

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S2499–S2531*

**Measures Introduced:** Forty-nine bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1603–1651, and S. Res. 212–216. **Pages S2521–23**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2521**

#### Measures Passed:

*Alaska Tourism Recovery Act:* Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 593, to restrict the imposition by the Secretary of Homeland Security of fines, penalties, duties, or tariffs applicable only to coastwise voyages, or prohibit otherwise qualified non-United States citizens from serving as crew, on specified vessels transporting passengers between the State of Washington and the State of Alaska, to address a Canadian cruise ship ban and the extraordinary impacts of the COVID–19 pandemic on Alaskan communities, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2510–15**

Murkowski Amendment No. 1492, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2510**

*National Senior Fraud Awareness Day:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 214, supporting the designation of May 13, 2021, as “National Senior Fraud Awareness Day” to raise awareness about the increasing number of fraudulent scams targeted at seniors in the United States, to encourage the implementation of policies to prevent those scams from happening, and to improve protections from those scams for seniors. **Pages S2530–31**

*National Police Week:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 215, designating the week of May 9 through May 15, 2021, as “National Police Week”. **Page S2531**

#### Measures Considered:

**Endless Frontier Act—Agreement:** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program. **Pages S2504–10**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, May 13, 2021, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 17, 2021. **Page S2504**

Prior to the consideration of the motion to proceed, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2504**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, May 17, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill; and that the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill filed during today’s session ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 17, 2021. **Page S2531**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 59 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. EX. 190), Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2026. **Pages S2501–04**

By 89 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 191), Donet Dominic Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce. **Page S2504**

Jewel Hairston Bronaugh, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. **Page S2531**

**Nomination Received:** Senate received the following nomination:

Catherine Elizabeth Lhamon, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education. **Page S2531**

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Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—191)	Pages S2503–04

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 6:05 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, May 17, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2531.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### DISASTER RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine rethinking disaster recovery and resiliency, focusing on protecting our nation's transportation systems, including preliminary observations on options for improving climate resilience of transportation infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Polly Trottenberg, Deputy Secretary of Transportation; Elizabeth Repko, Acting Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; Edwin H. Sniffen, Hawaii Department of Transportation, Honolulu, on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Committee on Transportation System Security and Resilience; and Habib Joseph Dagher, University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, Orono.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Christine Elizabeth Wormuth, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, after the nominee, who was introduced by former Senator Chuck Hagel, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Tommy P. Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

### OFFSHORE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine offshore energy development in federal waters and leasing under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, after receiving testimony from Amanda Lefton, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior; Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards, Baton Rouge; Russell Holmes, Center for Offshore Safety, Houston, Texas; and Mike Minarovic, Arena Energy, The Woodlands, Texas.

### UNACCOMPANIED MINORS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Department of Homeland Security actions to address unaccompanied minors at the southern border, after receiving testimony from Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

### RETIREMENT SECURITY

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine retirement security, focusing on building a better future, after receiving testimony from Lori Lucas, Employee Benefit Research Institute, Shai Akabas, Bipartisan Policy Center, and Deva A. Kyle, Bredhoff and Kaiser, P.L.L.C., all of Washington, D.C.; and Dave Gray, Fidelity Investments, Boston, Massachusetts.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 228, to promote antitrust enforcement and protect competition through adjusting premerger filing fees, and increasing antitrust enforcement resources;

S. 1511, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustain in the line of duty;

S. 921, to amend title 18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1502, to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nomination of Todd Sunhwaee Kim, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 60 public bills, H.R. 3172–3231; 1 private bill, H.R. 3232; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 392–396, were introduced. **Pages H2311–15**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H2317**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1157, to provide for certain authorities of the Department of State, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–33). **Page H2311**

**Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement Act:** The House passed H.R. 2547, to expand and enhance consumer, student, servicemember, and small business protections with respect to debt collection practices, by a yea-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 141. **Pages H2276–95**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. **Page H2276**

Agreed to:

