The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER
The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God who transforms common days into transfiguring and redemptive moments, continue to guide our lawmakers with Your might.

Lord, make our Senators brave enough for these momentous times as they seek to live worthy of Your great Name. May they not trust in their wisdom or power but rely on You to keep them secure. Guide them around life’s pitfalls. Bring them through the darkness to a haven.

Lord, cleanse the fountains of their hearts from that which defiles so that they may be fit vessels to be used for Your glory. Let Your peace be within them as Your Spirit inspires them to glorify Your Holy Name.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAWLEY). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate for 1 minute as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. I have come to the floor many times to speak with my colleagues about the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement. I recently spoke with my colleagues in the House of Representatives and also officials within the administration about the same subject. By all accounts, the deal is close on the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement.

I urge House Democrats to act quickly and be reasonable so we can finally deliver certainty on this issue to the American people. It has now been more than a year since the leaders of Canada, Mexico, and the United States signed the agreement, so Americans have waited a year for what can happen now. This modernized trade agreement will create hundreds of thousands of new jobs and help Americans grow wages for our workers.

The end of this year’s legislative session is rapidly approaching, as we all know. If a deal cannot be reached by the end of this week, I do not see how the USMCA can be ratified in the year we are in. As it is, the window of opportunity for 2019 is extremely tight. Now is the time for the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives to finally act so we can act in the Senate. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Dan R. Brouillette, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy.

SENATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I had a wonderful Thanksgiving break, and I trust the Presiding Officer did, too. I hope all enjoyed time with their families and friends last week.

It was my pleasure to be back home in Texas and spend time with some incredible people who and some organizations that are doing a lot of good in their communities.
For example, I volunteered at the Central Texas Food Bank, which has a service area that is twice the size of Massachusetts. It has been fighting hunger for nearly four decades. I joined those there to help distribute to low-income families some of the turkey they had co-cooked and prepared for Thanksgiving, and I had the chance to speak with dozens of constituents there in the Austin area.

Then I got in my car and went south about 70 miles to San Antonio, which is my hometown where I volunteered with the preparations for the 40th annual Raul Jimenez Thanksgiving Dinner. As I said, this dinner has been going on for 40 years, and it serves 25,000 people each year in the San Antonio area who might otherwise go hungry. The numbers are immense. I spent a little bit of time as a volunteer with a number of folks and picked the turkeys apart and broke them up into small, bite-sized pieces. They told me that they served 9,000 pounds of turkey during this 40th anniversary dinner. It is really one of my favorite events each year, and it was made even more special since they dedicated this year’s dinner to Mary, Raul’s wife, who, sadly, passed away earlier this year.

Then I traveled up to Wichita Falls, where I was able to spend a little bit of time at Sheppard Air Force Base with the families of deployed airmen. I think it is very important that we remember, particularly during the holidays, that we have a loved one in the military service who is deployed and separated from the rest of the family involves a lot of sacrifice, not only on the part of the servicemember but on the ones who are left behind, as that hole in your heart feels a little bit bigger during the holidays.

My dad served 31 years in the U.S. Air Force. Fortunately, by the time I came along, his long-term deployments had long been over. Still, every time I meet with families whose whose loved one deployed overseas while the family waits behind it tugs at my heartstrings. So we thank not only those who wear the uniform of the U.S. military but those family members as well, who, I believe, also serve.

We have an all-volunteer military. No one makes you join the military anymore in America. We should thank all of them for their service in different ways.

It was encouraging to me to meet with these patriots and thank them for their sacrifices and help to distribute a little bit of Thanksgiving love and food ahead of the holiday.

I came back here to Washington refreshed, having spent that time with constituents and family and friends, and I am eager to get back to work.

We know that the countdown to Christmas is on, and we have a long to-do list before we are through. One of our top priorities this year, as it always is, is to actually pass appropriations bills to fund the government for the remainder of the fiscal year. I believe that the single most important function of the Federal Government—something that none of us can do individually nor the States collectively—is to provide for the common defense. The way we do that is by funding our military and making sure that they have the training, the equipment, and the materials they need in order to fight and win our Nation’s wars or, ideally, to not have to fight our Nation’s wars because nobody will dare mess with the U.S. military.

That is why it is particularly sad to see that we find ourselves bailed up in this appropriations process this late in the year. Over the summer we came to a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to guide the appropriations process and, hopefully, to eliminate this uncertainty going into the Christmas season. Last August we had an agreement that provided a roadmap for negotiations this fall, and we all promised to work together in good faith and to stay out of the way of policy riders and other things that might derail this appropriations process.

Well, obviously things did not work the way we had planned. Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues in the Senate and House and the Appropriations Committees have put on the appropriations bills to fund the government, thus leaving us in our current state of dysfunction.

So rather than passing appropriations bills on time, as we were on track to do, we passed two short-term funding bills, and we are working day and night to avoid needing another one when the current continuing resolution expires on December 20. I know Chairwoman SHELBY and our colleagues and the staff on the appropriations committees have been trying to build consensus on these bills, but it is only hope and pray that we can reach an agreement soon.

There are a lot of other things that we can and should be doing. We started this year off with a government shutdown, and we can’t afford to make that an annual affair, but this roller coaster ride involving short-term spending bills puts us in a bad position, particularly for our military and other areas of government that need certainty and need to be able to plan.

As our troops are serving around the globe to keep us safe, as well as our friends and allies abroad, we need to do everything in our power here at home to give them the stability they need to succeed. Our commanders and military leaders have repeatedly told us how difficult it is to plan for the future without a predictable budget, and the constantly evolving threat landscape only underscores that need. We need to get that done soon.

In addition to funding the military, we need to finish up the National Defense Authorization Act and get it to the President’s desk. Every year since 1961, Congress has passed the National Defense Authorization Act without delay, and now is not the time to get bogged down in partisan fights in Congress and fail to do what we have done every year since 1961.

Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues in the House are trying to use this must-pass piece of legislation to leverage some of their liberal wish list. The version of this legislation passed by the House earlier this year contains partisan that it didn’t get a single Republican vote—not one. Putting our national security on the line in order to pander to radical factions in the opposing party is absolutely shameful. There are bipartisan agreements that should rise above politics, rise above partisanship, and providing for our military is first on that list.

I appreciate our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee, led by Chairman INHOFE, who have been fighting to get these poison pills out of this legislation so we can pass the National Defense Authorization Act without any additional delay. It is critical that we get these bills moving before everyone heads home for the holidays.

There is one other piece of legislation I hope we can deliver before we leave. Over the last few weeks, I have been hearing rumors—which I hope are true—that a deal on the USMCA is very close. The USMCA, of course, is the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement, which is the successor to NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement.

NAFTA is reported to support, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, about 13 million jobs in America—8 million with our binational trade with Canada and 5 million with Mexico. This comes after nearly a year of negotiations between the administration and Speaker PELOSI and her House colleagues to resolve some differences, and I am cautiously optimistic that we may yet see an agreement soon. We have been aiming to get the final agreement so the House can begin processing it and then send it over here so we can begin reviewing it in the Senate Finance Committee.

The experts have told us that this agreement would lead to increased wealth for the United States and more than 176,000 new jobs. So it is time to get it ratified, but with the House continuing its single-minded obsession to impeach the President, I hope this agreement does not fall victim to impeachment mania.

Whether I am meeting with farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, small businesses or just average Texans, one of the top questions I get is this: When is the USMCA going to pass?

I heard last week that it is one of the top Federal priorities for the Central Texas Food Bank. I would like to be able to head home for Christmas in a few weeks with some great news for my constituents back home.

With impeachment using up most of the oxygen in Washington, I am afraid...
our ability to get bipartisan work done is getting smaller and smaller. If the impeachment circus makes its way to this side of the Capitol, that ability may completely go away. If we stick to the timeline of the Clinton impeachment, that would mean the articles of impeachment would be voted on in late December, and then, literally, for the first 5 or 6 weeks of 2020, the Senate would be required to sit as the jury in impeachment proceedings, during which time nothing else can be done. We are already seeing these critical items off of Congress’s to-do list over the next few weeks—the things that we can and should get done before the Christmas holidays, and I am eager to get to work and to do my part.

Our hope is that our friends on the other side of the aisle will join us in the same commitment.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

CYBER SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, allow me to begin on a topic that doesn’t currently concern legislation or nominees on the floor but one that does concern our national security and the privacy of the American people.

Over the summer, I requested a review of the potential risks posed by FaceApp, a widely used Russian-based mobile application that requires the full and irrevocable access of its users’ photos and data. Very recently, the FBI responded to my request in writing, warning that the FBI “considers any mobile application or similar product developed in Russia, such as FaceApp, to be a potential counterintelligence threat, based on the data the product collects, its privacy and terms-of-use policies, and the legal mechanisms available to the Government of Russia that permit access to data within Russia’s borders.”

Let me repeat this. These are the FBI’s words in a letter sent to me just in the last few hours: that the FBI “considers,” their words, “any mobile application or similar product developed in Russia, such as FaceApp, to be a potential counterintelligence threat.”

The letter went on to say that the FBI is prepared to address foreign influence operations involving FaceApp against elected officials, candidates, political campaigns, and political parties.

In light of the FBI’s warning, I strongly urge all Americans to consider deleting apps like FaceApp immediately and proceed with extreme caution when downloading apps from foreign countries that are known adversaries. The personal data that FaceApp collects from a user’s device could end up in the hands of Russian intelligence services. It is simply not worth the risk.

Americans should be aware of the risks posed by certain mobile apps, particularly those developed in foreign countries that are known adversaries, before they download them. The FBI is not the only country’s counterintelligence agency, but I would certainly name not only Russia but China, Iran, and there are others.

Please, Americans, be careful, and let us let all of our intelligence agencies pursue this potential danger to America and ensure that it doesn’t endanger our national security.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President, on to the NDAA. The issue of FaceApp is a microcosm of a larger problem about cyber security and our foreign adversaries. There is no question that the country’s best counterintelligence resource, Vladimir Putin, is continuing to meddle in our democracy and interfere in our elections. We should be doing everything in our power to stop it and prevent that from happening, from hardening our election infrastructure, from making sure that our military has the cyber authority needed to respond to attacks, to passing tough new sanctions to deter any foreign power from interfering in our elections.

So it is incomprehensible to me that at the moment, Leader McConnell and Senate Republicans are opposing the election security measures we wish to include in the annual Defense bill. It is amazing. There is bipartisan support for these, but Leader McConnell is once again saying that we are not going to do all we can to prevent Russia from interfering in our elections. That is right—the annual Defense bill, which passed the Senate months ago, contains important provisions that, because of Leader McConnell and Senate Republicans refuse to include important election security legislation. There is bipartisan legislation on this issue—the DETER Act and DASKA—that would trigger sanctions on any government that tried to interfere with American elections.

I don’t care what your party is—Democratic, Republican, or any other, no good American wants Russia or any foreign power to interfere in our elections. It is one of the things the Founding Fathers were most worried about. How can our Republican leaders sit blithely by, as the danger is real and as a bipartisan group is trying to prevent Russia from interfering and doing what we can to stop it. He is holding up the NDAA bill, in part, because of this provision.

Why the Republican leader and the Republican committee chairs are blocking this legislation is beyond me. Some have said the Trump administration is ready to act without these sanctions, even though it has failed to implement the sanctions targeted at Russia’s Putin that are already on the books. Some have expressed concern about the sanctions on our allies and their partners while they know these issues can be addressed. When those arguments fail, they hide behind process complaints. No objection they have holds any water.

