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No. 10

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 10 a.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

LAKEN RILEY ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 5, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Thune (for Ernst/Grassley) amendment No. 8, to include crimes resulting in death or serious bodily injury to the list of offenses that, if committed by an inadmissible alien, require mandatory detention.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I will speak for a couple minutes in morning business.

I am an advocate, through the farm program, of having an absolute limit on the amount of money that one farmer can get from the farm program so that we target toward medium- and small-sized farmers so we don't subsidize very big farmers to get bigger. I got such a legislation through the House and the Senate in previous Congresses, and, would you believe it, even though it was exactly the same language in both Houses and that isn't supposed to be touched by the conferees, the conferees diluted it to not a very meaningful limit.

Well, I am still concerned about limits. So today, I come to the floor to say, as one of its last official acts, the Biden Department of Agriculture de-

cided to disregard the wishes of Congress by using its authority under section 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation's charter to increase payment limits for specialty crop farmers from \$125,000 to \$900,000 under the Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops Program.

This increase cost American taxpayers over \$650 million without a vote of the Congress. Had this been the desire of Congress, it would have been included in the continuing resolution passed just weeks before.

Article I of the Constitution is very clear. Congress has the power of the purse. It is time that we stop the abuse of that power by the executive branch, whether that is Republican or Democrat.

So getting back to what I said when I opened my remarks. I am going to be pursuing in the 5-year farm bill, this year, that same cap on what one family farmer can get, and we are going to take additional action to make sure that we reform the Commodity Credit Corporation's law to make sure that the executive branch Secretary of Agriculture does not have the authority to just willy-nilly put out money at the drop of a hat.

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

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, our shelter in the time of storm, teach our Senators to live as You would have them live. Give them the wisdom to serve others as You desire, providing an example worthy of the high calling they have received from You.

Lord, inspire them to be kind to one another, ever seeking for truth in all their endeavors. Keep them totally dependent on You for guidance and strength, freeing them from anxiety and fear. May Your blessing and benediction enable them to work together in harmony and peace.

We pray in Your sacred 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S237

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The majority leader is recognized.

S. 5

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the first bill that a new majority considers is an indication of its priorities. The American people are rightly concerned about the illegal immigration crisis in this country, and they sent a clear message in November that they want to see it addressed. That is why the Republican majorities in the House and the Senate have made it our first order of business to take up the Laken Riley Act. This bill is a small but critical step for resolving the Biden border crisis—the first of many, I might add.

The Laken Riley Act is not a complicated bill. It says that an illegal immigrant involved in a theft-related crime must be detained. That means, if someone who is in the country illegally—in other words, who has already broken our laws—commits a robbery, he or she will be detained.

If this bill had already been law, the illegal immigrant who killed Laken Riley would not have been on the streets the day that he murdered her. When he was cited for shoplifting, less than 5 months before that day, he would have been detained, and Laken Riley might still be alive today. That is what we are trying to do here: prevent another tragedy.

Unfortunately, it seems that even a simple and straightforward bill to detain criminal illegal immigrants is too much for some on the left. Some of our Democratic colleagues have spent the week searching for a reason—any reason—to justify voting against this bill.

For starters, we have heard that this bill would cover too many illegal immigrants. The admission that there are too many individuals on our streets who have committed a crime after coming into the country illegally is an argument for this bill, not against it.

We have also heard that Immigration and Customs Enforcement lacks the detention capacity for the number of individuals that this bill will require to be detained. Well, if resources are scarce, the answer is to provide those resources. The answer is not to let criminals continue to walk our streets.

Republicans believe that keeping criminal illegal aliens off our street is a good investment, and we are currently working on a bill that will provide ICE with additional agents and additional capacity.

We have also been told that this bill will overwhelm ICE, such that there won't be enough space to detain violent criminals. Once again, this is not an argument against the bill. It is an argument for giving ICE more resources and for quickly deporting criminals.

These arguments say a lot more about Democrats' unwillingness to crack down on illegal immigration than they say about this bill.

Look at the vote that we took on Wednesday. We adopted Senator CORNYN's amendment to require illegal immigrants who assault a police officer to

be detained. Staggeringly, under current law, this is not the case. But 2 days ago, 25 of our Democratic colleagues could not even bring themselves to support detaining an illegal immigrant who assaults a police officer. That is right. More than half of the Democrats in the U.S. Senate apparently don't believe we should have to detain these individuals.

