

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S63–S97

Measures Introduced: Seventeen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3153–3169, S.J. Res. 64, and S. Res. 465. **Pages S93–94**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 2302, to amend title 23, United States Code, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs. (S. Rept. No. 116–200) **Page S93**

Measures Passed:

Czech Republic and Slovak Republic: Senate agreed to S. Res. 343, congratulating the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic on the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the 101st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia. **Page S76**

Fall of the Berlin Wall 30th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 385, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the reunification of both Germany and Europe, and the spread of democracy around the world. **Pages S76–77**

2019 Bolivia Elections: Senate agreed to S. Res. 447, expressing serious concern about widespread irregularities in Bolivia's October 20, 2019, general elections and supporting the convening of new elections in Bolivia at the earliest possible date, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S77–79**

Detention of Senator Leila De Lima: Senate agreed to S. Res. 142, condemning the Government of the Philippines for its continued detention of Senator Leila De Lima, calling for her immediate release, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S79–80**

U.S. alliance with Republic of Korea: Senate agreed to S. Res. 152, expressing the importance of the United States alliance with the Republic of Korea and the contributions of Korean Americans in

the United States, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S80**

Iran Hostage Crisis 40th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 395, recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Iran Hostage Crisis. **Pages S80–81**

Preventing Illegal Radio Abuse Through Enforcement Act: Senate passed S. 1228, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for enhanced penalties for pirate radio. **Page S81**

Developing Innovation and Growing the Internet of Things Act: Senate passed S. 1611, to ensure appropriate prioritization, spectrum planning, and interagency coordination to support the Internet of Things, after agreeing to the committee amendments. **Pages S81–84**

Preventing Illegal Radio Abuse Through Enforcement Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 583, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for enhanced penalties for pirate radio, and the bill was then passed. **Page S84**

Ray Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, January 9, 2020, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. **Page S97**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 89 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. EX. 6), Matthew H. Solomson, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years. **Pages S64–88, S97**

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

By 88 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 3), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S68–69**

By 51 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 7), Eleni Maria Roumel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years. **Pages S69, S88, S97**

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

By 51 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 4), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S69**

By 91 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 8), Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand. **Pages S69–70, S88–89, S97**

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

By 64 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. EX. 5), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S69–70**

Messages from the House: **Page S91**

Executive Communications: **Pages S91–93**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S94–95**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S95–97**

Additional Statements: **Pages S89–91**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S97**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S97**

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—8) **Pages S69–70, S88–89**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:26 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S97.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Nonpoint Source Management Program under the Clean Water Act, focusing on perspectives from states, after receiving testimony from Jennifer Zygmunt, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Cheyenne; and Ben Grumbles, Maryland Secretary of the Environment, Baltimore.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of William Scott Hardy, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, who was introduced by Senator Toomey, John F. Heil III, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, who was introduced by Senators Inhofe and Lankford, David Cleveland Joseph, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, who was introduced by Senator Cassidy, Cory T. Wilson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi, who was introduced by Senators Wicker and Hyde-Smith, and Edward Hulvey Meyers, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 5552–5562; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 83; and H. Res. 780, were introduced.

Page H63

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H64–65**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2932, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–370, Part 1); and

H. Res. 781, providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 83) directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers

Resolution to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran (H. Rept. 116–371). **Pages H62–63**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H15**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:57 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H21**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:07 p.m. and reconvened at 2:19 p.m. **Page H30**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:20 p.m. and reconvened at 2:26 p.m. **Page H30**

PFAS Action Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 779, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 535) to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 3, after the previous question was ordered by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 2.

Pages H23–30, H49–50

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Promoting United States International Leadership in 5G Act: H.R. 3763, amended, to direct the Secretary of State to provide assistance and technical expertise to enhance the representation and leadership of the United States at international standards-setting bodies that set standards for 5th and future generations mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure;

Pages H30–33

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To direct the Federal Government to provide assistance and technical expertise to enhance the representation and leadership of the United States at international standards-setting bodies that set standards for equipment, systems, software, and virtually-defined networks that support 5th and future generations mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure, and for other purposes.”;

Page H33

Prison to Proprietorship for Formerly Incarcerated Act: H.R. 5065, to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for formerly incarcerated individuals;

Pages H35–37

Capturing All Small Businesses Act: H.R. 5130, to amend the Small Business Act to adjust the employment size standard requirements for determining whether a manufacturing concern is a small business concern;