The NDAA, the Defense authorization act, might be one of the last chances to enact election security legislation before the upcoming President election this year. Including Senator Van Hollen’s proposal and other targeted sanctions offered by Senator Menendez—both of which enjoy bipartisan support—is paramount. Inexplicably, Leader McConnell has yet again refused to allow these kinds of measures to go forward, refused to allow nearly any election security legislation from being considered in the Senate at all, and has repeatedly downplayed the threat of foreign interference in our elections.

Many experts and our intelligence officials have warned repeatedly that our adversaries—North Korea, Iran, China, and, of course, Russia—are considering or working on new ways to meddle in our elections and that we have not done enough to protect ourselves. We need now—not later, now—to take commonsense steps to protect the vital wellspring of our democracy: free and fair elections unimpeded by outside interference.

So I urge Leader McConnell, I urge Senate Republicans to stand down and work with Democrats to secure our democracy. If there are Republican Senators who agree with us and don’t want to say anything publicly, please go over to Leader McConnell privately and urge him to stand down.

IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

Mr. President, on Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee will hold its first hearing as a part of the impeachment inquiry, during which the constitutional history of impeachment will be examined and discussed with legal scholars. It is another example of how the House impeachment inquiry is proceeding in a deliberate, studious, and sober-minded manner, and it stands in stark contrast to some of the recent statements by Republicans on this side of the Capitol.

While the House investigation continues in search of the facts, certain Senate Republicans have made increasingly outlandish claims, including the assertion that Ukraine might have been involved in interfering with the 2016 election.

Let me be clear. The charge that Ukraine had something to do with election meddling in 2016 is a lie spread by Vladimir Putin to get things off his back. Putin and Russian intelligence services invented that lie to muddy the waters and distract from the fact that Russia, not Ukraine, interfered in our elections.

Now, disgracefully, we have sitting U.S. Senators helping spread that Russian propaganda in an effort to defend
Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ERNST). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF DAN R. BROUILLETTE

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, here is why what I have started—the American people need to know before the next vote coming up on the nominee to be the Secretary of Energy.

First, Mr. Rick Perry—who until yesterday was the Energy Secretary—has refused to comply with the subpoena to testify about his involvement in the Trump-Ukraine scheme.

Second, Acting Secretary Dan Brouillette—nominated to replace Mr. Perry—has failed to provide substantive answers to key questions about Mr. Perry’s dealings with the Ukrainian state-owned energy company Naftogaz.

Third, since I have been raising questions on this matter, Naftogaz executives have reportedly been coming forward to cooperate in a Federal investigation into the Ukraine scheme.

Mr. Perry has virtually skipped town, leaving his job after insisting for months that he was determined to stay while the Ukraine scheme is front and center in the House impeachment inquiry.

Now, with the vote on Mr. Perry’s replacement just minutes away, the Senate is truly in the dark, lacking answers to important questions. Those questions include issues pertaining to Mr. Perry’s role in a campaign to change the leadership of Naftogaz; questions about what Mr. Perry, his top aides, and associates knew about the Trump-Ukraine scheme and Ukraine.

What exactly is the rush on confirming Perry’s replacement? And why, the Senate is truly in the dark, lacking answers to important questions. Those questions include issues pertaining to Mr. Perry’s role in a campaign to change the leadership of Naftogaz, critical military aid in a face-to-face meeting until the Ukrainian President agreed to do for Donald Trump what he described as a political favor.

These are serious issues closely tied to ongoing investigations. This goes way beyond the well-documented waste we often see in the Trump Cabinet—private jets, soundproof booths, $30,000 desks; this is about the administration using its full might to push a foreign leader into helping Donald Trump’s reelection campaign. The Senate ought to know about Rick Perry’s involvement, especially since he was described by Mr. Holmes and others as one of the “three amigos” who were right in the center of all this.

What exactly is the rush on confirming his replacement? This isn’t the first week of a new administration. Nothing is going to happen to the powerplants or nuclear facilities if the Senate takes the time to get answers to the important questions. Those questions are critical to the integrity of America’s energy sector.

I do hold out hope that the new nominee will be forthcoming with the answers I am seeking.

As Rudy Giuliani was pushing Ukraine officials last spring to investigate Donald Trump’s main political rivals, a group of individuals with ties to the president and his personal lawyer were also active in the former Soviet republic. Their aims were profit, not politics. This circle of business men and Republican donors touted connections to Mr. Giuliani and Trump while trying to install new management at the top of Ukraine’s massive state-owned gas company. Their plan was to then steer lucrative contracts to companies controlled by Trump allies, according to two people with knowledge of their plans.

Federal prosecutors are investigating the role of Mr. Giuliani. At least one Naftogaz official is reportedly cooperating in the investigation.

Some of Mr. Perry’s political donors did score a lucrative energy deal in Ukraine after Purdue. Mr. Perry admits he was in contact with Giuliani about Ukraine.

It was also revealed in impeachment testimony that Perry was seemingly made aware in July of the Trump scheme and Ukraine.

Unlike Fiona Hill, unlike David Holmes, unlike Lieutenant Colonel Vindman, Rick Perry has refused to testify and share what he knows with the public.

For nearly 3 weeks, I have been trying to get answers. At Mr. Brouillette’s nomination hearing on November 14, I asked him really basic questions. I had plenty of time—to a great extent, courtesy of my good friend the ranking minority member, who is always fair. I had plenty of time. I asked basic questions. It came down to this:

Who did Secretary Perry meet with regarding Ukraine and Naftogaz? He was the head of a powerful department. He was one of the self-styled “three amigos.” Who was in the loop? What did they talk about?

Acting Secretary Brouillette only acknowledged—he wasn’t willing to say...
anything. This was a full court stonewall. He wasn’t willing to say anything other than that there were meetings—no other information and nothing substantive on the questions I asked. So I just kept asking him.

What about the meetings with Secretary Perry on Naftogaz? When and where did they take place? What materials were produced? I don’t think Secretary Perry just went to those meetings all by his lonesome with maybe a bag lunch or something like that. My guess is that he had staff from the Department of Energy with materials produced by the Department of Energy.

