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No. 6

Senate

The Senate met at 4:27 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JIM BANKS, a Senator from the State of Indiana.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 8, 2026.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM BANKS, a Senator from the State of Indiana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BANKS thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the morning hour be deemed expired.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the Journal of proceedings be approved to date.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 6938. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 6938

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 (H.R. 6938) making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE; ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT; AND INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026—Motion to Proceed

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 299, H.R. 6938.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 299, H.R. 6938, a bill making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 299, H.R. 6938, a bill making consolidated appropriations for fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Susan M. Collins, John Barasso, Tim Sheehy, Ashley Moody, Lindsey Graham, James Lankford, Joni Ernst, John Boozman, James C. Justice, Marsha Blackburn, Pete Ricketts, Jon Husted, Tom Cotton, Dan Sullivan, Mike Rounds, Ted Budd.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, January 12; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate resume the motion to proceed to H.R. 6938; finally, that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motion with respect to the motion to proceed to H.R. 6938 ripen at 5:30 p.m.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
JANUARY 12, 2026, AT 3 P.M.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. 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, January 12, 2026, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. CHRISTINE C. PIPER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JODI J. SMITH

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. FRANCIS L. DONOVAN

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 8, 2026:

THE JUDICIARY

ALEXANDER C. VAN HOOK, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.