

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jim Albert's extraordinary contributions to the people of Iowa, the people of Belize, and the countless lives he has touched through a career defined by service, leadership, and generosity.

HONORING THE FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER FOR WINNING THE THIESS INTERNATIONAL RIVER PRIZE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 12, 2026

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the International River Foundation in honoring the Friends of the Chicago River, the 2025 recipient of the Thiess International River Prize. The Thiess International River Prize, established in 1999, is the world's most esteemed award for river restoration and management, honoring trailblazing organizations that advance lasting ecological, social, and economic benefits worldwide. This award speaks to the tireless contributions of the Friends of the Chicago River to environmental stewardship, river restoration, climate resilience, and public service here in Cook County.

Founded in 1979, Friends of the Chicago River is the only organization exclusively dedicated to the restoration and protection of the entire 156-mile Chicago-Calumet River system. Under the leadership of Executive Director Margaret Frisbie and a dedicated staff, the Friends of the Chicago River lead bold policy reforms, habitat restoration, and public engagement programs that have transformed the river from an overlooked industrial waterway into a thriving urban ecosystem. More than 60,000 people including 20,000 youth annually have joined efforts of the Friends of the Chicago River through education, outreach, and hands-on stewardship, while advancing policy initiatives that improve water quality, protect biodiversity, and strengthen climate resilience across the Chicago-Calumet watershed.

The recognition of Friends of the Chicago River with the 2025 Thiess International River Prize underscores the emergence of our County as a global leader in urban river restoration and affirms the organization's pioneering role in shaping a future where rivers are valued as vital natural, social, and climate-sustaining wonders. Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of my colleagues in congratulating the Friends of the Chicago River on receiving the 2025 Thiess International River Prize and thanking them for their continued work for the Chicago River.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 12, 2026

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness in my family, I missed the following Roll Call votes on January 8, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 5; YEA on Roll Call No. 6; YEA on Roll Call No. 7; NAY on Roll Call No. 8; NAY on

Roll Call No. 9; NAY on Roll Call No. 10; and NAY on Roll Call No. 11.

RECOGNIZING DR. ERIK SWANSON

HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 12, 2026

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Erik Swanson upon the conclusion of his service as Superintendent of the Guam Department of Education.

Leading a public school system is never simple, and on Guam, that responsibility carries added complexity. Dr. Swanson stepped into the role of Superintendent during a period marked by significant challenges, including resource constraints, staffing concerns, and the lasting impacts faced by students and educators alike.

From the beginning of his tenure, Dr. Swanson understood that the work of public education is deeply personal. It affects not only classrooms, but families, communities, and the future of the island itself. He approached the role with a focus on responsibility, transparency, and support for those on the front lines of education.

During his time as Superintendent, Dr. Swanson worked to address long-standing issues within the Guam Department of Education while maintaining focus on student learning and school operations. He supported educators and staff who carry the daily responsibility of teaching and caring for Guam's children, often under difficult circumstances.

Serving as Superintendent of Education on Guam requires balancing many responsibilities at once. It means overseeing schools spread across the island, supporting thousands of students, and working closely with teachers, staff, and families, all while navigating limited resources and high expectations.

Dr. Swanson approached this role with an understanding of its demands and a respect for the people who carry out the work of education every day. He recognized that progress often comes through persistence, cooperation, and steady attention to the needs of students and schools.

He also understood the importance of collaboration. Dr. Swanson worked with parents, school leaders, and government partners to confront challenges facing the education system and to seek solutions that would benefit students across the island. His leadership reflected an understanding that progress in education requires cooperation, patience, and persistence.

Public education on Guam plays a critical role in shaping opportunity and strengthening our community. Leading that system requires not only professional experience, but resilience and care. Dr. Swanson carried that responsibility with seriousness and respect for the people he served.

Those who worked alongside him describe a leader who listened, remained engaged, and understood the weight of the decisions placed before him. While no tenure is without difficulty, Dr. Swanson's service reflected a commitment to doing the work and facing challenges directly.

Mr. Speaker, Guam's educators and students deserve leadership that recognizes both

the importance and the difficulty of public education. Dr. Erik Swanson answered that call during a demanding time.

I thank him for his service to Guam's students, educators, and families, and I extend my best wishes in the next chapter ahead.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2026 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
JANUARY 14

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine chemical abortion drugs.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Crime and Counterterrorism
To hold hearings to examine Biden's Afghan parolee program.

SD-G50

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine growing the small business agricultural economy.

SR-428A

3 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3:30 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine made in China and paid by seniors, focusing on stopping the surge of international scams.

SH-216

JANUARY 15

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 2132, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and mitigate the potential for conflicts of interest following government service, and the nominations of Daniel E. Burrows, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Megan Blair Benton, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, David Clay Fowlkes, to be

United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, Nicholas Jon Ganjei, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Brian Charles Lea, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Justin R. Olson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana, Aaron Christian Peterson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, Andrew Benson, to be United States Attorney for the District of Maine for the term of four years, William Boyle, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years, Kevin Holmes, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Arkansas for the term of four years, Brian David Miller, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years, Richard Price, of Missouri, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri for the term of four years, and Darin Smith, to be United States Attorney for the District of Wyoming for the term of four years.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lieutenant General Francis L. Donovan, USMC, to be general and

Commander, United States Southern Command, and Lieutenant General Joshua M. Rudd, USA, to be general and Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service/Commander, United States Cyber Command, both of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider H.R. 3633, to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the impact of technology on America's youth.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 1157, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a review to evaluate the status of research on lung cancer in women and underserved populations, S. 921, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on whether hospital emergency departments should implement

fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose, S. 2169, to require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, and S. 272, to improve the safety of infant formula through testing of infant formula for microorganisms and toxic elements.

SD-430

JANUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine improving the Federal environmental review and permitting process, part 2.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights

To hold hearings to examine scammers, focusing on fighting fraud in Minnesota and beyond.

SD-226

FEBRUARY 3

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine hidden facts regarding Nazis and Swiss banks.

SH-216