

the West Bank established by Executive Order 14115 of February 1, 2024, was terminated by Executive Order 14148 of January 20, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-518. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report that Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001 (Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism), was amended by Executive Order 14157 of January 20, 2025 (Designating Cartels and Other Organizations as Foreign Terrorist Organizations and Specially Designated Global Terrorists); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-519. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementation of Executive Order 12938 Concerning the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction" received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-520. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Revisions" (RIN2529-AB08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 20, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-521. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 20, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-522. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14024 with respect to specified harmful foreign activities of the Government of the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-523. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 20, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-524. A communication from the Director of Public Affairs and Congressional Relations, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of the Comptroller's 2024 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of March 14, 2025, the following reports of committees were submitted on March 18, 2025:

By Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 875. A bill to curtail the political weaponization of Federal banking agencies by eliminating reputational risk as a component of the supervision of depository institutions.

S. 919. A bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

#### 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 Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1088. A bill to provide that the memorial to commemorate the sacrifice and service of the women who worked on the home front to support the efforts of the United States military during World War II may be located on the National Mall, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1089. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to address disclosures by directors, officers, and principal stockholders of foreign private issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1090. A bill to amend section 2284 of title 28, United States Code, to establish special procedures for civil actions seeking to restrain executive branch actions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1091. A bill to require certain public housing agencies to absorb port-in housing choice vouchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1092. A bill to require certain products to be labeled with "Do Not Flush" labeling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1093. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Rural Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1094. A bill to establish a contracting preference for public buildings that use innovative wood products in the construction of those buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1095. A bill to enable the Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition, and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1096. A bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1097. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish an interagency task force between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Food and Drug Administration for purposes of sharing information and providing technical assistance with respect to patents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1098. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. Res. 132. A resolution designating March 24, 2025, as "National Women of Color in Tech Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 133. A resolution expressing support for the local public K-12 schools of the United States and condemning any actions that would defund public education or weaken or dismantle the Department of Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MOODY):

S. Res. 134. A resolution designating March 15, 2025, as "National Osceola Turkey Day"; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 122

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 122, a bill to amend the Revised Statutes to codify the defense of qualified immunity in the case of any action under section 1979, and for other purposes.

S. 237

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 237, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act

of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes.

S. 262

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 262, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Master Sergeant Roderick "Roddie" Edmonds in recognition of his heroic actions during World War II.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 339, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 410

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 410, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 470

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend the CARES Act to remove a requirement on lessors to provide notice to vacate, and for other purposes.

S. 554

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 554, a bill to enhance bilateral defense cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 556

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 556, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in logistical transactions and sanctions evasion relating to oil, gas, liquefied natural gas, and related petrochemical products from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 649

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 649, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to members of the National Guard who perform certain full-time duty, and for other purposes.

S. 674

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 674, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain broadband grants from gross income.

S. 688

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 688, a bill to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally.

S. 698

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 698, a bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to be appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 805, a bill to establish in the Department of State the Office to Monitor and Combat Islamophobia, and for other purposes.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and teens, and for other purposes.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income interest received on certain loans secured by rural or agricultural real property.

S. 868

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 868, a bill to support democracy and the rule of law in Georgia, and for other purposes.

S. 959

At the request of Ms. ALSOBROOKS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 959, a bill to require the United States International Trade Commission to conduct an investigation and submit a report on the impact on businesses in the United States of duties, and the threat of duties, on imports from Mexico and Canada, and for other purposes.

S. 966

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 966, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to define "State of residence" and "resident", and for other purposes.

S. 972

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr.

CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 972, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 986

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 986, a bill to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 988

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 988, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for greater spousal protection under defined contribution plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1003

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1003, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue an order providing that a shark attack is an event for which a wireless emergency alert may be transmitted, and for other purposes.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time period during which licensees are required to commence construction of certain hydropower projects.

S. 1082

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1082, a bill to apply the Medicaid asset verification program to all applicants for, and recipients of, medical assistance in all States and territories, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. CURTIS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 31, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act".

S. RES. 86

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 86, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) and the harmful conflation of China's "One China Principle" and the United States' "One China Policy".

AMENDMENT NO. 1285

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr.

SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1285 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1968, a bill making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1097. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish an interagency task force between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Food and Drug Administration for purposes of sharing information and providing technical assistance with respect to patents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1097

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Interagency Patent Coordination and Improvement Act of 2025".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Decisions by the United States Patent and Trademark Office relating to patents may implicate, or have relevance to, information housed at or involving other Federal agencies.

(2) Entities submitting patent applications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office may also submit information to, or share information with, other Federal agencies, necessitating accuracy and consistency in those representations.

(3) Research has shown that patent examiners may benefit from additional information that is housed at, or is available to, Federal agencies other than the United States Patent and Trademark Office in order to assess prior art and the state of science and technology.

(4) The Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is encouraged to work with other Federal agencies.