**Waters en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–29:** Bonamici (No. 1) that expands requirements debt collectors must meet to take legal action on a debt, including providing advanced notice of commencing legal action and updates FDCPA to require proof that a debt is legally owed and due; Adams (No. 2) that provides private student loan borrowers the same protections as federal borrowers, with regards to prohibiting servicers and credit reporting agencies from reporting adverse information and directs the credit reporting agencies to remove any adverse information; Bowman (No. 3) that ensures that debt collectors would not be allowed to contact consumers via social media unless explicitly provided written consent; Bush (No. 5) that requires the CFPB report to Congress in 6 months analyzing consumer complaint data relating to debt collection practices (including debt collection practices as it relates to medical debt and debts owed by servicemembers) during the pandemic, as well as a

list of enforcement actions taken by CFPB relating to debt collection during the pandemic; Cohen (No. 6) that adds language that would explicitly prohibit debt collectors from collecting or attempting to collect debt from consumers which the statute of limitations has expired and would also prohibit a debt collector from bringing, or threatening to bring, legal action against any consumer on a debt in which the statute of limitations has expired; Craig (No. 7) that adds a new section entitled the “Ryan Frascone Memorial Student Loan Relief Act of 2021” to release cosigners of private student loan agreements in the event of the death of the borrower, which will align current law with loans made prior to enactment of the Economic, Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act; Newman (No. 10) that requires the CFPB to create a page on their website with a consumer bill of rights for abusive debt collectors and resources, as well as directing it to be offered in different languages; Omar (No. 11) that directs the CFPB to study and report to Congress within 18 months about the consumer experiences and financial impacts of debt collection practices on student loan borrowers with private education loans, and requires an analysis on the practices of private student lenders challenging undue hardship petitions; Payne (No. 12) that requires the CFPB to report to Congress on the number of people unable to pay a debt because a debt collector is unable to accept a cash payment; Ross (No. 13) that directs the GAO to (1) analyze the trends and impacts associated with the use of electronic and telephone communications in the debt collection industry, and (2) recommend regulatory and legislative proposals to reduce the annoyance, abuse, and harassment of consumers by debt collectors, including the frequency of electronic and telephone communications by debt collectors to consumers; and Williams (GA) (No. 14) that commissions a report that identifies and analyzes racial disparities relating to debt collection practices and provides administrative and legislative recommendations to address such disparities (by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 138). **Pages H2284–88, H2292–93**

Rejected:

**Waters en bloc amendment No. 2** consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–29: Burgess (No. 4) that sought to have the Treasury Secretary shall certify that this legislation will not limit the availability of debt products or increase their cost for Americans without a credit history, Americans with poor credit history, or Americans from lower socio-economic backgrounds; and Luetkemeyer (No. 8) that sought to direct the GAO to study and report to Congress within 1-year about how restricting debt collection will impact low- to moderate-income and minority borrowers with the bill becoming effective upon date of the report's release (by a yea-and-nay vote of 208 yeas to 214 nays, Roll No. 139); and

**Pages H2288–92, H2293**

**Wagner amendment (No. 9)** printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–29) that sought to replace the underlying bill with targeted approaches to improve the debt collection and credit reporting framework which will ensure the financial system remains safe and sound while protecting and introducing options for consumers (by a yea-and-nay vote of 199 yeas to 224 nays, Roll No. 140). **Pages H2290–92, H2293–94**

H. Res. 380, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2547) and (H.R. 1065) was agreed to yesterday, May 12th.

**Suspension-Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Tuesday, May 11th.

**Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act of 2021:** H.R. 2877, to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 323 yeas to 93 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 142.

**Pages H2295–96**

**Senate Referral:** S. 1585 was held at the desk.

**Page H2296**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page S2296.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Five yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2292–93, H2293, H2293–94, H2294–95, and H2295–96.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Resource Management and Operational Priorities”. Testimony was heard from Tae Johnson, Acting Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security.

### MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES: BUILDING A ROBUST CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Mental Health Emergencies: Building a Robust Crisis Response System”. Testimony was heard from Charles Dike, Medical Director, Office of the Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Connecticut; and public witnesses.

