

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 914, Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2311–S2391

Measures Introduced: Eighty-five bills and sixteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1443–1527, S. Res. 189–203, and S. Con. Res. 9.

Pages S2352–55

Measures Passed:

Congratulating the University of Kentucky's Women's Volleyball Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 189, congratulating the University of Kentucky's Women's Volleyball Team for winning the 2020 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Volleyball Championship. Pages S2313–14

Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act: By 89 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 178), Senate passed S. 914, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2314–23, S2324–40

Adopted:

Shaheen Amendment No. 1461 (to Amendment No. 1460), to expand the eligibility under the State response to the contaminants program.

Pages S2315, S2321–22

Kennedy Amendment No. 1469 (to Amendment No. 1460), to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out an annual study on the prevalence of boil water advisories.

Pages S2315, S2322–23

Duckworth (for Carper/Capito) Amendment No. 1460, in the nature of a substitute. Page S2314

Rejected:

By 14 yeas to 81 nays (Vote No. 176), Rubio Modified Amendment No. 1471 (to Amendment No. 1460), to modify a provision relating to allot-

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ments under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Pages S2314, S2320–21

By 41 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 177), Lee Amendment No. 1472 (to Amendment No. 1460), to limit the authority to reserve water rights in designating a national monument. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, April 28, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S2315, S2323

Extending Temporary Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act: Senate passed H.R. 2630, to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend until October 2021, a temporary order for fentanyl-related substances.

Pages S2323–24

'Six Triple Eight' Congressional Gold Medal Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 321, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight", and the bill was then passed.

Page S2385

Second Chance Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 146, designating April 2021 as "Second Chance Month", and the resolution was then agreed to.

Pages S2385–86

National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls: Senate agreed to S. Res. 196, designating May 5, 2021, as the "National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls".

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Silver Star Service Banner Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 197, expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2021, as "Silver Star Service Banner Day".

Page S2386

Recognizing the Teachers of the United States: Senate agreed to S. Res. 198, recognizing the roles

and contributions of the teachers of the United States in building and enhancing the civic, cultural, and economic well-being of the United States.

Page S2386

Condemning the Horrific Shootings in Atlanta, Georgia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 199, condemning the horrific shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 16, 2021, and reaffirming the commitment of the Senate to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

Page S2386

Condemning Recent Hate Crimes: Senate agreed to S. Res. 200, condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian American and Pacific Islanders.

Page S2386

Appointments:

James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–591, as amended by Public Law 102–221, appointed the following member of the United States Senate for appointment as a Senate Trustee to the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation: Senator Manchin.

Page S2384

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appointed the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Senators Merkley (Chairman), Feinstein, King, and Ossoff.

Page S2384

Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys: The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 116–156, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appointed the following individual to serve as a Member of the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys: Rev. Alfred C. Sharpton of New York.

Pages S2384–85

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Monday, May 3, 2021, at 12:45 p.m.; Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, May 6, 2021, it next convene at 3:00 p.m., on Monday, May 10, 2021.

Page S2389

Palm Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Page S2312

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, April 29, 2021, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 10, 2021.

Page S2312

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 S2312

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3:00 p.m., on Monday, April 10, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, April 29, 2021, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 10, 2021.

Page S2389

Marten Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

Pages S2340–48

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Page S2312

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S2312

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S2312

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Victoria Nuland, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

Richard A. Sauber, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Bill Nelson, of Florida, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Gayle C. Manchin, of West Virginia, to be Federal Cochairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission.

71 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

40 Army nominations in the rank of general.

4 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

15 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

11 Space Force nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy.

Pages S2388–91

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Sean Burton, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority for a term expiring May 30, 2024.

Karen Jean Hedlund, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2025.

Geraldine Richmond, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

Andrew Eilperin Light, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs).

Jane Toshiko Nishida, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Stephen A. Owens, of Arizona, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Jennifer Beth Sass, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Sylvia E. Johnson, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2026.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2021.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs).

Lee Satterfield, of South Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Educational and Cultural Affairs).

Adam Scheinman, of Virginia, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Non-proliferation, with the rank of Ambassador.

Karen Erika Donfried, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European Affairs and Eurasian Affairs).

Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Donald Lu, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

Christopher P. Lu, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United

Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador.

Christopher P. Lu, of Virginia, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform.

Sarah Margon, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

Lynette Young Overby, of Delaware, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026, Phyllis Kaminsky, term expired.

Daryl W. Baldwin, of Ohio, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026.

Genine Macks Fidler, of Florida, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026.

Beverly Gage, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026.

Roberto Josue Rodriguez, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, Department of Education.

Jonathan Eugene Meyer, of Ohio, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security.

Christine P. O'Hearn, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

David G. Estudillo, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Tana Lin, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

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Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Jon Eugene Meyer, of Ohio, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, which was sent to the Senate on April 19, 2021.

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Executive Communications: Pages S2351–52

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S2355–57

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S2357–71

Additional Statements: Pages S2349–51

Amendments Submitted: Pages S2371–84

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S2384

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—178) Pages S2321, S2323, S2327

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:11 p.m., until 12:45 p.m. on Monday, May 3, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2389.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DIVERSIFYING ON-FARM INCOME

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine diversifying on-farm income, focusing on opportunities to strengthen rural America, after receiving testimony from Davon Goodwin, Sandhills AgInnovation Center, Ellerbe, North Carolina; John Lucey, Center for Dairy Research, and Rebekah Sweeney, Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association, both of Madison; Jason Weller, Truterra LLC, Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Brian Carroll, Grand Farm Education and Research Initiative, Fargo, North Dakota.

WORLDWIDE THREATS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine worldwide threats after receiving testimony from Avril D. Haines, Director of National Intelligence; and Lieutenant General Scott D. Berrier, USA, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

THE DIGNITY OF WORK

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the dignity of work, including S. 404, to provide funding for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act, after receiving testimony from Heather McGhee, author of *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*, Chicago, Illinois; Lisa Donner, Americans for Financial Reform, Washington, D.C.; Trevon D. Logan, The Ohio State University, Columbus; Andrew F. Puzder, former CEO of CKE Restaurants, Franklin, Tennessee; and Vivek Ramaswamy, Roivant Sciences, Cincinnati, Ohio.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Eric S. Lander, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, after the nominee testified an answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Tommy P. Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

SOCIAL SECURITY DURING COVID

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Social Security during COVID, focusing on how the pandemic hampered access to benefits and strategies for improving service delivery, after receiving testimony from Grace Kim, Deputy Commissioner for Operations, Social Security Administration; Kascadare Causeya, Central City Concern, Portland, Oregon; Peggy Murphy, National Council of Social Security Management Associations, Great Falls, Montana; and Tara McGuinness, New America, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, who was introduced by Senator Murray, and Seema Nanda, of Virginia, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor, who was introduced by Senator Kaine, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S.632, to amend chapter 11 of title 35, United States Code, to require the voluntary collection of demographic information for patent inventors, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S.169, to amend title 17, United States Code, to require the Register of Copyrights to waive fees for filing an application for registration of a copyright claim in certain circumstances.

SUPPORTING OLDER WORKERS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine supporting older workers amid the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, after receiving testimony from Elise Gould, Economic Policy Institute, Takoma Park, Maryland; Ramsey Alwin, National Council on Aging, and Elizabeth White, both of Washington, D.C.; and David Poston, Palmetto Synthetics, Kingstree, South Carolina.