

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S165–S194

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3481–3495, and S. Res. 487–489. **Pages S189–190**

Measures Passed:

Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 489, commending the actions of Cuban human rights and democracy activist Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia, and all pro-democracy and human rights activists, in demanding fundamental civil liberties in Cuba and speaking out against Cuba's brutal, totalitarian Communist regime. **Pages S183–184**

Protecting Europe's Energy Security Implementation Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, January 13, 2022, Senate begin consideration of S. 3436, to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to entities responsible for the planning, construction, or operation of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline and their corporate officers and to apply congressional review under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act to the removal of sanctions relating to Nord Stream 2, as provided under the previous order of December 18, 2021; that at 2:15 p.m., there be 30 minutes for debate, equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on passage of the bill, as provided under the agreement of December 18, 2021. **Page S194**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 68 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. EX. 6), Amitabha Bose, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration.

Pages S165–181

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 7), Gabriel P. Sanchez, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Pages S181–182**

Measures Read the First Time:

Pages S188, S193–194

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S188–189**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S190**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S190–193

Additional Statements:

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S193**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—7) **Pages S181–182**

Recess: Senate convened at 12:30 p.m. and recessed at 7:04 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, January 13, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S194.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Chavonda J. Jacobs-Young, of Georgia, to be Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, and Margo Schlanger, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Agriculture.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Henry Christopher Frey, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Martha Williams, of Montana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, and 18 GSA resolutions.

WRDA OVERSIGHT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Water Resources Development Act, focusing on USACE implementation of water infrastructure projects, programs, and priorities, after receiving testimony from Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary

of the Army for Civil Works, and Lieutenant General Scott A. Spellmon, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, both of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Amy Gutmann, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Donald Armin Blome, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, Joseph Donnelly, of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, Michele Taylor, of Georgia, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as United States Representative to the UN Human Rights Council, Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, Lisa A. Carty, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and Laura S. H. Holgate, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, all of the Department of State, Oren E. Whyche-Shaw, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank, Alice P. Albright, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Enoch T. Ebong, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agency, and routine lists in the Foreign Service.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Sarah H. Cleveland, of New York, to be Legal Adviser, who was introduced by Senator Coons, James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador, George

J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador to Greece, who was introduced by Senators Casey and Paul, and Beth Van Schaack, of California, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, who was introduced by Senator Booker, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CLOSING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine closing the digital divide in Native communities through infrastructure investment, after receiving testimony from Manuel Heart, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Towaoc, Colorado; William Smith, National Indian Health Board, Valdez, Alaska; Walter W. Haase, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, Fort Defiance, Arizona; Carrie L. Billy, American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Alexandria, Virginia; Matthew Rantanen, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, D.C.; Donovan Kealoha, Purple Mai'a Foundation, 'Aiea, Hawaii; and Hallie Bissett, Alaska Native Village Corporation Association, Anchorage.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Andre B. Mathis, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Jessica G. L. Clarke, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Hector Gonzalez, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, who were both introduced by Senator Schumer, Fred W. Slaughter, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, who was introduced by Senator Padilla, and Sharon Bradford Franklin, of Maryland, to be Chairman and Member, and Beth Ann Williams, of New Jersey, to be a Member, both of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Kenneth L. Wainstein, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 6373–6391; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 866–867 and 869, were introduced.

Pages H77–78

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H79

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 868, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5746) to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration (H. Rept. 117–226).

Page H77

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Soto to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H45

Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act: The House passed H.R. 1836, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the time during which members of the Armed Forces serve on active duty for training qualifies for educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, by a yealand-nay vote of 287 yeas to 135 nays, Roll No. 6.

Pages H50–64

Rejected the Fitzgerald motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Veterans Affairs, by a yealand-nay vote of 204 yeas to 219 nays, Roll No. 5.

Pages H62–63

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–25 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs now printed in the bill.

Page H50

Agreed to:

Ross amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 117–225) that requires the VA to inform new veterans of the medical care and services for which they are eligible, including community care under the MISSION Act; mental health care, including the Veterans Crisis Line; care relating to military sexual trauma; and any other information the Secretary deems appropriate.