Pages H37–39

Unlocking Opportunities for Small Businesses Act: H.R. 5146, amended, to amend the Small Business Act to require contracting officers to take a small business concern’s past performance as part of a joint venture into account when evaluating the small business concern;

Pages H39–41

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that all stakeholders in the deployment of 5G communications infrastructure should carefully consider and adhere to the recommendations of “The Prague Proposals”: H. Res. 575, amended, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that all stakeholders in the deployment of 5G communications infrastructure should carefully consider

and adhere to the recommendations of “The Prague Proposals”;

Pages H41–43

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that all stakeholders in the deployment of 5G communications infrastructure should carefully consider adherence to the recommendations of ‘The Prague Proposals’.”;

Page H43

Secure 5G and Beyond Act: H.R. 2881, amended, to require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 413 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 4; and

Pages H43–46, H50–51

Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act: H.R. 4500, amended, to direct the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to take certain actions to enhance the representation of the United States and promote United States leadership in communications standards-setting bodies.

Pages H46–49

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Prison to Proprietorship Act: H.R. 5078, amended, to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for incarcerated individuals.

Pages H33–35

Recess: The House recessed at 7:20 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Page H60

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three ye-a-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H49–50, H50, and H51. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE AMERICANS’ HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND OUTCOMES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Legislation to Improve Americans’ Health Care Coverage and Outcomes”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICANS AT RISK: MANIPULATION AND DECEPTION IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Americans at Risk: Manipulation and Deception in the

Digital Age”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(C) OF THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION TO TERMINATE THE USE OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES TO ENGAGE IN HOSTILITIES IN OR AGAINST IRAN

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H. Con. Res. 83, directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a closed rule providing for consideration of the H. Con. Res. 83, Directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran. The rule provides two hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution. The rule provides that the amendment to the concurrent resolution printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the concurrent resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the concurrent resolution, as amended. The rule provides that Section 7 of the War Powers Resolution shall not apply during the remainder of the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress to a measure respecting Iran. Testimony was heard from Chairman Engel, and Representatives McCaul and Gaetz.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, John Charles Hinderaker, and Scott H. Rash, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Joshua M. Kindred, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, Matthew Thomas Schelp, to be

United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, and Stephen A. Vaden, of Tennessee, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, markup on H.R. 2906, the “Clean Commute for Kids Act of 2019”; H.R. 3361, the “Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 3079, the “Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2019”; H.R. 5518, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a Clean Cities Coalition Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 5542, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program for States to provide incentives to natural gas distribution systems; H.R. 5541, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to reauthorize programs to assist consenting Indian tribes in meeting energy education, planning, and management needs, and for other purposes; H.R. 5527, the “21st Century Power Grid Act”; H.R. 1426, the “Timely Review of Infrastructure Act”; and H.R. 5545, the “NO EXHAUST Act of 2020”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, hearing entitled “Understanding the Importance of DHS Preparedness Grants: Perspectives from the Field”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “2020 Election Security—Perspectives from Voting System Vendors and Experts”, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Reaching Hard-to-Count Communities in the 2020 Census”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5260, the “Promoting Research and Observations of Space Weather to Improve the Forecasting of Tomorrow Act”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Innovation and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “Farming in the 21st Century: The Impacts of Agriculture Technology in Rural America”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2020”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “Reviewing the Availability of Resources to Address Veteran Hunger”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, January 9

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, January 9

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11 a.m.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 535—PFAS Action Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Barr, Andy, Ky., E10
 Clay, Wm. Lacy, Mo., E13
 Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E13, E14
 Gallego, Ruben, Ariz., E14
 Gianforte, Greg, Mont., E9
 Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E11
 Gottheimer, Josh, N.J., E15

Graves, Sam, Mo., E9, E10, E13, E14, E15
 Hill, J. French, Ark., E10
 Katko, John, N.Y., E9
 King, Steve, Iowa, E14, E15
 Levin, Mike, Calif., E14
 Lieu, Ted, Calif., E13
 Loudermilk, Barry, Ga., E9
 McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E15
 McMorris Rodgers, Cathy, Wash., E11

Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E15
 Omar, Ilhan, Minn., E15
 Palazzo, Steven M., Miss., E15
 Richmond, Cedric L., La., E14
 Steube, W. Gregory, Fla., E11
 Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E9



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