

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5643–S5680*

**Measures Introduced:** Ten bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3354–3363, and S. Res. 479. **Page S5674**

#### Measures Passed:

**Rosa Parks Federal Building:** Senate passed S. 1278, to designate the Federal building located at 985 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the “Rosa Parks Federal Building”. **Page S5677**

**American Law Enforcement SAVER Act:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 2644, to establish standards for trauma kits purchased using funds provided under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, and the bill was then passed. **Page S5677**

**National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 479, designating November 2023 as “National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month”. **Page S5677**

**Park Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Shanlyn A.S. Park, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii. **Pages S5650–52**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 323), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5669**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, November 30, 2023, and that all time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m.; and that upon disposition of the nomination of Shanlyn A.S. Park, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Irma Carrillo Ramirez, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, and Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination at 1:45 p.m. **Pages S5677–78**

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

By 57 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 320), Micah W.J. Smith, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii. **Page S5662**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 57 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 319), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5652**

By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 322), Jamel Semper, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey. **Page S5668**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 321), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5662**

Ann Marie Yastishock, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Heather Roach Variava, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

Vernelle Trim FitzPatrick, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic.

Kara C. McDonald, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania. **Page S5680**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S5672**

**Measures Referred:** **Pages S5672–73**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S5673**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S5673–74**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5674–76**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Page S5676**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S5671–72**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Pages S5676–77**

**Record Votes:** Five record votes were taken today. (Total—323) **Pages S5652, S5662, S5668, S5669**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:58 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 30, 2023. (For Senate’s program, see the

remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5680.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 679 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

### WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Water Resources Development Act of 2024, focusing on stakeholder feedback on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project partnership agreements, after receiving testimony from Jimmy Hague, The Nature Conservancy, Arlington, Virginia; Kirsten Wallace, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, Cheyenne, Wyoming, on behalf of the Interstate Council on Water Policy; and Bren Haase, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### US-PRC RELATIONSHIP

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee received a closed briefing on the US-PRC relationship after APEC from Adam Cohen, Deputy Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Sarah M. Beran, Senior Director for China and Taiwan Affairs, National Security Council.

### FEDERAL FACILITIES SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the security of Federal facilities, after receiving testimony from Richard K. Cline, Director, Federal Protective Service, Management Directorate, and Scott Breor, Associate Director, Security Programs, Infrastructure Security Division, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, both of the Department of Homeland Security; and Dave Marroni, Acting Director, Physical Infrastructure Team, Government Accountability Office.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jacquelyn D. Austin, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Jacqueline Becerra, Melissa Damian, and David Seymour Leibowitz, each to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Julie Simone Sneed, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Kirk Edward Sherriff, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 21 public bills, H.R. 6492–6512; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 104; H. Con. Res. 80; and H. Res. 896, were introduced. **Pages H5982–83**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H5984–85**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

Committee on Ways and Means. Submission to the U.S. House of Representatives of Documents Protected Under Internal Revenue Code Section 6103 (H. Rept. 118–281);

H.R. 357, to require the head of an agency to issue and sign any rule issued by that agency, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–282);

H.R. 3315, to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days (H. Rept. 118–283);

H.R. 542, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–284); and

H.R. 3209, to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 to designate the Texas and New Mexico portions of the future Interstate-designated segments of the Port-to-Plains

Corridor as Interstate Route 27, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–285).

Page H5982

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Van Drew to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H5939

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

Pages H5943

**Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer:** Representative Greene (GA) announced her intent to offer a privileged resolution.

Pages H5944–45

*Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023:* The House considered H.R. 5283, to prohibit the use of Federal funds to provide housing to specified aliens on any land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Federal land management agencies.

Pages H5945–57

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–15 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill.

Page H5946

Agreed to:

Ogles amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–280) that requires a report on the number of specified aliens provided housing on federal lands.

Pages H5967–70

Proceedings Postponed:

Velázquez amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–280) that seeks to allow the Interior Secretary to provide housing when the originating state has failed to meet certain criteria.

Pages H5968–70

H. Res. 891, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5283), (H.R. 5961), and the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 32) by a recorded vote of 212 ayes to 205 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 679, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 213 ayes to 205 noes with one answering “present”, Roll No. 678.