Who outside of the Department did Secretary Perry speak with regarding changes in Naftogaz, and what was the substance of those communications? It is not like Secretary Perry would have paid his own way and freelanced a “three amigos”-Ukraine policy in secret. This is the head of the Energy Department, and it looks like he was right in the center of the Trump corruption scheme in Ukraine.

I am just going to close in this way. I don’t understand the rush. Mr. Brouillette is at the Department of Energy now. He is the acting chief. Western civilization is not going to end if the Senate insists on getting some answers to the questions that I have presented this afternoon. We are still going to have our powerplants and nuclear facilities running, and all of the national security activities that go on at the Department of Energy will still go forward if the Senate takes the time to require that there be substantive answers to the questions that I have asked of this nominee.

I believe it is malpractice for the U.S. Senate to rush this debate before getting answers from this administration, Mr. Brouillette, Secretary Perry, and those who, I believe, could answer these questions if they didn’t want to, in effect. My guess is that he has had substantive discussions with people across the country, they feel like he knows them well. I know that this is true in Tennessee. For example, at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, which is our largest science and energy laboratory, Mr. Brouillette has been crucial in the building of the world’s fastest supercomputer, Frontier, which is housed in Oak Ridge. As Senator Feinstein and I have insisted, he has also been crucial in making sure that we stay on time and on budget in the building of a huge uranium processing facility at Oak Ridge, which has been the largest Federal construction project in our State since World War II, when the Manhattan Project was there.

Mr. Brouillette has visited the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He understands the important work being done there, both at the laboratory and at the Y-12 uranium facility. He understands environmental cleanup being done there and at Hanford in Washington State and other places.

In short, I think we are very fortunate to have someone of his caliber and his experience nominated to head one of our most important Departments—the Department of Energy.

I look forward as chairman of his appointment and confirmation hearing to be confirmed, to working with him during this appropriations process, which we hope is about complete, and during the next one, which will be coming up soon.

I am here simply to say that I support Mr. Brouillette. I am glad the President nominated him. I hope he gets a big vote in a few minutes. I look forward to working with him.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about our nominee and the vote for Secretary of Energy.

Mr. Brouillette came before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 2 weeks ago. I found him to be up to this enormous task. He is a good man, and he has the credentials. He came out of my committee 16 to 4, and that is pretty impressive in today’s toxic world that we live in, sorry to say.

He has a long history with energy issues and with the Department of Energy, so he is no stranger to this agency or to the workings of this agency. He has served as the staff director of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, so he understands the proceedings of this body and of the House. At the Department of Energy, he served as an Assistant Secretary of Energy during the Bush administration and, of course, as the Deputy Secretary for the past 2 years under Secretary Perry. He knows the Department; he knows Congress; and he knows the energy issues facing our Nation.

He has also demonstrated his managerial skills. He has been vice president of Ford Motor Company, and he has been a senior vice president of USAA, which I think we all know is the large insurance and financial services giant that serves the members of our military and their families.

This Senate has confirmed him twice before, and we have gone in-depth in looking into him, and he has been forthcoming. He has not held anything back. I asked him every question I possibly could. I think my dear colleagues on my side of the aisle have some concerns on some questions they want answered. I did get into those with him. He assured me that his answers were accurate and correct, and I found them to be very substantial.

So I basically come before you to say that we have a gentleman who I think is well qualified. He is ready for the job; he is up to the job; and he understands the job. That is what we should be looking at.

If we could put politics aside—truly put politics aside—and look at the qualifications of a person who is willing to serve and his family, who is...
behind him 100 percent, wanting him to give that service—he and his wife are both former military people.

I found him to be quite charming, quite delightful to work with and talk to, more than that, most professional in his approach and how he has handled himself and in the way we have worked with him in our committee. Being the ranking member on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I have worked with him, and we have worked with him throughout the last 2 years. He has been a most forthcoming and good to work with.

I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to please consider voting for this gentleman because I think he is really the right person at the right time for this job.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to start the vote at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the vote is so ordered.

Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Brouillette nomination?

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUND), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULLIVAN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 81, nays 5, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 368 Ex.]

YEAS—81

Alexander, Roy Blunt, John Barrasso, Mike Braun, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUND), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be notified of the Senate’s action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.


The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUND), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The motion is agreed to.
LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JAY GRASSLEY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, my wife Barbara and I traveled to Carroll, IA, for the induction of our youngest son, Jay Grassley, to the Iowa Girls Coaches’ Association Hall of Fame. Jay earned this honor through his work over the last 29 years as a volleyball official. Jay has officiated the most Iowa high school volleyball finals in history with 14 games. With one exception, Jay has officiated at every Iowa State volleyball tournament since 1996. This outstanding record demonstrates Jay’s dedication to his work as an official.

In addition to his officiating, Jay has been a coach and mentor to volleyball players for more than 30 years. His interest in volleyball started when he was a student at the University of Northern Iowa. Jay started the Six Pack Volleyball Club in 1990, and after his team earned the USA Volleyball 18s National Championship title in 2011.

As I travel across Iowa for my annual 99 county meetings, I often run into Iowans whose relationship with Jay has had a lasting impact. They commonly ask that I tell Jay “hi” and follow with a story of how he was a mentor and coach to them or one of their children. As a father, those are heartwarming sentiments for me to hear. Jay’s kind nature and motivational spirit help him to connect with people of all ages and make his influence all the more worthwhile. At the hall of fame induction, Jay’s fellow coaches and officials described him as “one of, if not the best, official(s) out there.”

Barbara and I are very proud of Jay being named to the Iowa Girls Coaches’ Association Hall of Fame.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY

COOPERATION AGENCY,

Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR Mr. CHACON: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 36(b)(1) concerning the possible sale of certain proposed arms sales which were notified by Congressional certification under Section 36(b)(1) of the AECA.

The total case value will remain $1.71 billion. The new MDE cost was $975 million, resulting in an increase in the cost of MDE by $210 million. The new MDE cost was $975 million. The total case value increased to $1.71 billion.