### NAVY AND MARINE CORPS QUALITY OF LIFE AND INSTALLATIONS UPDATE

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Navy and Marine Corps Quality of Life and Installations Update”. Testimony was heard from Sergeant Major Troy Black, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; Lieutenant General Charles Chiarotti, Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics, U.S. Marine Corp; Todd L Schafer, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Environment, Installations and Energy; Master Chief Petty Officer Russell Smith, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy; and Vice Admiral Ricky Williamson, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics.

### MEMBER DAY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Member Day”. Testimony was heard from Chairman McGovern, and Representatives Hagedorn, Escobar, Case, Mrvan, Schrier, Tenney, Griffith, Rose, Cohen, Swalwell, and Jackson Lee.

### WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT REAUTHORIZATION: CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment held a

hearing entitled “Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization: Creating Opportunities for Youth Employment”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **THE CLEAN FUTURE ACT: SUPERFUND PROPOSALS TO ADVANCE CLEANUPS, EQUITY, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a hearing entitled “The CLEAN Future Act: Superfund Proposals to Advance Cleanups, Equity, and Climate Resilience”. Testimony was heard from J. Alfredo Gómez, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office.

#### **A RACE AGAINST TIME: DEPLOYING VACCINES AND ADDRESSING THE DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACTS OF COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration and International Economic Policy held a hearing entitled “A Race Against Time: Deploying Vaccines and Addressing the Disproportionate Impacts of COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **JUVENILE JUSTICE PIPELINE AND THE ROAD BACK TO INTEGRATION**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “Juvenile Justice Pipeline and the Road Back to Integration”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing entitled “Environmental Justice in Indigenous Communities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **PROTECTING COASTAL COMMUNITIES AND OCEAN RESOURCES FROM OFFSHORE DRILLING**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Protecting Coastal Communities and Ocean Resources from Offshore Drilling”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Pallone, and Representatives McEachin, Brownley, Castor of Florida, Levin of California, and Huffman; and Terra Lawson-Remer, Supervisor, District 3, San Diego County, California; and public witnesses.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Oversight and Reform:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3076, the “Postal Service Reform Act”; H.R. 3077, the “Postal Service Improvement Act”; H.R. 1930, the “Federal Advisory Committee Transparency Act”; H.R. 2485, the “Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act”; H.R. 2681, the “Integrity Committee Transparency Act”; and H.R. 978, the “Chai Suthammanont Remembrance Act”. H.R. 978, H.R. 3077, H.R. 1930, H.R. 2485, H.R. 2681, and H.R. 3076 were ordered reported, as amended.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a markup on H.R. 2225, the “National Science Foundation for the Future Act”. H.R. 2225 was forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH AND SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAMS**

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Overview of the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **FEDERAL REAL ESTATE POST-COVID-19 PART ONE: A VIEW FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled “Federal Real Estate Post-COVID-19 Part One: A View from The Private Sector”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S 2021 TRADE POLICY AGENDA**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Biden Administration’s 2021 Trade Policy Agenda”. Testimony was heard from Katherine C. Tai, U.S. Trade Representative.

#### **RECRUITING, EMPOWERING AND RETAINING A DIVERSE CONGRESSIONAL STAFF**

*Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Recruiting, Empowering and Retaining a Diverse Congressional Staff”. Testimony was heard from Kemba Hendrix, Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, U.S. House of Representatives; and public witnesses.

## *Joint Meetings*

### PREVENTING MASS ATROCITIES

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission concluded a hearing to examine preventing mass atrocities, after receiving testimony from Timothy Snyder, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut; and Naomi Kikoler, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide, Washington, D.C.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2021

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems, hearing entitled “Operations in Cyberspace and Building Cyber Capabilities Across the Department of Defense”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

3 p.m., Monday, May 17

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1260, Endless Frontier Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Friday, May 14

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Consideration of H.R. 1065—Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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