Pages H5945–57

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5955–56.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

**EXAMINING THE NEED FOR A FISCAL COMMISSION REVIEWING H.R. 710, H.R. 5779, AND S. 3262**

*Committee on the Budget:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the Need for a Fiscal Commission Reviewing H.R. 710, H.R. 5779, and S. 3262”. Testimony was heard from Senators Manchin and Romney; and Representatives Huizenga, Peters, Womack, Case, McGovern, and Smucker.

**BAD FOR BUSINESS: DOL’S PROPOSED OVERTIME RULE**

*Committee on Education and Workforce:* Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Bad for Business: DOL’s Proposed Overtime Rule”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**AMERICA LEADS THE WAY: OUR HISTORY AS THE GLOBAL LEADER AT REDUCING EMISSIONS**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials held a hearing entitled “America Leads the Way: Our History as the Global Leader at Reducing Emissions”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**UNDERSTANDING HOW AI IS CHANGING HEALTH CARE**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Understanding How AI is Changing Health Care”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**THE SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Semi-Annual Report of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection”. Testimony was heard from Rohit Chopra, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 6349, to prohibit or require notification with respect to certain activities of United States persons involving countries of concern, and for other purposes; H.R. 533, to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act; H.R. 2766, to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes; H.R. 5375, to require a strategy for bolstering engagement and cooperation

between the United States, Australia, India, and Japan and to seek to establish a Quad Intra-Parliamentary Working Group to facilitate closer cooperation on shared interests and values; H.R. 1103, to require the President to remove the extension of certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices if Hong Kong no longer enjoys a high degree of autonomy from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; and H.R. 5532, to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to North Korea's support for Russia's illegal war in Ukraine. H.R. 6349 was ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 533, H.R. 2766, H.R. 5375, H.R. 1103, and H.R. 5532 were ordered reported, as amended.

### **THE HIGH NORTH: HOW U.S. ARCTIC STRATEGY IMPACTS HOMELAND SECURITY**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "The High North: How U.S. Arctic Strategy Impacts Homeland Security". Testimony was heard from Senator Sullivan, Vice Admiral Peter W. Gautier, Deputy Commandant for Operations, U.S. Coast Guard; Christa Brzozowski, Acting Assistant Secretary, Trade and Economic Security, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, Department of Homeland Security; and Chelsa L. Kenney, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office.

### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURE**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 6285, the "Alaska's Right to Produce Act of 2023". Testimony was heard from Steve Feldgus, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior; John Boyle, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, Alaska; and public witnesses.

### **OVERSIGHT OF FEDERAL AGENCIES' POST-PANDEMIC TELEWORK POLICIES: PART II**

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability:* Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Federal Workforce held a hearing entitled "Oversight of Federal Agencies' Post-Pandemic Telework Policies: Part II". Testimony was heard from Bob Leavitt, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Human Resources and Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Health and Human Services; Oren McKnelly, Executive Counselor, U.S. Social Security Administration; Jeremy Pelter, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce; and Kathryn Stevens, Acting Chief Human Capital Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development.

### **SAFEGUARDING THE FEDERAL SOFTWARE SUPPLY CHAIN**

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability:* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation held a hearing entitled "Safeguarding the Federal Software Supply Chain". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 6213, the "National Quantum Initiative Reauthorization Act"; and H.R. 6131, the "Commercial Space Act of 2023". H.R. 6213 and H.R. 6131 were ordered reported, as amended.

### **GETTING ON THE RIGHT TRACK: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL IN AMERICA**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled "Getting on the Right Track: Navigating the Future of Intercity Passenger Rail in America". Testimony was heard from Kirk Watson, Mayor, Austin, Texas; and public witnesses.

### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup on H.R. 1753, the "Jax Act"; H.R. 3790, the "Justice for ALS Veterans Act of 2023"; H.R. 4016, the "Veteran Fraud Reimbursement Act"; H.R. 4190, the "Restoring Benefits to Defrauded Veterans Act"; H.R. 4306, the "Michael Lecik Military Firefighters Protection Act"; H.R. 5559, "Protecting Veterans Claim Options Act"; H.R. 5891, "Veteran Appeals Decision Clarity Act"; H.R. 5870, "Veteran Appeals Transparency Act of 2023"; H.R. 5890, the "Review Every Veterans Claim Act of 2023"; and H.R. 5938, the "Veterans Exam Expansion Act of 2023". H.R. 3790, H.R. 5938, H.R. 4190, H.R. 5559, H.R. 5870, H.R. 5891, H.R. 1753, and H.R. 4306 were forwarded to the full Committee, as amended. H.R. 4016 and H.R. 5890 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