I think that is out of step with the American people. For sure, it is out of step with the American people.

The American people want to see an end to open borders and the chaos they have brought to communities around the country—communities like Athens, GA, where Laken Riley was murdered last February.

Laken Riley's death was a tragedy, and it was preventable. The bill we are considering today may prevent a similar tragedy from affecting another family.

Laken's loved ones have had to suffer the heartbreak of losing their daughter, their sister, their friend—a bright light in their lives. But her mother and stepfather said of this bill:

There is no greater gift that could be given to her and our country than to continue her legacy by saving lives through this bill.

Saving lives, that is what this is about.

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. Mr. President, 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 Democratic leader is recognized.

SALT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, a few words on SALT. A few days ago, the House Freedom Caucus made a ridiculous proposal that Congress should extend the SALT caps after they are set to expire this year by imposing a new cap on New York businesses, large and small, and the businesses in many other States. The proposal by the House Freedom Caucus is ridiculous, and I will come back to the floor at 11 a.m., after the vote, with more to say about it.

ISRAEL

Mr. President, on the Middle East and Israel, this week has been a long time coming for the families of the Israeli hostages, for civilians in Gaza, and for countless people across the world.

A little over an hour ago, Israel's Security Cabinet voted to approve the ceasefire that negotiators announced earlier this week. It will soon go to the full Cabinet for approval.

Fifteen months after Hamas's heinous attack on October 7, it is welcome news that we are now at the brink of a cease-fire agreement that will reduce

violence in Gaza, reduce harm to innocent civilians, and free many of the hostages. This cease-fire marks a hopeful turning point for Israel, for the Palestinian people, and particularly for the families of the hostages who have waited so long in agony. We will not rest until every hostage comes home.

This agreement would not have been possible without months of steadfast diplomacy by the United States and our allies in the region and could not have happened and would not have happened until the threats of Hamas and other Iranian proxies like Hezbollah were radically reduced, which, thankfully, they have been.

I want to thank President Biden and everyone in his administration who persistently negotiated for a year to make this agreement possible. I thank and honor all the families of the hostages, especially those who live in New York, for their courage and perseverance and boundless grace amid so much grief. Among the hostages are many New Yorkers: Omer, Edan, Sagui, Itay, Keith, Gad, and Judi.

Getting to know the families of the hostages, hearing them share stories about their loved ones in captivity, about their hopes and their fears and frustrations and their perseverance will be something I will remember forever. Today, I promise them this: We will keep working to make sure every hostage comes home.

Now, the task is to ensure that this temporary agreement paves the way to a lasting peace. This first phase is critical for bringing home all the hostages and preserving Israel's right to defend itself. We must make sure that the terrorists of Hamas can never again pose a threat to Israel or to the region. We must also do everything we can to deliver immediate and lifesaving relief to civilians in Gaza. For 15 months, they have suffered unimaginable destruction. It will take all parties working together to make sure the Palestinian people can rebuild their lives with dignity, with security, and outside the terrible shadow that Hamas cast over the Gaza Strip, including using so many innocent civilians as human shields.

I urge the Biden administration and incoming Trump administration to work together with all parties at the negotiating table to ensure the deal is implemented and followed through in its entirety.

S. 5

Mr. President, next, this morning, the Senate is scheduled to hold a cloture vote on the Laken Riley Act. A week ago, I joined with the majority of my Democratic colleagues in voting yes to bring this bill to the floor on the motion to proceed. We told Republicans we wanted to have a serious and productive and fruitful debate on this legislation, with the chance to vote on amendments to modify the bill.

Democrats filed many amendments to the bill, but unfortunately our Republican colleagues and the Republican

leader didn't reach an agreement with us. Two nights ago, we voted on two amendments, one from each party, and no more. Unfortunately, without more changes to address deficiencies in the bill, I will be voting no.

We Democrats want to see our broken immigration system fixed. We worked with Republicans last year on the strongest immigration bill in a decade. While I do not support this particular bill, I stand ready to work with both sides to pass smart, effective, tough, and commonsense legislation to secure our borders and reform our immigration system.

CABINET NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on Cabinet nominations, and Mr. Ratcliffe, if one thing is clear from this week's Cabinet hearings, it is that Donald Trump is not building a Cabinet to serve the American people; he is building a Cabinet to serve the special, big, powerful interests. The American people deserve to know if the President-elect's nominees will bring costs down and protect America or cut sweetheart deals for the most well-off Americans while making America less safe.

