

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S4599–S4652*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-six bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4370–4395, S. Res. 664–665, and S. Con. Res. 42.

**Pages S4632–33**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 4212, to amend title 28, United States Code, to strip foreign sovereign immunity of certain foreign states to secure justice for victims of novel coronavirus in the United States.

**Page S4632**

#### Measures Passed:

**National Landslide Preparedness Act:** Senate passed S. 529, to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 3D Elevation Program, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S4644–47**

Sullivan (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 2500, to improve the authorizations of appropriations.

**Page S4647**

**Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act:** Senate passed S. 914, to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, and to require the establishment of a National Water Center, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Page S4647**

Sullivan (for Wicker) Amendment No. 2501, in the nature of a substitute.

**Page S4647**

**Highly Rural Veteran Transportation Program Extension Act:** Senate passed S. 850, to extend the authorization of appropriations to the Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes of awarding grants to veterans service organizations for the transportation of highly rural veterans, after agreeing to the committee amendment, and the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S4647–48**

Sullivan Amendment No. 2502, to require a report by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the

transportation of individuals to and from facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Pages S4647–48**

**Department of Veterans Affairs Information Technology Reform Act:** Senate passed S. 2336, to improve the management of information technology projects and investments of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Pages S4648–50**

**National Blueberry Month:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 656, recognizing the importance of the blueberry industry to the United States and designating July 2020 as “National Blueberry Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

**Page S4650**

**Gold Star Families Remembrance Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 664, designating the week of September 20 through September 26, 2020, as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”.

**Page S4650**

#### House Messages:

**Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act:** Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China, taking action on the following motion and amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S4617–22**

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with McConnell Amendment No. 2499, in the nature of a substitute.

**Pages S4618–22**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

**Page S4617**

By 47 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 153), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the amendment of the House to the bill.

**Pages S4617–18**

**Menezes Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Mark Wesley Menezes, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

**Pages S4622–26**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, July 30, 2020, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, August 3, 2020. **Page S4650**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S4622**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, August 3, 2020, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, August 3, 2020. **Page S4650**

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

By 71 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 152), Derek Kan, of California, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. **Pages S4600–16**

4 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

107 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Space Force. **Pages S4626–29**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S4631**

**Measures Referred:** **Pages S4631–32**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S4632**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Page S4632**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S4632**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S4633–35**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S4635–38**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S4630–31**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S4638–44**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S4644**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—153) **Pages S4616–18**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:42 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4650.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### U.S. ECONOMIC POLICIES

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Security concluded a hearing to examine the China challenge, focusing on realignment of United States economic policies to build resiliency and competitiveness, after receiving testimony from Michael Wessel, Commissioner, United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission; Keith Krach, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and Environment; Nazak Nikakhtar, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Industry and Analysis; and Rush Doshi, Brookings Institution China Strategy Initiative, Washington, D.C.

### U.S. MEDICAL SUPPLY CHAIN

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine protecting the reliability of the United States medical supply chain during the COVID-19 pandemic, after receiving testimony from Cathy Denning, Vizient, Irving, Texas; Robert J. Wiehe, UC Health, Cincinnati, Ohio; Charles Johnson, International Safety Equipment Association, Arlington, Virginia; and Ernest Grant, American Nurses Association, Silver Spring, Maryland.

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUDGET

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2021 for the Department of State, after receiving testimony from Michael R. Pompeo, Secretary of State.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 4212, to amend title 28, United States Code, to strip foreign sovereign immunity of certain foreign states to secure justice for victims of novel coronavirus in the United States; and

The nominations of David W. Dugan, and Stephen P. McGlynn, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois, Hala Y. Jarbou, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, Iain D. Johnston, and Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and Roderick C. Young, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.