

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6031–S6069

Measures Introduced: One bill and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3557, S. Res. 515–516, and S. Con. Res. 24. **Page S6057**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 1414, to improve the instant messaging service used by the National Weather Service. (S. Rept. No. 118–140)

Report to accompany S. 1416, to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards Network. (S. Rept. No. 118–141) **Page S6057**

Measures Passed:

To Amend the Siletz Reservation Act: Senate passed H.R. 2839, to amend the Siletz Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. **Page S6061**

Grand Ronde Reservation Act: Senate passed H.R. 1722, to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act. **Pages S6061–62**

Combating Human Rights Abuses Act: Senate passed S. 484, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People's Republic of China, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6062**

Merkley (for Peters/Lummis) Amendment No. 1379, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6062**

National Medal of Honor Highway: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of S. 1478, to designate United States Route 20 in the States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts as the “National Medal of Honor Highway”, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6062**

University of Iowa Women's Basketball Team: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 423, recognizing the University of Iowa women's basketball team's historic “Crossover at Kinnick” game and the importance of women's sports, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6062–63**

Merkley (for Ernst) Amendment No. 1380, to amend the resolution. **Pages S6062–63**

Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2023, Part II: Senate passed H.R. 6503, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund. **Page S6067**

Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B) Veto—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding rule XXII, the veto message with respect to S.J. Res. 32, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)”, be considered at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader in concurrence with the Republican Leader prior to January 31, 2024; that there be up to two hours for debate equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees; and that Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding. **Pages S6048–50**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the Constitution, the report of the veto of S.J. Res. 32, a joint resolution that would disapprove of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's final rule titled “Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)”; ordered to be printed in the

Record, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk. (PM-34) **Page S6056-57**

Crews Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of S. Kato Crews, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado. **Page S6047**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. **Page S6047**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6047**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6047**

Mehalchick Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Karoline Mehalchick, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. **Page S6047**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of S. Kato Crews, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado. **Page S6047**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6047**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6047**

Kazen Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of John A. Kazen, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Page S6048**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Karoline Mehalchick, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. **Page S6047**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6047**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6048**

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the sessions of Monday, December 18, 2023, and Tuesday, December 19, 2023, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, January 8, 2024; and that the nominations remain in status quo, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXXI, paragraph 6, of the Standing Rules of the Senate. **Page S6068**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 50 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. EX. 349), Christopher Charles Fonzone, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Page S6040**

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

By 49 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 348), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S6039-40**

By 52 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. EX. 351), Sara E. Hill, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma. **Pages S6041-42**

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

By 52 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. EX. 350), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S6040-41**

By 49 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 352), Elizabeth H. Richard, of Virginia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large. **Page S6042**

John David Russell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma. **Pages S6067-68**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination, be withdrawn. **Page S6068**

5 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

5 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

2 Space Force nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force. **Pages S6068-69**

Messages from the House: **Page S6057**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S6057**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6057-58**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6058-60**

Additional Statements: **Page S6056**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6060-61**

Notices of Intent: **Page S6061**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—352) **Pages S6039-42**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 9:38 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, December 20, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6068.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 34 public bills, H.R. 6847–6880; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 81; and H. Res. 940–943, were introduced. **Pages H6997–98**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6999–H7001**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1516, to establish Department of Homeland Security funding restrictions on institutions of higher education that have a relationship with Confucius Institutes, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–319);

H.R. 4403, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make improvements to the Securing the Cities program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–320);

H.R. 6174, to improve the biodetection functions of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–321);

H.R. 6231, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a prioritized policy issuance review process for the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–322);

H.R. 4841, to prohibit Federal agencies from restricting the use of convertible virtual currency by a person to purchase goods or services for the person's own use, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–323);

H.R. 4767, to make revisions to the Federal securities laws with respect to shareholder proposals, proxy voting, and the registration of proxy advisory firms, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–324);

H.R. 4823, to provide enhanced reporting requirements for Federal banking regulators, to amend the Federal Reserve Act to remove the designation of Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–325);

H.R. 4655, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from compelling the inclusion or dis-

cussion of shareholder proposals or proxy or consent solicitation materials, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–326);

H.R. 4768, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the United States Executive Directors at the international financial institutions to advocate for investment in projects that decrease reliance on Russia for agricultural commodities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–327);

H.R. 4765, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to carry out a study on Chinese support for Afghan illicit finance, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–328);

H.R. 6367, to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the United States Executive Director at each international financial institution to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to provide financial assistance to countries that receive an influx of civilian, non-combatant displaced persons stemming from the armed conflict that has resulted from Hamas's October 2023 terrorism in Israel, to be used for humanitarian aid for the displaced persons, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–329);

H.R. 6365, to protect against illicit oil shipments, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–330);

H.R. 6408, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–331);

H.R. 5921, to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from authorizing certain transactions by a United States financial institution in connection with Iran, to prevent the International Monetary Fund from providing financial assistance to Iran, to codify prohibitions on Export-Import Bank financing for the Government of Iran, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–332);

H.R. 5923, to impose restrictions on correspondent and payable-through accounts in the

United States with respect to Chinese financial institutions that conduct transactions involving the purchase of petroleum or petroleum products from Iran, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–333);

H.R. 6245, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to report on financial institutions' involvement with officials of the Iranian Government, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–334); and

Committee on Ways and Means. Submission to the U.S. House of Representatives of Documents Protected Under Internal Revenue Code Section 6103 (H. Rept. 118–335). **Pages H6996–97**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Smith (NE) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6995**

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative McCarthy, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Twentieth Congressional District of California, effective December 31, 2023.

Page H6995

Senate Referrals: S. 195 was held at the desk. S. 382 was held at the desk. S. 474 was held at the desk. S. 2228 was held at the desk. S. 3553 was held at the desk. **Pages H6995–96**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages 6995–96.

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 2 p.m. and adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Wednesday, December 20

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, December 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business. Following Leader remarks, Senate will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 9 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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