This transmittal reports the:

1) retrofit of four (4) MQ-9A Block 1 to MQ-9A Block 5;
2) addition of four (4) MQ-9A Block 5;
3) addition of fourteen (14) Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with GPS Security Devices.

The MDE cost of these items is $80 million, resulting in a new MDE cost of $1.055 billion. The total case value will remain $1.71 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided as the retrofit of the MQ-9A systems and the inclusion of MDE costs that were not originally notified represent an increase in capability over what was originally notified. This equipment will provide France’s MQ-9 program with the necessary capability to support the MQ-9A.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in Western Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The MQ-9A is a long-endurance, medium altitude Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) that can be used for surveillance, military reconnaissance, and targeting missions. MQ-9A is capable of performing real-time flown under the control of a pilot in a Ground Control Station (GCS). A data link is maintained that uplinks commands and downlinks video with telemetry data. The data link can be a Line-of-Sight (LOS) or Beyond Line-of-Sight (BLOS). The MQ-9A is designed to carry 800 pounds of internal payload with maximum fuel and can carry multiple mission payload aloft such as kinematics, Electro-Optical/Infra-red (EO/IR). Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), and other laser target designators. Block 5 includes a redesign for avionics bay, NTS Type 1 encrypted data links, enhanced power, dual wing-tip ARC-210 radios, payload control computer, enhanced HMI and payload control computer.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 22, 2019.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL T. CARRIGAN

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the outstanding career of Michael T. Carrigan. Mr. Carrigan is retiring as president of the Illinois AFL-CIO following a long and distinguished career in public service.

After growing up in Bradley, IL, Mr. Carrigan graduated from MacMurray College in Jacksonville. He then completed a 4-year apprenticeship program and became a wireman before serving as business manager and financial secretary for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 146.

In 1995, Mr. Carrigan was elected to the Decatur City Council. He was appointed mayor of Decatur in 2006 to complete the term of another retiring mayor. In 2011, he was re-elected to the Illinois AFL-CIO, where he has spent the last 20 years advocating for workers and families across my State.
Among the many victories Mr. Carrigan has secured for working families, he recently helped successfully push for a minimum wage increase in Illinois and a $45 billion State infrastructure package. He has been lauded for his “hard work” and leadership and will no doubt be missed by his membership and everyone in Illinois that supports the rights of working people.

I thank Mr. Carrigan for his service to the State of Illinois, and I wish him all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING R & H MACHINE, INC.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurs and all of the employees who continue to drive the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor R & H Machine, Inc., located in Caldwell, as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for December 2019.

R & H Machine’s story began on a wheat farm in Washington State in the 1950s. In an effort to supplement their income, wheat farmers Ray and Arline Stuecklie began welding and selling replacement farm equipment made of chrome alloy, a durable material that greatly expanded the lifecycle of farm equipment. After several decades of growth, the family business moved its operations to Caldwell in 1978 to better serve its clientele across the Pacific Northwest.

Today, R & H Machine is owned and operated by the Stuecklie’s daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Dave Organ. The business manufactures and sells a product line of about 1,500 parts made from chrome alloy and distributes thousands of farm tools across the U.S. R & H Machine equipment is estimated to last about 15 years longer than the life of standard equipment and three to five times longer than the life of hard-faced equipment. Dave Organ is constantly designing and developing new parts at the request of his customers. The Organ family prides itself on upholding the founder’s commitment to providing the farmer the best deal possible and a superior product.

Congratulations to Dave and Kathy Organ and all of the employees at R & H Machine, Inc., for being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for December 2019. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–3310. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 10000-64) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 22, 2019, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3311. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cyflumetofen; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9998-61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 22, 2019, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3312. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “DFS Privacy Act Program” (RIN0709–AK70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2019, to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3313. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, with respect to Nicaragua; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3314. A communication from the President of the United States to the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to the deployment of U.S. forces to the Middle East to protect United States interests and enhance force protection in the region against hostile action by Iran and its proxy forces; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 3499. A bill to expand enrollment in TSA PreCheck to eligible commercial travel screening and improve airport security (Rept. No. 116-163).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MARKEY.

S. 2569. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to modify the reductions in Medicaid DSH allotments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. JONES).

S. 2960. A bill to require individuals fishing for Gulf reef fish to use certain descending devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BALDWIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. KLOBuchar, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HENRICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MURPHY).

S. 2961. A bill to establish duties for online service providers with respect to end user data that such providers collect and use; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL.

S. 2962. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit withdrawals from certain retirement plans for repayment of student loan debt, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 133. At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

S. 277. At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 277. At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu, in recognition of his dedication to justice and equality.

S. 339. At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain Federally-subsidized loan repayments for dental school faculty.

S. 532. At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 521, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 866. At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLLEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois...
(Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 866, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 879

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 879, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 964

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 964, a bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to improve cost-sharing subsidies.

S. 1088

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1088, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the President to set a minimum annual goal for the number of refugees to be admitted, and for other purposes.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to require full funding of part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

S. 1173

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1173, a bill to authorize an AI Center of Excellence within the General Services Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1564

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1564, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide authority to add additional vaccines to the list of taxable vaccines.

S. 1727

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1727, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1832

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1832, a bill to protect and educate children about the dangers of e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1970

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1970, a bill to secure the rights of public employees to organize, act concertedly, and bargain collectively, which safeguard the public interest and promote the free and unobstructed flow of commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 2026

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2026, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.

S. 2063

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2063, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act with respect to organ procurement organizations.

S. 2289

At the request of Mr. CORTEIZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2289, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an extension of the energy credit and the credit for residential energy efficient property.

S. 2417

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2417, a bill to provide for payment of proceeds from savings bonds to a State with title to such bonds pursuant to the judgment of a court.

S. 2541

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2541, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize advance appropriations for the Indian Health Service by providing 2-fiscal-year budget authority, and for other purposes.

S. 2570

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEIZ MASTO), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2570, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond in recognition of his service to the United States as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader.