Yesterday, I met with John Ratcliffe, the President-elect's nominee for CIA Director. I raised my concerns about some of his positions and challenged him to be rock-ribbed when it comes to the integrity of the CIA, a place where facts, not lies, must prevail for the security of America.

I also told Mr. Ratcliffe about my very grave concerns regarding the nomination of Tulsi Gabbard for Director of National Intelligence because I believe her tenure could be colossally disruptive to our intelligence Agencies, where so many thousands work so hard, and many risk their lives to protect us. I told Mr. Ratcliffe that I thought it would be best if he told President-elect Trump that Tulsi Gabbard should not have the job. I also told Mr. Ratcliffe that he needs to be rock-ribbed and strong when she presents falsities about intelligence, which, given her past, she almost will inevitably do. Unfortunately, I found his answers about Ms. Gabbard to be insufficient.

Candidly, Mr. President, the truth is that many of the President-elect's nominees are just not fit for the job, not just Ms. Gabbard. As we continue with hearings next week on important issues like U.N. Ambassador, Secretary of Agriculture, and Secretary of the Army, Democrats will continue to hold the President-elect's nominees' feet to the fire to show the American people who Donald Trump's nominees are really fighting for.

Will Donald Trump's nominees focus on cutting costs or will they be more interested in cutting sweetheart deals for Big Business? Will they protect our communities or will they focus on protecting special interests? Will they serve middle-class and working families or will they serve the swamp? It seems all too likely the wrong answer

on each of these questions might be very, very real.

Should the time come that some of these nominees fail on the job—which, given their lack of qualifications, sadly, seems likely—Democrats will continue to make it clear that there were red flags all along.

TIKTOK

Mr. President, finally, on TikTok, we know a lot of things are up in the air with the TikTok ban scheduled to go into effect this weekend, but everyone—the Biden administration, the incoming Trump administration, even the Supreme Court—should continue working to find a way to find an American buyer for TikTok so we can both free the app from any influence and control from the Chinese Communist Party and keep TikTok going, which will preserve the jobs of millions of creators.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). The Senator from Alabama.

S. 5

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, over the past week and a half, the world's greatest deliberative body has discussed and debated the Laken Riley Act. I have taken to the Senate floor multiple times, as have several of my Senate colleagues, to impress upon our fellow lawmakers just how important it is to pass this bill to protect American families, to keep criminals off our streets.

The reason we are all here today is to consider the Laken Riley Act. And, really, it is out of a sense of duty, a moral obligation to honor Laken, her life, and her legacy—a life cut far too short at the hands of an illegal alien, who committed the most heinous crime we can possibly imagine, and a legacy that continues and will continue to live on.

Laken Riley, as my colleagues know, was an exceptional 22-year-old. She was a beloved daughter, an extraordinary friend, a shining beacon of light who truly lived out her faith. She was a nursing student who wanted to help people. She had big goals and aspirations. She had hopes and dreams to strive for over the course of her life that will never have an opportunity to become a reality, and that is because of the Biden-Harris open border policies.

Her killer was allowed to roam free in our country despite having been apprehended at the border and committing multiple crimes after being paroled into the U.S. interior. Then he reached the darkest depths of criminality and took Laken from this world 330 days ago.

Last week, on this same floor, I read the words of Allyson and John Phillips, Laken's mother and stepfather. They described in heartbreaking detail the joy Laken brought to everyone fortunate enough to know her in their lives. They said:

Not only did the people who knew and loved Laken lose a beautiful soul. But so did our world.

This didn't have to happen. Jose Ibarra shouldn't have been anywhere

near Laken on February 22, 2024. He should have never been in the United States. And once he had committed a crime on multiple occasions, he should have been detained by ICE until he was removed from our country. If he had, Laken would still be with us today. That is why we need to pass the Laken Riley Act.

As elected representatives, our greatest responsibilities are to listen to the will of the American people and to keep the American people safe and secure. And on November 5 of last year, the American people made their voices heard, and they were very clear. They told all of us in Washington that they would no longer put up with the crimes like the one Jose Ibarra committed, the one that stole Laken from her loved ones.

The American people delivered a verdict, and they deserve results. We have irresponsible, open border, soft-on-crime policies, and that must end. It is our duty to turn their cries into action, to respond to the clear message that they sent, to honor the charge they delivered. That is the purpose of American democracy. And just as the purpose of our democratic Republic is to turn the will of the people from desire to law, the purpose of our government—the most basic function our country has—is to protect its citizens.