#### SEC. 3. REPORT BY UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report that contains—

(1) a description of the frequency with which—

(A) information is provided by the Food and Drug Administration to the United States Patent and Trademark Office through the Interagency Task Force on Patents established under section 15 of title 35, United States Code, as added by section 4(a) of this Act, or under processes established by that Task Force; and

(B) the information described in subparagraph (A) is used in patent examinations;

(2) an identification of which methods of providing information, as described in paragraph (1)(A), and types of information so shared, are most useful to patent examiners;

(3) any recommendations for changes to be made by Congress to the mandate, funding, or operations of the Task Force described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(4) an identification of other Federal agencies with which the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office should explore opportunities for coordination that are similar to those undertaken with the Food and Drug Administration through the activities of the Task Force described in paragraph (1)(A).

#### SEC. 4. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON PATENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 2(c), by adding at the end the following:

“(6)(A) In exercising the Director’s powers and duties under this section relating to patents, and decisions or actions involving patents, for human drugs and biological products, the Director shall, through the Interagency Task Force on Patents established under section 15, consult with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs in the manner described in that section.

“(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘decisions or actions involving patents’ means decisions or actions taken with respect to patents under this title.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

#### “§ 15. Interagency Task Force on Patents

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an interagency task force, to be known as the Interagency Task Force on Patents (referred to in this section as the ‘task force’), to coordinate efforts between the Director and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs (referred to in this section as the ‘Commissioner’) regarding communication about, evaluation of, and effective implementation of the activities of the Office and the Food and Drug Administration with respect to patents, and decisions or actions involving patents (as defined in section 2(c)(6)(B)), for human drugs and biological products.

“(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Director and the Commissioner shall enter into a memorandum of understanding, or update an existing memorandum of understanding, for the purposes of implementing and carrying out the duties of the task force.

“(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The task force shall be comprised of employees of the Office, who shall be appointed by the Director, and employees of the Food and Drug Administration, who shall be appointed by the Commissioner, who have appropriate expertise and decision-making authority regarding operational, administrative, technical, medical, pharmacological, clinical, and scientific matters to carry out the functions of the task force.

“(d) ACTIVITIES.—The task force shall carry out the following functions regarding interagency coordination to promote reciprocal access of information:

“(1) Sharing information on the general processes of the Office and the Food and Drug Administration, what each such agency considers in its respective review of applications, and how each such agency evaluates those applications, which may be undertaken through routine and ongoing meetings, workshops, and training sessions.

“(2) Sharing information on new approvals of patents, human drugs and biological products, new technologies and prior art (as appropriate on a case-by-case basis), and scientific trends and developments.

“(3) Establishing a process that requires—

“(A) the Director to request from the Commissioner (and the Commissioner to provide to the Director, upon receiving such a request)—

“(i) appropriate information for use by employees of the Office with responsibility to examine patent applications under section 131 (referred to in this section as ‘patent examiners’) regarding when certain information relating to a human drug or biological product approval, which may include updates to a label or newly approved indications, is made publicly available, including when such information is posted online; and

“(ii) appropriate access for patent examiners to relevant sources of product application, approval, patent, and labeling information or communications between the Food and Drug Administration and the human drug or biological product sponsors that may not currently be subject to public disclosure, as appropriate and only to the extent necessary for the Office to carry out the responsibilities of the Office, such as ensuring accurate representations and access to information on whether the claimed invention that would be the subject of the patent was on sale before the effective filing date of the claimed invention, as described in section 102(a)(1); and

“(B) the Office to assist the Food and Drug Administration in its ministerial role of listing patents.

“(4) Establishing a process to ensure that, in appropriate circumstances, at the request of the Director, the Commissioner shall consult with or otherwise furnish specific, available information to the Office with respect to certain applications, responses, or affidavits after rejections in order to assist patent examiners in carrying out the duties of those patent examiners.

“(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (d)(3)(B) shall be construed as—

“(1) directing the Office to interfere with, delay, or supersede the ministerial function of the Food and Drug Administration of listing patents;

“(2) indicating the position of the Office regarding the ability to assert a patent in infringement litigation; or

“(3) changing the ministerial function of the Food and Drug Administration of listing patents.

“(f) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any record or other information of the Food and Drug Administration or the Office that is confidential, either such agency may share any such information with the other agency in furtherance of the activities described in this section, which shall remain subject to such protections as if the information were held by the Food and Drug Administration.

“(2) PROTOCOLS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The task force shall establish appropriate protocols to safeguard confidentiality and prevent the inappropriate disclosure of information when sharing information between the Office and the Food and Drug Administration.

“(B) CONTENTS.—The protocols established under subparagraph (A) shall provide that—

“(i) before sharing any information described in paragraph (1), the sponsor of the human drug or biological product to which that information relates shall be provided notice of that sharing by the applicable agency and with a period of 30 days to consult with the agency sharing that information; and

“(ii) the Director shall, in order to protect against the inadvertent disclosure of information, maintain any information shared with the Director by the Commissioner separate from pending patent applications and