Pages H59–60

Rejected:

Moore (AL) amendment (No. 2 printed in part A of H. Rept. 117–225) that sought to replace the base text of the bill with a fully paid-for expansion of GI Bill benefits to members of the Guard and Reserve who are on Federal Active Duty orders for missions other than training (by a yealand-nay vote of 198 yeas to 225 nays, Roll No. 4).

Pages H60–62

H. Res. 860, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1836) and (H.R. 4673) was agreed to yesterday, January 11th.

Recess: The House recessed at 4:23 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

Page H64

NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 868, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5746) to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration, by a yealand-nay vote of 220 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 8, after the previous question was ordered by a yealand-nay vote of 220 yeas to 201 nays, Roll No. 7.

Pages H64–74

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yealand-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H62, H63, H63–64, H72–73, and H73–74.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 11:37 p.m.

Committee Meetings

IMPLICATIONS OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE INVESTMENTS FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AMERICA

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Implications of Electric Vehicle Investments for Agriculture and Rural America”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IMPACT OF CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing entitled “Impact of Continuing Resolutions on the Department of Defense and Services”. Testimony was heard from General David H. Berger, Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps; General Charles Q. Brown, Jr., Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force; Admiral Michael Gilday, Chief of Naval Operations of the U.S. Navy; General Joseph M. Martin, Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army; Mike McCord, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller); and General John W. Raymond, Chief of Space Operations of the U.S. Space Force.

SENATE AMENDMENT TO NASA ENHANCED USE LEASING EXTENSION ACT OF 2021

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the “NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act of 2021” [Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act]. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 5746. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on House Administration or her designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–28. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration or their designees. Testimony was heard from Chairman Lofgren, and Representatives Davis of Illinois and Sarbanes.

REVIEW OF SBA’S TOP MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE CHALLENGES IN FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND SBA OIG’S SEMIANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Review of SBA’s Top Management and Performance Challenges in Fiscal Year 2022 and SBA OIG’s Semiannual Report to Congress”. Testimony was heard from Hannibal Ware, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Small Business Administration.

PROPOSALS FOR A WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2022: ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2022: Administration Priorities”. Testimony was heard from Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Department of the Army; and Lieutenant General Scott A. Spellmon, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Celeste Ann Wallander, of Maryland, Melissa Griffin Dalton, of Virginia, and John F. Plumb, of New York, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Sandra L. Thompson, of Maryland, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nominations of Robert McKinnon Califf, of North Carolina, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, and Lisa M. Gomez, of New Jersey, both to be an Assistant Secretary, and David Weil, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, all of the Department of Labor, Amy Loyd, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education, Javier Ramirez, of Illinois, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director, Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be Member of the National Mediation Board, and Susan Harthill, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, Time to be announced, S–211, Capitol.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Margaret A. Burnham, of Massachusetts, Gabrielle M. Dudley, of Georgia, Henry Klibanoff, of Georgia, and Brenda E. Stevenson, of California, each to be a Member of the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Review Board, 10:15 a.m., VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 2992, to provide that certain discriminatory conduct by covered platforms shall be unlawful, and the nominations of Alison J. Nathan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Leonard Philip Stark, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Bridget Meehan Brennan, Charles Esque Fleming, and David Augustin Ruiz, each to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Victoria Marie Calvert, and Sarah Elisabeth Geraghty, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, John H. Chun, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, Jaqueline Scott Corley, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Dale E. Ho, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Charlotte N. Sweeney, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Hernan D. Vera, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Georgette Castner, to be United States District Judge for the District of

New Jersey, Ruth Bermudez Montenegro, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Julie Rebecca Rubin, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, Cristina D. Silva, and Anne Rachel Traum, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Nevada, Katherine Vidal, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and Ryan K. Buchanan, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, Andrew M. Luger, to be United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, Mark A. Totten, to be United

States Attorney for the Western District of Michigan, and Jason M. Frierson, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nevada, all of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine financial literacy, focusing on addressing the unique just-in-time decisions older Americans and people with disabilities face, 9:30 a.m., VTC.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, January 13

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, January 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will begin consideration of S. 3436, Protecting Europe's Energy Security Implementation Act.

At 2:15 p.m., there will be up to 30 minutes of debate on the bill, equally divided. Upon the use or yielding back of that time, Senate will vote on passage of the bill.

(Senate will recess from 12:45 p.m. until 2:15 p.m.)

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 5746—NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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