That is what the Laken Riley Act does. It will help ensure other families will not have to endure the pain a criminal illegal alien inflicted on Laken and her loved ones. This bill will prevent countless nightmares so daughters like Laken can go on a jog and not have their dreams forever stolen from them.

I am proud to have bipartisan support for this bill, and I am grateful for Senators JOHN FETTERMAN and RUBEN GALLEGOS, who have decided to sign on as cosponsors. I am heartened to see so many of my Democratic colleagues come out in favor of this commonsense, straightforward legislation.

But we can't lose focus now. We are so close to the finish line, so close to delivering results for the American people, for the voters who sent us here, and for Laken and her family.

So now, to my fellow Senators, let's do right by the American people. Let's heed their call, help keep them safe, and pass this bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 2 minutes to speak to this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MERKLEY. We are now entering the vote that is referred to as cloture—or close debate—but we can still consider amendments by unanimous consent.

I came to the floor yesterday to point out that there is a deep flaw related to children in this bill, and both the majority leader and the floor leader have

expressed support for an amendment process. So I am asking to work with me and with my leadership that we might examine this challenge.

The challenge is specifically that children, without being charged, without being convicted, are required to be arrested and imprisoned—or not arrested but imprisoned after an arrest with no chance for appeal.

My colleagues expressed the belief that the Flores agreement somehow provides protection, but the experts on Flores have said that is incorrect because a bill trumps an agreement, it trumps a rule, and Flores was about children coming to the border, not children living in our community.

Furthermore, a family with a parent who is required mandatory imprisonment without appeal is suddenly swept away from their children. Realize we should care about all those children left without a parent at their house, but that is both citizen and noncitizen children. So let's not pretend this flaw only affects folks who are undocumented; it affects our citizen children as well. But, again, we should care about both sets of children thriving.

So I ask help from the majority leader and the floor leader. If we have a dispute on legal interpretation, let's bring those lawyers together and understand if they are ships passing in the night or is there a misunderstanding that we can correct or clarify.

With that appeal for additional amendments by unanimous consent, which I will continue to negotiate for, I thank you, Mr. President.

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 bill 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 Calendar No. 1, S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

John Thune, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, Bill Cassidy, Katie Britt, Mike Lee, Kevin Cramer, Ted Budd, Jim Banks, Dave McCormick, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Rick Scott of Florida, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, Ron Johnson, Dan Sullivan.

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 S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 61, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 5 Leg.]

YEAS—61

Banks	Grassley	Peters
Barrasso	Hagerty	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hassan	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Rosen
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Sheehy
Cotton	Lee	Slotkin
Cramer	Lummis	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McCormick	Tillis
Curtis	Moran	Tuberville
Daines	Moreno	Warner
Ernst	Mullin	Wicker
Fischer	Murkowski	Young
Gallego	Ossoff	
Graham	Paul	

NAYS—35

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	Kaine	Schatz
Bennet	Kim	Schiff
Blumenthal	King	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Klobuchar	Smith
Booker	Lujan	Van Hollen
Cantwell	Markey	Warnock
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Welch
Gillibrand	Murray	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Padilla	Wyden
Hickenlooper	Reed	

NOT VOTING—3

Coons	Fetterman	McConnell
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 61, the nays are 35.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Texas.

STUDENT LOANS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, yesterday, I highlighted some of President Biden's final actions as he leaves—parting gifts, if you will. Today, I would like to highlight another of his parting gifts. And I use that in parentheses or with quotations because they really are a slap in the face for the American people and American taxpayers.

This past Monday, the Department of Education canceled student loans for 150,000 borrowers. This is not really a cancellation of those loans. It is just a transfer of the responsibility to taxpayers and wiping the slate clean for people who actually agreed to borrow this money so that they can attend schools.

Then on Wednesday, just 2 days ago, the Biden administration announced an additional cancellation of \$4.5 billion for 261,000 borrowers.

The President's actions this week and the last week of his Presidency brings this total taxpayer bailout to \$183.6 billion.

Now, remember in June of 2023, the Supreme Court ruled in a 6-to-3 decision that the Department of Education lacks the authority—the legal author-

ity—to implement these across-the-board student loan cancellations. But the Biden administration, never to be one that actually obeys the law, has continued to ignore the ruling of the Supreme Court, issuing blank check after blank check to borrowers to let them off the hook from paying bills that they agreed to pay in the first instance.