### **EXAMINING THE VA APPEALS PROCESS: ENSURING HIGH QUALITY DECISION-MAKING FOR VETERANS' CLAIMS ON APPEAL**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled "Examining the VA Appeals Process: Ensuring High Quality Decision-Making for Veterans' Claims on Appeal". Testimony was heard from Elizabeth Curda, Director, Education, Workforce,

and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; Kenneth A. Arnold, Vice Chairman, Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

### STRENGTHENING THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FOR STATES AND TRIBES

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Work and Welfare; and Subcommittee on Oversight held a joint hearing entitled "Strengthening the Child Support Enforcement Program for States and Tribes". Testimony was heard from James Fleming, Director, Child Support Section, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services; Bryan Tribble, Administrator, Child Support Services, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services; and public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

*Conferees* met to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2670, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Basil Ivanhoe Gooden, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, and Summer K. Mersinger, of South Dakota, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Semi-Annual Report to Congress, 10:15 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* to hold hearings to examine opportunities and challenges associated with advanced nuclear reactor commercialization, 10 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, and Henry J. Kerner, of Vir-

ginia, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, 10 a.m., SD-562.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider an authorization for subpoenas relating to the Supreme Court ethics investigation, and the nominations of Mustafa Taher Kasubhai, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, Eumi K. Lee, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Seth Robert Aframe, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Edward Sunyol Kiel, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, Sarah French Russell, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Christopher Charles Fonzone, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Sara E. Hill, and John David Russell, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, and Ramona Villagomez Manglona, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 10 a.m., SH-216.

#### House

*Committee on Education and Workforce,* Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled "Safeguarding Workers' Rights and Liberties", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Unmasking Challenges CDC Faces in Rebuilding Public Trust Amid Respiratory Illness Season", 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Oversight of President Biden's Broadband Takeover", 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Subcommittee on Africa, hearing entitled "Ethiopia: Promise or Perils, The State of U.S. Policy", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "An Urgent Appeal to Let Bishop Alvarez Go", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled "The U.S. Border Crisis and the American Solution to an International Problem", 2 p.m., HVC-210.

*Committee on House Administration,* Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4460, the "NO VOTE for Non-Citizens Act"; H.R. 4396, the "American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia Citizen Voter Act"; H.R. 4316, the "Citizen Ballot Protection Act"; H.R. 3162, the "Protecting American Voters Act"; H.R. 3229, the "Stop Foreign Funds in Elections Act"; H.R. 4474, the "Confirmation of Congressional Observer Access Act of 2023"; H.R. 4555, the "Federal Election Audit Act"; and legislation on the Promoting Free and Fair Elections Act of 2023, 10:15 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, hearing entitled "Hearing on the Weaponization of the Federal Government", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Responsiveness and Accountability to Oversight, hearing entitled “Hearing on Compliance with Committee Oversight”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on legislation on the EXPLORE Act, 10 a.m., 1325 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability*, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled “Digging Deeper: Ensuring Safety and Security in the Critical Mineral Supply Chain”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Role of Federal Research in Establishing a Robust U.S. Supply Chain of Critical Minerals and Materials”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Environment, joint hearing entitled “Missing the Target: CEQ’s Meritless Selection of SBTi”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “Turbulence Ahead: Consequences of Delaying a Long-Term FAA Bill”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5988, the “United States-Taiwan Expedited Double-Tax Relief Act”; H.R. 6408, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations; H.R. 1432, the “VETT Act”; H.R. 2426, the “Find and Protect Foster Youth Act”; H.R. 3058, the “Recruiting Families Using Data Act of 2023”; and H.R. 529, the “Extending Limits of U.S. Customs Waters Act”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Discourse Power: The CCP’s Strategy to Shape the Global Information Space”, 7:15 p.m., 390 Cannon.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Thursday, November 30

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Thursday, November 30

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Shanlyn A.S. Park, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Shanlyn A.S. Park, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Irma Carrillo Ramirez, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 1:45 p.m.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Complete consideration of H.R. 5283—Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023. Consideration of H.R. 5961—No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

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