S. 2677

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2677, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to address social isolation and loneliness, and for other purposes.

S. 2741

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2741, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 2765

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2765, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the creation of the Missing Armed Forces Personnel Records Collection at the National Archives, to require the expeditious public transmission to the Archivist and public disclosure of Missing Armed Forces Personnel records, and for other purposes.

S. 2803

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2803, a bill to provide Federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

S. 2869

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2869, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for extensions of detention of certain aliens ordered removed, and for other purposes.

S. 2896

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2896, a bill to provide for a full annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers.
S. 2712

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, 

SECTION 1. CAPTAIN ROBERT C. HARMON AND PRIVATE JOHN R. PEIRSON POST OFFICE BUILDING. 

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Richland Rd, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the “Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building”. 

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in a law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building”. 

REAUTHORIZING THE WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT 

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jason Maynard, who is a defense fellow in Senator ISAKSON’s office, be granted floor privileges on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, for purposes of the resolution intended to be introduced. 

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. 

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ken Carletta, Hannah Kitzmiller, Seth MacKinney, Colleen O’Connell, Matthew Sartor, Maxwell Turner, and Riya Vashi, who are interns in Senator ISAKSON’s office, be granted floor privileges on Tuesday, December 3. 

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. 

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jason Maynard, who is a defense fellow in Senator ISAKSON’s office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress. 

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. 

CAPTAIN ROBERT C. HARMON AND PRIVATE JOHN R. PEIRSON POST OFFICE BUILDING 

On Thursday, November 21, 2019, the Senate passed S. 2712, as follows:

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR 

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ken Carletta, Hannah Kitzmiller, Seth MacKinney, Colleen O’Connell, Matthew Sartor, Maxwell Turner, and Riya Vashi, who are interns in Senator ISAKSON’s office, be granted floor privileges on Tuesday, December 3. 

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. 

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jason Maynard, who is a defense fellow in Senator ISAKSON’s office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress. 

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. 

S. RES. 73 

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 73, a resolution calling on the Senate to reaffirm the United States’ commitment to the urging of the United Nations and its Special Envoy for International Justice to facilitate a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and noting that Israeli annexation of territory in the West Bank would undermine peace and Israel’s future as a Jewish and democratic state. 

S. RES. 98 

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CHAPRO) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 98, a resolution establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Senators of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury. 

S. RES. 234 

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 234, a resolution affirming the United States commitment to the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and noting that Israel annexation of territory in the West Bank would undermine peace and Israel’s future as a Jewish and democratic state. 

S. RES. 318 

Whereas the Global Fund has called on donors to support its Sixth Replenishment by mobilizing a minimum of $14,000,000,000 in donor commitments for the Sixth Replenishment; 

Whereas the Global Fund’s Sixth Replenishment will be its largest to date; 

Whereas Canada, the European Union, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Japan, Portugal, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom have responded to the call by significantly increasing their respective commitments for the Sixth Replenishment; and 

Whereas the Global Fund’s requirements for co-financing have spurred domestic investments, with recipient countries committing 41 percent more of their own funding to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria for 2020-2022 compared to 2018; 

Resolved, That the Senate— 

(1) commend the work of the Global Fund and its partners for their contributions aimed at ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; 

(2) affirms the support of the United States for the goal of securing a minimum of $14,000,000,000 in donor commitments for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment, to be held on October 10, 2019, in Lyon, France; 

(3) supports United Nations resolutions of 32 percent of the budget provided by the Global Fund’s Sixth Replenishment, consistent with forts to improve the response to these epidemics since 2002; 

Whereas, in 2017, the Global Fund contributed to extraordinary improvements in global health that would not have occurred, including a more than 50 percent reduction in the number of AIDS-related deaths since the peak in 2005, a 37 percent decrease in tuberculosis deaths since 2000, and a 60 percent decline in the number of malaria deaths since 2000; 

Whereas, since the Global Fund’s creation in 2002, more than 27,000,000 lives have been saved in the countries where it funds; 

Whereas the Global Fund and its partners work to maintain a strong commitment to transparency and accountability and have received high marks in multilateral aid reviews and by independent watchdog groups; and 

Whereas a 2018 study published in the Annals of Global Health found evidence of associated improvements in government accountability, control of corruption, political freedoms, regulatory quality, and rule of law that are significant in countries where the Global Fund invests; 

Whereas, despite progress in combating AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, challenges such as drug and insecticide resistance, reaching marginalized and vulnerable populations, and complacency in the fight against infectious diseases threaten further progress; 

Whereas United States leadership has been critical to the success of the Global Fund, both as its largest donor and through its oversight role on the Board of the Global Fund; 

Whereas Global Fund programs and activities support and complement United States bilateral health programs, including the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the President’s Malaria Initiative, and the United States Agency for International Development tuberculosis program; 

Whereas the United States is limited by law from contributing more than 33 percent of the Global Fund budget, thereby encouraging other partners to significantly increase their contributions; 

Whereas the Global Fund’s requirements for co-financing have spurred domestic investments, with recipient countries committing 41 percent more of their own funding to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria for 2020-2022 compared to 2018; 

Whereas the Global Fund has called on donors to support its Sixth Replenishment by mobilizing a minimum of $14,000,000,000 in donor commitments for the Sixth Replenishment; 

Whereas Canada, the European Union, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Japan, Portugal, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom have responded to the call by significantly increasing their respective pledges for the Sixth Replenishment; and 

Whereas recipient countries also are expected to increase their co-financing by 48 percent, growing to $46,000,000,000 in 2021-2023; and 

Whereas, with these resources secured, the Global Fund projects it will reduce the number of deaths due to AIDS, TB, and malaria by nearly 50 percent, avert 234,000,000 infections or disease cases, and save an additional 100,000 lives; Now, therefore, be it 

Resolved, That the Senate— 

(1) commends the work of the Global Fund and its partners for their contributions aimed at ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; 

(2) affirms the support of the United States for the goal of securing a minimum of $14,000,000,000 in donor commitments for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment, to be held on October 10, 2019, in Lyon, France; 

(3) supports United Nations resolutions of 32 percent of the budget provided by the Global Fund’s Sixth Replenishment, consistent with
section 202(d) of the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7622(d)), and provided that the Fund continues to uphold its long-standing commitment to transparency, accountability, and results in combating AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; (3)(4) urges donor countries to step up their resources and increase their pledges for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment; (4)(5) urges Global Fund recipient countries to continue to make and meet ambitious co-financing commitments to sustain progress in ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; and (5)(6) encourages United States bilateral aid programs to continue their collaboration with the Global Fund to maximize the life-saving impact of global health investments.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments to the resolution be agreed to; that the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendments were agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to. (The resolution is printed in the RECORD of Tuesday, December 10, 2019.)

NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee猛烈于 the Senator from Wyoming, Vice Katherine B. Forrest, resigned.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO BE A CONSULAR OFFICER AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:38 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CHARLES WILLIAMS, OF MISSOURI, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, VICE PHILLIS L. BAYER, RETIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

JOHN PETER CRONAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE WILLIAM H. PAULEY III, RETIRED.

WILLIAM SCOTT HARDY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE NORA BABY FISCHER, RETIRED.

JOHN P. HEIL III, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN, EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF OKLAHOMA, VICE JAMES R. PAYNE, RETIRED.

JOHN CHARLES HINSEY, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ARIZONA, VICE RICARDO S. FLETCHER, JR., RETIRED.

DAVID CLEVELAND JOSEPH, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, VICE DIXIE D. DRILL, RETIRED.

JOHN R. DANILIUK, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE KATHRYN J. FORREST, RETIRED.

MATTHEW THOMAS SCHELP, OF MISSOURI, TO BE AMERICAN CONSULAR OFFICER AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO BE A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, A CONSULAR OFFICER, AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:38 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 10 a.m.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, December 3, further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Committee nomination under the previous order; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
DECEMBER 4
10 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
To hold a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management to examine United States Navy ship and submarine maintenance.
SD-106

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine legislative proposals to protect consumer data privacy.
SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine an original bill to create a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force.
SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Millennium Challenge Corporation.
SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary
SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
To hold hearings to examine testimony about servicemember, family, and veteran suicides and prevention strategies.
SR-222

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism
To hold hearings to examine Lebanon and Iraq protests, focusing on insights, implications, and objectives for United States policy.
SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.
SD-342

DECEMBER 5
9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine strategic threats, ongoing challenges, and National Defense Strategy implementation.
SD-G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine financial regulators.
SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet
To hold hearings to examine the evolution of next-generation technologies, focusing on implementing MOBILE NOW.
SH-216

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues
To hold hearings to examine illicit mining, focusing on threats to United States national security and international human rights.
SD-419

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine public diplomacy, democracy, and global leadership.
TBA

2 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

DECEMBER 10
10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Securities and Exchange Commission.
SD-538

DECEMBER 11
10 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the Inspector General’s report on alleged abuses of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.
SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael D. Weahkee, of New Mexico, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.
SD-628

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Monday, December 2, 2019

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate confirmed the nomination of Dan R. Brouillette, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6781–S6792

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2959–2962.

Measures Reported:

S. 1349, to expand enrollment in TSA PreCheck to expedite commercial travel screening and improve airport security. (S. Rept. No. 116–163)

Measures Passed:

West Valley demonstration project: Senate passed H.R. 1138, to reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project.

Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment: Senate agreed to S. Res. 318, to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment, after agreeing to the committee amendments.

National Runaway Prevention Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 442, designating November 2019 as “National Runaway Prevention Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Komitee Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

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

By 81 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 368), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the time post-cloture on the nomination expire at 11:45 a.m., on Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 70 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 367), Dan R. Brouillette, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Charles Williams, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

John Peter Cronan, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

William Scott Hardy, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

John F. Heil III, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.

John Charles Hinderaker, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

David Cleveland Joseph, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana.

Iris Lan, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Matthew Thomas Schelp, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service.
Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:
Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, which was sent to the Senate on January 16, 2019.

Executive Communications:
Additional Cosponsors:
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Additional Statements:
Privileges of the Floor:

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—368)
Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:38 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 3, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6791.)

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)
No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action
The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

Committee Meetings
No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings
No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS
(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1230)
H.R. 3055, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020. (Public Law 116–69)
S. 862, to extend the sunset for collateral requirements for Small Business Administration disaster loans. Signed on November 22, 2019. (Public Law 116–70)
H.R. 2423, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote. Signed on November 25, 2019. (Public Law 116–71)
H.R. 1123, to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify the composition of the eastern judicial district of Arkansas. Signed on November 26, 2019. (Public Law 116–73)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate
Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine testimony from the Government Accountability Office on privatized housing findings to include responses from the military services on ongoing reports of substandard housing conditions and services, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.
Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert J. Feitel, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 3 p.m., SD–406.
Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the future of United States policy towards Russia, 9:45 a.m., SD–419.
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nominations of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, Richard Giacalone, of Virginia, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director, and Cynthia L. Attwood, of Virginia, and Amanda Wood Lathow, of Maine, both to be a Member of Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, 10 a.m., SD–430.
Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine fraudulent trademarks, focusing on how they undermine the trademark system and harm American consumers and businesses, 3 p.m., SD–226.
Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the future of United States policy towards Russia, 9:45 a.m., SD–419.

House
Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2534, the “Insider Trading Prohibition Act”; and H. Res. 326, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives
regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, business meeting on Consideration of the Report Issued by the Chair, Pursuant to Section 2, Paragraph 6 of H. Res. 660, as Part of the House of Representatives’ Impeachment Inquiry, 6 p.m., HVC–304.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to receive a briefing on Balkan recovery, focusing on corruption, 2 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 3 through December 6, 2019

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:45 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of John L. Sinatra, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: December 3, to hold hearings to examine testimony from the Government Accountability Office on privatized housing findings to include responses from the military services on ongoing reports of substandard housing conditions and services, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

December 4, Subcommittee on SeaPower, with the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management to examine United States Navy ship and submarine maintenance, 10 a.m., SD–106.