This policy is not just illegal; it is profoundly unfair. It is unfair to the families who have sacrificed and saved to send their own children to college. It is unfair to the students who worked multiple jobs during college to avoid accruing large amounts of debt. And it is unfair to all the graduates who have worked hard and paid off their loans. Finally, it is unfair to Americans who have forgone a college education because they couldn't afford the cost. And now they have to pick up the tab for those for whom President Biden has canceled their debt.

Any family with a mortgage, a car payment, or credit card debt knows there is really no such thing as canceling the debt. Somebody is going to pay. Every dollar that was borrowed will, eventually, be repaid by somebody. It is just a matter of who that someone is. And, in this case, it is the American taxpayer.

It is really a slap in the face, a kick in the teeth—you choose your metaphor. But it is no surprise that the American taxpayers have rejected the direction in which President Biden and his administration have taken the country. They voted for a new direction on November 5.

But that just makes it even more offensive that a lameduck President would proceed full speed ahead with more student debt cancellation after being told “no” by the Supreme Court and being told “no” again by voters on November 5.

Back in May, along with my colleagues Senator ERNST and Senator CASSIDY, I introduced a congressional resolution of disapproval that would have overturned the Biden administration's reckless and unfair student loan socialism. Of course, the Democratic-controlled Senate did not bring that CRA—the Congressional Review Act—up for a vote. But now with Republicans in the majority, I hope this is something we can and will address.

Student loan socialism would be a great opportunity for the Department of Government Efficiency—headed by Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy—to take a look at it because there is nothing less efficient and more wasteful and more unfair than taking billions of dollars from taxpayers who didn't go to college to pay for those who did and who agreed to pay the money back but simply now will not have to do so.

The vast majority of Americans don't benefit from this student loan socialism. And 87 percent of Americans don't have student debt; so the 13 percent who do are now foisting that responsibility on the 87 percent. If you look at

those who do benefit, it becomes even more clear how little sense this makes.

Even the progressive Brookings Institute pointed out that blanket student loan forgiveness benefits those who are better off by income, by education, and by wealth.

Unsurprisingly, those with student loans are more likely to have higher paying jobs. If we look back at the institutions and not just the individuals who are benefiting from these massive taxpayer subsidies, which is what they are, we will also find that this is anything but an efficient use of American taxpayer dollars.

Over 100 colleges and universities in the United States, including Columbia, Cornell, Yale, and Princeton, are currently under investigation from the Department of Education because of their mishandling of incidents of anti-Semitism on their campuses since October 7, 2023.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of ethnicity for institutions that receive Federal funding. So the complaints of anti-Semitism in the wake of the terrorist attacks on Israel have in some cases amounted to violations of Federal law.

Many of these colleges and universities are rushing to enter into settlements with the Biden administration before the Trump administration takes office on Monday, which, of course, is not surprising.

President Trump has made clear that taxpayer support for those universities that failed to end anti-Semitic propaganda that has run rampant over the past few years, that that taxpayer support will end.

Now is not the time to reward these institutions with widespread incentives to continue raising their tuition by canceling student debt.

If we want to address the affordability of college—an important topic—widespread student loan socialism is not the way to do it.

So as I said, for a variety of reasons, this would be a great place for the Department of Government Efficiency to shine the light on and for us to do something about in the coming days.

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget pointed out that we could save the taxpayers as much as \$550 billion by reversing all of President Biden's actions on student loan cancellation—\$550 billion. So we have our work cut out for us. But one great place to start would be to end the Biden administration's reckless student loan socialism.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to read into the RECORD a statement from President Joe Biden, issued this morning on the Equal Rights Amendment.

He said as follows:

I have supported the Equal Rights Amendment for more than 50 years, and I have long been clear that no one should be discriminated against based on their sex. We, as a nation, must affirm and protect women's full equality once and for all.

On January 27, 2020, the Commonwealth of Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

The American Bar Association has recognized that the Equal Rights Amendment has cleared all necessary hurdles to be formally added to the Constitution as the 28th Amendment. I agree with the ABA—

President Biden said—

and with leading constitutional scholars that the Equal Rights Amendment has become part of our Constitution.

