

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

- Senate passed H.R. 4378, Continuing Appropriations Act and Health Extenders Act.
- Senate confirmed the nomination of General John E. Hyten for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- Senate confirmed the nomination of Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5713–S5763

Measures Introduced: Forty-five bills and seventeen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2550–2594, S.J. Res. 56, S. Res. 343–357, and S. Con. Res. 26. **Pages S5747–49**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2020”. (S. Rept. No. 116–122)

S. 2580, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–123)

S. 2581, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–124)

S. 2582, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–125)

S. 2583, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–126)

S. 2584, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–127)

S. 384, to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–128)

S. Res. 183, reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 236, reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms.

S. Res. 277, remembering the 25th Anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the 85 victims of the attacks.

S. Res. 318, to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment, with amendments.

S. 1590, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime.

S. 1678, to express United States support for Taiwan’s diplomatic alliances around the world, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1838, to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2297, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, with amendments.

S. 2372, to enhance global engagement to combat marine debris, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5746–47**

Measures Passed:

Continuing Appropriations Act and Health Extenders Act: By 81 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 311)

Senate passed H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S5713–23

Rejected:

By 24 yeas to 73 nays (Vote No. 310), Paul Amendment No. 942, to reduce the amount appropriated by 2 percent. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S5722–23

National Democracy Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 252, designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Pages S5759–60

National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 346, designating October 8, 2019, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

Pages S5753–54, S5760

Energy Efficiency Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 347, designating October 2, 2019, as “Energy Efficiency Day” in celebration of the economic and environmental benefits that have been driven by private sector innovation and Federal energy efficiency policies.

Pages S5754, S5760

National Clean Energy Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 348, proclaiming the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as “National Clean Energy Week”.

Pages S5754, S5760

National Concussion Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 349, supporting the designation of September 20, 2019, as “National Concussion Awareness Day”.

Pages S5754–55, S5760

National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 350, designating September 2019 as “National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month”.

Pages S5755, S5760

National Community Policing Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 351, designating the week of September 29 through October 5, 2019, as “National Community Policing Week”.

Pages S5755, S5760

Hispanic Heritage Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 352, recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States.

Pages S5755–56, S5760

National Voter Registration Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 353, recognizing September 24, 2019, as “National Voter Registration Day”.

Pages S5756, S5760

National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 354, designating September 2019 as “National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month”.

Pages S5756, S5760

National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 355, designating the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week”.

Pages S5756–57, S5760

Building Blocks of STEM Act: Senate passed S. 737, to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S5760–61

McConnell (for Rosen/Capito) Amendment No. 944, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S5760–61

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Thursday, September 26, 2019, and Friday, September 27, 2019.

Page S5761

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Majority and Democratic Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

Page S5761

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, September 27, 2019, at 11:40 a.m.; Tuesday, October 1, 2019, at 12 noon; Friday, October 4, 2019, at 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at 12 noon; Friday, October 11, 2019, at 2:15 p.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, October 11, 2019, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

Page S5761

Barrett Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense.

Page S5726

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, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, September 26, 2019, a vote

on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. **Page S5726**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3 p.m., on Tuesday, October 15, 2019; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during the session of Thursday, September 26, 2019 ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. **Page S5761**

Volk Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. **Page S5726**

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 Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense. **Page S5726**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

Eskridge Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Page S5726**

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 Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. **Page S5726**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

Novak Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. **Page S5726**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provi-

sions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Page S5726**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

Kovner Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S5727**

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 David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. **Page S5727**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5727**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 75 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. EX. 312), Gen. John E. Hyten for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility in accordance with title 10, U.S.C., sections 154 and 601: to be General. **Pages S5723–25**

By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 313), Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor. **Pages S5725–26**

Lana J. Marks, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa.

Michael D. Baughman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

John Leslie Carwile, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia.

Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, 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.

Fernando L. G. Sablan, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

Anthony F. Godfrey, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia.

Herro Mustafa, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria.

W. Stephen Muldrow, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico for the term of four years.

Kerry Lee Pettingill, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Adam Seth Boehler, of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

Ryan McCarthy, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Army.

6 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

7 Army nominations in the rank of general.

4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy. **Pages S5761–63**

Messages from the House: **Page S5746**

Measures Referred: **Page S5746**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S5746, S5761**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5749–51**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Page S5751

Additional Statements: **Pages S5744–46**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5758–59**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5759**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—313) **Pages S5723, S5725, S5725–26**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:49 p.m., until 11:40 a.m. on Friday, September 27, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page 5761.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill (S. 2580) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2583) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2584) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2582) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020; and

An original bill (S. 2581) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

HONG KONG

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine the Hong Kong emergency, focusing on securing freedom, autonomy, and human rights, after receiving testimony from Michael F. Martin, Specialist in Asian Affairs, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Nathan Law Kwun-Chung, Demosisto, Hong Kong, China; and Stephen J. Yates, DC International Advisory, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed sessions to receive briefings on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.