December 4, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine testimony about servicemember, family, and veteran suicides and prevention strategies, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

December 5, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine strategic threats, ongoing challenges, and National Defense Strategy implementation, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: December 5, to hold an oversight hearing to examine financial regulators, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: December 4, to hold hearings to examine legislative proposals to protect consumer data privacy, 10 a.m., SH–216.

December 5, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine the evolution of next-generation technologies, focusing on implementing MOBILE NOW, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: December 3, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert J. Feitel, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 3 p.m., SD–406.

December 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert J. Feitel, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 3 p.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: December 3, to hold hearings to examine the future of United States policy towards Russia, 9:45 a.m., SD–419.

December 4, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Millennium Challenge Corporation, 10 a.m., SD–419.

December 4, Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine Lebanon and Iraq protests, focusing on insights, implications, and objectives for United States policy, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

December 5, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, to hold hearings to examine illicit mining, focusing on threats to United States national security and international human rights, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: December 3, business meeting to consider the nominations of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, Richard Giacolone, of Virginia, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director, and Cynthia L. Attwood, of Virginia, and Amanda Wood Laihow, of Maine, both to be a Member of Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: December 4, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on Judiciary: December 3, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine fraudulent trademarks, focusing on how they undermine the trademark system and harm American consumers and businesses, 3 p.m., SD–226.

December 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Fernando L. Aenlle-Rocha, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, John Charles Hinderaker, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Joshua M. Kindred, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, and Matthew Thomas Schelp, to be
Select Committee on Intelligence: December 3, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

December 5, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, December 5, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Privatized Housing: Are Conditions Improving for Our Military Families?”, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

December 5, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled “Military Health System Reform: A Cure for Efficiency and Readiness?”, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.


December 4, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Flu Season: U.S. Public Health Preparedness and Response”, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

December 5, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Accountability and Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

December 5, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Solutions for Economy-Wide Deep Decarbonization”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, December 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of Prudential Regulators: Ensuring the Safety, Soundness, Diversity, and Accountability of Depository Institutions?”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.


December 5, Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance, hearing entitled “An Examination of the Federal Housing Administration and Its Impact on Homeownership in America”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

December 6, Task Force on Artificial Intelligence, hearing entitled “Robots on Wall Street: The Impact of AI on Capital Markets and Jobs in the Financial Services Industry”, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, December 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Importance of the New START Treaty”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, December 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Impeachment Inquiry into President Donald J. Trump: Constitutional Grounds for Presidential Impeachment”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Committee on Natural Resources, December 4, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 722, the “Miracle Mountain Designation Act”; H.R. 1702, the “Free Veterans from Fees Act”; H.R. 2317, the “Peter J. McGuire Labor Day Landmark Act”; H.R. 3094, to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32806, and for other purposes; H.R. 3349, the “Republic of Texas Legation Memorial Act”; H.R. 3465, the “Fallen Journalists Memorial Act of 2019”; and H.R. 5068, the “Women Who Worked on the Home Front Commemorative Work Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.


Committee on Oversight and Reform, December 4, Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy, hearing entitled “Broken Promises: Examining the Administration’s Retreat on Banning Vaping Flavors”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, December 4, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4, the “Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019”, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, December 4, Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Environment, joint hearing entitled “Calm Before the Storm: Reauthorizing the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

December 5, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Experts Needed: Options for Improved Science and Technology Advice for Congress”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.


Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, December 5, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit; and Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, joint hearing entitled “Where’s My Stuff? Examining the Economic, Environmental, and Societal Impacts of Freight Transportation”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, December 5, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, joint hearing entitled “The Status of the Department of Veterans Affairs’ Financial Management Business Transformation”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

December 5, Full Committee, markup on pending legislation, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: December 3, to receive a briefing on Balkan recovery, focusing on corruption, 2 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

December 5, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine public diplomacy, democracy, and global leadership, 10 a.m., Room to be announced.
Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

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<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
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<td>Days in session</td>
<td>170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time in session</td>
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<td>698 hrs., 53'</td>
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<td>Extensions of Remarks</td>
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<td>Public bills enacted into law</td>
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<td>Private bills enacted into law</td>
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<td>Bills in conference</td>
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<td>House joint resolutions</td>
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<td>Senate concurrent resolutions</td>
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<td>House concurrent resolutions</td>
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<td>Simple resolutions</td>
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<td>Measures reported, total</td>
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<td>Special reports</td>
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<td>Measures pending on calendar</td>
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<td>Measures introduced, total</td>
<td>3,491</td>
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<td>Joint resolutions</td>
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<td>Concurrent resolutions</td>
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<td>Bills vetoed</td>
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<td>Vetoes overridden</td>
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*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 162 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 317 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

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<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
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<td>Civic nominees, totaling 529, disposed of as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
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<td>Other Civic nominees, totaling 1,311, disposed of as follows:</td>
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<td>Confirmed</td>
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<td>Air Force nominees, totaling 5,979, disposed of as follows:</td>
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<td>Confirmed</td>
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<td>Unconfirmed</td>
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<td>Army nominees, totaling 6,569, disposed of as follows:</td>
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<td>Confirmed</td>
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<td>Unconfirmed</td>
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<td>Marine Corps nominees, totaling 1,432, disposed of as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
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</table>

Summary

|                         |        |       |       |
| Total nominees carried over from the First Session |        |       | 0     |
| Total nominees received this Session               |        |       | 20,436|
| Total confirmed                                    |        |       | 19,740|
| Total unconfirmed                                  |        |       | 675   |
| Total withdrawn                                    |        |       | 21    |
| Total returned to the White House                  |        |       | 0     |
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, December 3

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:45 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Eric Ross Komitee, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of John L. Sinatra, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 p.m., Tuesday, December 3

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.