It is long past time to recognize the will of the American people. In keeping with my oath and duty to Constitution and country, I affirm what I believe and what three-fourths of the States have ratified: the 28th Amendment is the law of the land, guaranteeing all Americans equal rights and protections under the law regardless of their sex.

Mr. President, in response to this, I issue the following statement:

The Equal Rights Amendment is literally a century in the making, and over the years, generations of Americans have done their part to move it forward. They have marched on Washington, they have met with Congressmen and Senators, and as of 2020, they have crossed a crucial threshold—ratification of the ERA in 38 States. That is the exact number of States needed to certify it as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

It is past time to explicitly prohibit discrimination based on sex in our Constitution. The President's announcement sends an important, overdue message to women and girls that they are equal under the law.

Mr. President, I believe this is a moment of historic importance, and it is the culmination of a century of effort to bring equality into the American Constitution with the 28th Amendment.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Will the Senator withhold his request?

Mr. DURBIN. I withhold my request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

SALT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last fall, Donald Trump went to Long Island, NY, and claimed he would "get SALT back." That is good news—very good news—because it was precisely Donald Trump and congressional Republicans who created the SALT cap to begin with.

These harmful policies double tax hard-working New Yorkers. They have hurt so many middle-class families—teachers, firefighters, police officers,

construction workers—particularly in higher cost areas like Long Island and the Hudson Valley of New York.

So it is good that Donald Trump and some Republicans have seen the light and that they have heard from vociferous Long Islanders, and now they are changing their minds about SALT. But let's not forget, these costly SALT caps are set to expire at the end of the year.

So to our friends on the other side, if you actually want to lower costs for Long Island, Hudson Valley, and other families across the country, all you have to do is do nothing at all on SALT caps. Let them expire, which they will right at the end of this year, and then they are gone for good, all of them.

Yes, if Congress simply says do nothing about SALT caps, all of it will go away, and that is what we should do. But instead of ensuring that New Yorkers will get SALT back, the House Freedom Caucus wants to impose a whole new round of SALT caps. They want to place new SALT caps on New York businesses small and large and want to push an increase in the SALT tax on New Yorkers.

The House Freedom Caucus is a group of very powerful, hard, hard right Republicans. The House Freedom Caucus's SALT plan will increase costs across Long Island and the Hudson Valley almost immediately.

I have got only one response to the House Freedom's SALT proposal. As we say in Brooklyn, forget about it. Forget about it. There is no scenario under God's green Earth that New York taxpayers will ever accept another unfair SALT cap like the House Freedom Caucus proposes. New York families, from Long Island to the Hudson Valley and across the State, have suffered long enough at the hands of broken Republican tax policies.

I will do everything I can, first, to remove the entire SALT cap tax and, second, to never let a new proposal that for the first time imposes the SALT cap on businesses small and large to be put into effect. I am going to do everything I can to fight this dastardly proposal.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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 CAMILLE CALIMLIM TOUTON

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Camille Calimlim Touton as she concludes her distinguished public service as the 24th Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Reclamation.

Born in Quezon City, Philippines, as the daughter of a U.S. Air Force airman, Camille Calimlim Touton and her family eventually settled down in Nevada. There, she would go on to earn her bachelor of arts and her bachelor of science from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, before moving east to earn her master's in public policy from George Mason University.

Throughout her public service career, whether learning from my friend and colleague Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO on the House Natural Resources Committee, working on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, or at the Bureau of Reclamation, Commissioner Touton has served the American people with great distinction.

Since she was sworn in as Commissioner on December 15, 2021, Commissioner Touton has improved the Bureau of Reclamation's reputation across the West and around the world by effectively leading the Bureau's 6,000 employees during an unprecedented time of drought and aridification. By rolling up her sleeves and working with partners to address some of the most challenging issues of the American West, Commissioner Touton leaves behind a proud legacy of service to the American people.

At the helm of Reclamation during the implementation of the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act, Commissioner Touton worked to drastically increase water conservation and infrastructure improvements and help make communities more resilient to climate change impacts. Under her leadership, Reclamation made use of these generational investments to provide more than \$1.4 billion to improve drinking water for rural and disadvantaged Americans who have waited decades for access to clean, affordable water and worked to improve the lives of countless families in the American West.

In 2022, when prolonged drought led to historically low water levels in Lake Powell and Lake Mead, Commissioner Touton pressed the States and Tribes who rely on the Colorado River to find a compromise that would protect water supply throughout the basin. Her leadership was instrumental in achieving a historic, consensus-based proposal to conserve more than 3 million acre-feet of water and protect the system. To this day, 7 States and 30 Tribes have continued to engage on a longer-term agreement that will serve the 40 million people who call the Colorado River Basin home.

