authorized; and

Whereas, Not only does this level of appropriation fail to even begin to address the demonstrated need, continued delay simply adds to future costs as deterioration of the PRIIP system continues; and

Whereas, in light of this demonstrated need, the Colorado River Drought Task Force’s Sub-task Force on Tribal Matters, in the final report of the task force dated December 15, 2023, unanimously recommended legislative support from the Colorado General Assembly; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

(1) That the Colorado River Drought Task Force considers the deterioration of the Pine River Indian Irrigation Project an urgent matter of the state of Colorado, as reflected by the Sub-task Force’s unanimous recommendation for legislative support; and

(2) That the Congress of the United States is hereby memorialized to fully fund the authorized \$35 million to the “Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act” for necessary improvements to the Pine

River Indian Irrigation Project; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be sent to President Joseph Biden; Governor Jared Polis; the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; the President of the United States Senate; each member of Colorado’s congressional delegation; the Tribal Council of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and the chairman of the Tribe, Manuel Heart; the Tribal Council of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the chairman of the Tribe, Melvin J. Baker; and the United States House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. MURRAY, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled “Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2025” (Rept. No. 118-190).

By Ms. SINEMA, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4677. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-191).

By Mr. REED, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4678. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-192).

By Mr. HEINRICH, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4690. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-193).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Embry J. Kidd, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Adam B. Abelson, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland.

Michelle Williams Court, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Anne Hwang, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

Joseph Francis Saporito, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Meredith A. Vacca, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York.

Cynthia Valenzuela Dixon, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BUDD:

S. 4670. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act regarding employer-directed skills development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4671. A bill to limit cost sharing for prescription drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4672. A bill to require the Commissioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection to assess current efforts to respond to hazardous weather and water events at or near United States borders and, to the extent such efforts may be improved, to develop a hazardous weather and water events preparedness and response strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4673. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance to agencies requiring special districts to be recognized as local government for the purpose of Federal financial assistance determinations; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 4674. A bill to require transparency with respect to content and content provenance information, to protect artistic content, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4675. A bill to require the United States Postal Service to submit a comprehensive proposal to the Postal Regulatory Commission before implementing any network changes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 4676. A bill to enhance the effectiveness of the Shadow Wolves Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SINEMA:

S. 4677. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. REED:

S. 4678. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 4679. A bill to amend title XLI of the FAST Act to improve the Federal permitting process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.