

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S9219–S9271*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3411–3430, and S. Res. 480–482. **Page S9260**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 172, to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs. (S. Rept. No. 117–49)

S. 491, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain river segments in the York River watershed in the State of Maine as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. (S. Rept. No. 117–50)

S. 535, to authorize the location of a memorial on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 117–51)

H.R. 1664, to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs. (S. Rept. No. 117–52)

H.R. 767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Fulton Street in Middletown, New York, as the “Benjamin A. Gilman Post Office Building”.

H.R. 1170, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 League in Irvine, California, as the “Tuskegee Airman Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Friend Memorial Post Office Building”.

H.R. 1444, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 132 North Loudoun Street, Suite 1 in Winchester, Virginia, as the “Patsy Cline Post Office”.

H.R. 3210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 15th Street in Boulder, Colorado, as the “Officer Eric H. Talley Post Office Building”.

S. 15, to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors.

S. 115, to direct the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study and submit to Congress a report on the effects of the COVID–19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in the United States, with amendments.

S. 120, to prevent and respond to the misuse of communications services that facilitates domestic violence and other crimes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 163, to address the workforce needs of the telecommunications industry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 381, to establish the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization Council, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 576, to amend title 14, United States Code, to require the Coast Guard to conduct icebreaking operations in the Great Lakes to minimize commercial disruption in the winter months, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 735, to amend the Scientific and Advanced-Technology Act of 1992 to further support advanced technological manufacturing, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2340, to improve the safety and security of the Federal judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2514, to rename the Provo Veterans Center in Orem, Utah, as the “Col. Gail S. Halvorsen ‘Candy Bomber’ Veterans Center”.

S. 2932, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the “Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building”. **Page S9259**

#### Measures Passed:

*Forced Labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region:* Senate passed H.R. 6256, to ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China do not enter the United States market. **Page S9231**

*Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act:* Senate passed H.R. 3537, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to support

research on, and expanded access to, investigational drugs for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. **Page S9242**

#### Appointments:

**Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy:** The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Section 1295b(h) of title 46 App., United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101–595, and upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, appointed the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Senator Cantwell (ex officio as Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation) and Senator Duckworth (Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation).

**Page S9270**

**Motion To Discharge Thomas Nomination:** Pursuant to S. Res. 27, Committee on the Judiciary being tied on the question of reporting, the Majority Leader made the motion to discharge the Committee on the Judiciary from further consideration of the nomination of Holly A. Thomas, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

**Pages S9219–31, S9231–41, S9271**

By 50 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 502), Senate agreed to the motion to discharge the nomination from the Committee on the Judiciary. Subsequently, the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 27, relative to Senate procedure in the 117th Congress.

**Page S9236**

**Gawande Nomination—Agreement:** Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Atul Atmaram Gawande, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

**Page S9270**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Friday, December 17, 2021; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 ripen at 10 a.m.

**Page S9270**

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

By 75 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 503), R. Nicholas Burns, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China. **Pages S9241–42**

By 76 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. EX. 504), Ramin Toloui, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Economic and Business Affairs).

**Pages S9241–42**

By 85 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 505), Rashad Hussain, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom. **Pages S9241–42**

Karen Jean Hedlund, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2025.

Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Thomas Barrett, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Maria Louise Lago, of New York, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

Shannon Corless, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of the Treasury.

Kurt D. DelBene, of Washington, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Information and Technology).

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, Foreign Service, and Space Force. **Pages S9242–50**

**Nomination Discharged:** The following nomination was discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Holly A. Thomas, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, which was sent to the Senate on September 20, 2021, from the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. **Page S9271**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S9257–58**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Pages S9258–59**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S9260**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S9261–63**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S9263–69**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S9256–57**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S9269–70**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—505) **Pages S9236, S9242**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 17, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9270.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ann Claire Phillips, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration, Steven Scott Cliff, of California, to be Administrator

of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and John Edward Putnam, of Colorado, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of Transportation, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Neil Harvey MacBride, of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Bridget Meehan Brennan, Charles Esque Fleming, and David Augustin Ruiz, each to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, and John H. Chun, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

---

## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 29 public bills, H.R. 6296–6324; 1 private bill, H.R. 6325; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 65; and H. Res. 857, were introduced. **Pages H7831–32**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H7833–34**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Butterfield to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7829**

**Announcement by the Chair:** The Chair informed the House that, pursuant to House Resolution 851, the Speaker has certified to the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia the refusal of Mark Randall Meadows to appear for a deposition before the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol as directed by subpoena. **Page H7830**

**Senate Referrals:** S. 1404 was held at the desk. S. 1097 was held at the desk. S. 1543 was held at the desk. **Pages H7829–30**

**Senate Messages:** Message received from the Senate today and message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H7829–30.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

### *Committee Meetings*

#### OVERSIGHT OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION: PROTECTING SMITHSONIAN FACILITIES AND COLLECTIONS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Smithsonian Institution: Protecting Smithsonian Facilities and Collections Against Climate Change”. Testimony was heard from Nancy J. Bechtol, Facilities Director, Smithsonian Institution; Cathy Helm, Inspector General, Smithsonian Institution; and a public witness.

### *Joint Meetings*

#### UKRAINE

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission received a briefing on defending Ukraine and deterring Putin from Michael H. Cecire, United States Helsinki Commission; Andrew Bowen, Analyst in Russian and European Affairs, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Robert Lee, Kings College London, and Maryna Vorotnyuk, Royal United Services Institute, both of London, United Kingdom; and Katsiaryna Shmatsina, European Values Center for Security Policy, Prague, Czech Republic.

---

#### NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1378)

H.R. 5142, to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal, in commemoration to the servicemembers who perished in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, during the evacuation of citizens of the United States and Afghan allies at Hamid Karzai

International Airport. Signed on December 16, 2021. (Public Law 117–72)

S.J. Res. 33, joint resolution relating to increasing the debt limit. Signed on December 16, 2021. (Public Law 117–73)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,  
DECEMBER 17, 2021**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

**Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

**House**

*Committee on House Administration*, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 9 a.m., 1310 Longworth and Webex.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Friday, December 17

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10:30 a.m., Monday, December 20

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Atul Atmaram Gawande, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 10 a.m.

Senators should expect votes on motions to invoke cloture and confirmation of nominations throughout the day.

## House Chamber

**Program for Monday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10:30 a.m.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Courtney, Joe, Conn., E1382  
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E1383

Hice, Jody B., Ga., E1384  
Moore, Blake D., Utah, E1379  
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia,  
E1383

Ryan, Tim, Ohio, E1379, E1383, E1384  
Smith, Adam, Wash., E1383  
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1379



# Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at [www.govinfo.gov](http://www.govinfo.gov), free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202-512-1800, or 866-512-1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, [contactcenter@gpo.gov](mailto:contactcenter@gpo.gov). ¶To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: [bookstore.gpo.gov](http://bookstore.gpo.gov). Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll-free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.