Commissioner Touton delivered outside of the Colorado River Basin as

well, including with a South-of-Delta drought plan in 2024 that is benefiting water users, addressing their drinking water needs, protecting Wildlife Refuges, and improving the future resilience of the San Joaquin Valley.

An invaluable resource to Members of Congress, a trusted partner to water agencies and stakeholders in the West, a dedicated public servant to constituents, and a beloved boss, Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton has made a tremendous difference for the present and future quality of life for millions of Americans.

Today, I want to thank not only Commissioner Touton for her service, but also wish her and her husband Matt and their three daughters Lexi, Ella, and Sophie success and happiness in the future as they move back west—and back home—to Nevada.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING IDAHO AIR GUN

• 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 entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of small businesses in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor Idaho Air Gun as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for January 2025.

Founded in 2013, Idaho Air Gun began as a firearms and reloading pro shop in Boise, offering top-quality reloading equipment and a full selection of components. Over time, the business expanded to include custom rifle builds, earning a stellar reputation for craftsmanship. In 2019, they became the first retailer in Idaho to carry precharged pneumatic air guns, shortly before Idaho became the first State to legalize the use of air guns for hunting all game species. This trailblazing development created new opportunities for hunters and outdoor enthusiasts throughout the State.

In 2021, Idaho Air Gun was invited by the State to relocate and manage the Nampa Indoor Range as an air-gun-only facility—as the only public air range in the Pacific Northwest and a vital community resource, offering a youth shooting program that has helped graduates earn college scholarships and even qualify for the Junior Olympics. In 2024, they expanded their partnership with the city of Nampa as a city recreational offering.

Congratulations to the team at Idaho Air Gun on their selection as the January 2025 Small Business of the Month. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great state proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 30. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible and deportable.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 30. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible and deportable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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-102. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Formulas for Calculating Hourly and Unit Fees for FGIS Services" ((RIN0581-AE31) (Docket No. AMS-FGIS-24-0027)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-103. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyprodinil; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 11459-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-104. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fludioxonil; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 11524-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-105. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Beauveria Bassiana Strain BW149; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 11459-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-106. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inactivated Burkholderia Rinojensis Strain A396 Cells and Spent Fermentation Media; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 12383-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-107. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of

Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Controls on Certain Laboratory Equipment and Related Technology to Address Dual Use Concerns about Biotechnology" (RIN0694-AJ95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 14, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-108. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Addition of Entities to and Revision of Entry on the Entity List" (RIN0694-AJ76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 14, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-109. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additions to the Entity List" (RIN0694-AK01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 14, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-110. A communication from the Executive Director of Information and Communications Technology and Services, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain: Connected Vehicles" (RIN0694-AJ56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-111. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Daily Computation of Customer and Broker-Dealer Reserve Requirements under the Broker-Dealer Customer Protection Rule" (RIN3235-AN28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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. BENNET (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 147. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to air pollution control agencies to implement a cleaner air space program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 148. A bill to prohibit the use of non-monetized or unqualified factors for regulatory analyses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 149. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. GALLEGOS):

S. 150. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of

State to implement a strategy to combat the efforts of transnational criminal organizations to recruit individuals in the United States via social media platforms and other online services and assess their use of such platforms and services for illicit activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 151. A bill to exclude the authority to impose duties and tariff-rate quotas from the International Emergency Economic Powers Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 122

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 122, a bill to amend the Revised Statutes to codify the defense of qualified immunity in the case of any action under section 1979, and for other purposes.

S. 145

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 145, a bill to require the redesignation of Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 93. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 75 submitted by Mr. SCHMITT and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 5, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 94. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 proposed by Mr. THUNE (for Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY)) to the bill S. 5, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 93. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 75 submitted by Mr. SCHMITT and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 5, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be added, add the following:

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON UNFUNDED MANDATES.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall not impose any unfunded mandate on any State or local government relating to the detention of aliens under section 236(c)(1)(E) of the Immigration and National Act, as added by section 2.

SA 94. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 8 proposed by Mr. THUNE (for Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY)) to the bill S. 5, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who

have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

"(i) is charged with, is arrested for, is convicted of, admits having committed, or admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of any burglary, theft, larceny, shoplifting, or assault of a law enforcement officer offense, or any crime that results in death or serious bodily injury to another person; or

"(F) is unlawfully present in the United States and who has voted in a Federal election in violation of section 611 of title 18, United States Code,";

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

"(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(E) the terms 'burglary', 'theft', 'larceny', 'shoplifting', 'assault of a law enforcement officer', and 'serious bodily injury' have the meanings given such terms in the jurisdiction in which the acts occurred.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have one request for a committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, January 17, 2025, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, January 20; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 1, S. 5, postcloture; finally, that all postcloture time expire at 5:30 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025, AT 4:30 P.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate,
at 11:10 a.m., adjourned until Monday,
January 20, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S237–S244

Measures Introduced: Five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 147–151 **Page S243**

Measures Considered:

Laken Riley Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 5, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, taking action on the following amendment and motion proposed thereto: **Pages S237–41**

Pending:

Thune (for Ernst/Grassley) Amendment No. 8, to include crimes resulting in death or serious bodily injury to the list of offenses that, if committed by an inadmissible alien, require mandatory detention. **Page S237**

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

By 61 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. 5), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Pages S237–41**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 4:30 p.m., on Monday, January 20, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the bill, post-cloture; and that all post-cloture time expire at 5:30 p.m. **Page S243**

Messages from the House: **Page S242**

Measures Referred: **Page S242**

Executive Communications: **Pages S242–43**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S243**

Additional Statements: **Page S242**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S243**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S243**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—5) **Page S240**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:10 a.m., until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, January 20, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on pages S243–44.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the expected nomination of Kristi Noem, to be Secretary of Homeland Security, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Thune and Cramer, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House will meet at 10 a.m. on Monday, January 20, 2025 for the inauguration of the President and Vice President of the United States.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider the nomination of Marco A. Rubio, of Florida, to be Secretary of State, 3:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of January 20 through January 24, 2025

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, Senate will resume consideration of S. 5, Laken Riley Act.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will dispose of any pending amendments, and vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended.

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 Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: January 23, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Brooke Rollins, of Texas, to be Secretary of Agriculture, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: January 23, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Daniel P. Driscoll, to be Secretary of the Army, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on the Budget: January 22, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Russell T. Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: January 22, business meeting to consider the nomination of Sean Patrick Duffy, of Wisconsin, to be Secretary of Transportation, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: January 20, business meeting to consider the nomination of Marco A. Rubio, of Florida, to be Secretary of State, 3:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

January 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Elise M. Stefanik, of New York, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations and the Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of

the United States of America to the United Nations, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: January 21, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules for the 119th Congress, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: January 21, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Douglas A. Collins, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

January 23, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of Douglas A. Collins, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 9 a.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: January 20, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, January 23, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, January 22, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled "A Decade Later: Assessing the Legacy and Impact of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act", 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

January 23, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Strengthening American Leadership in Wireless Technology", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, January 22, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, January 22, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, January 22, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

January 22, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Unconstrained Actors: Assessing Global Cyber Threats to the Homeland", 10:30 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, January 22, Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement, hearing entitled "Restoring Immigration Enforcement in America", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, January 23, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 231, the "Colorado River Basin System Conservation Extension Act of 2025"; H.R. 261, the "Undersea Cable Protection Act of 2025"; H.R. 331, to amend the Aquifer Recharge Flexibility Act to clarify a provision relating to conveyances for aquifer recharge purposes; and legislation on the WaterSMART Access for Tribes Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, January 21, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 471, the "Fix Our Forests Act", 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, January 22, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, January 22, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled "America Builds: Highways to Move People and Freight", 10:15 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

January 23, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled "America Builds:

Examining America's Freight and Passenger Rail Network", 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, January 22, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Restoring Focus: Putting Veterans First in Community Care", 1 p.m., 360 Cannon.

January 23, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled "Correcting VA's Vio-

lations of Veterans' Due Process and Second Amendment Rights", 1:15 pm., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, January 22, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Member Day", 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

4:30 p.m., Monday, January 20

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Monday, January 20

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of S. 5, Laken Riley Act.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will dispose of any pending amendments, and vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended.

(At 12 noon, Donald J. Trump will be sworn in as President of the United States, and J.D. Vance will be sworn in as Vice President of the United States.)

House Chamber

Program for Monday: Inauguration of the President and Vice President of the United States.



Congressional Record

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