

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S823–S870

Measures Introduced: Twenty-seven bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 505–531, and S. Res. 69–74. **Pages S859–60**

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 69, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services.

S. Res. 70, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. Res. 71, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

S. Res. 73, authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence.

S. Res. 74, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. **Page S859**

Appointments:

Congressional Advisers on Trade Policy and Negotiations: The Chair, in accordance with Public Law 93–618, as amended by Public Law 100–418, on behalf of the President pro tempore and upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance, appointed the following Members of the Finance Committee as congressional advisers on trade policy and negotiations to International conferences, meetings and negotiation sessions relating to trade agreements: Senators Crapo, Grassley, Cornyn, Wyden, and Cantwell. **Page S865**

Washington's Farewell Address: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to the order of the Senate of January 24, 1901, as modified by the order of February 11, 2025, appointed Senator Wicker to read Washington's Farewell Address on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. **Page S865**

Washington's Farewell Address—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the order of January 24, 1901, the traditional reading of Washington's Farewell Address take place on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, following the Prayer and Pledge of the Flag. **Page S865**

Gabbard Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Tulsi

Gabbard, of Hawaii, to be Director of National Intelligence. **Pages S823–32, S832–55**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the vote on confirmation of the nomination occur at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, February 12, 2025; that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, February 6, 2025, ripen following disposition of the nomination of Tulsi Gabbard; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, the post-cloture time count as if invoked at 1 a.m., on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. **Page S847**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, as under the previous order. **Page S847**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Kirsten Baesler, of North Dakota, to be Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

Gary Andres, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Sean Cairncross, of Minnesota, to be National Cyber Director.

Daniel Aronowitz, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

John Hurley, of California, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

James Baehr, of Louisiana, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Charles Kushner, of New York, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Monaco.

Joseph Barloon, of Maryland, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

Warren Stephens, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Benjamin Black, of New York, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2025.

Kevin Cabrera, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Panama.

Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2025.

Gustav Chiarello III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Tyler Clarkson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

Jason De Sena Trennert, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Thomas DiNanno, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Sean Donahue, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

David Eisner, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy.

David Fogel, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service.

George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to Japan.

Jonathan Gould, of Virginia, to be Comptroller of the Currency for a term of five years.

Catherine Hanson, of South Carolina, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency.

Landon Heid, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to Canada.

Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

Mike Huckabee, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the State of Israel.

Scott Hutchins, of Indiana, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics.

Ronald Johnson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the United Mexican States.

Taylor Jordan, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Paul Kapur, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

David Keeling, of Kentucky, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Nicholas Kent, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Education.

Joseph Kent, of Washington, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Jessica Kramer, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Henry Mack III, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Ned Mamula, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey.

Jennifer Mascott, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, Department of Education.

Jonathan McKernan, of Tennessee, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection for a term of five years.

Jonathan Morrison, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Brian Morrissey, Jr., of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

Brian Nesvik, of Wyoming, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Kevin O'Farrell, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education.

Caleb Orr, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Economic and Business Affairs).

Wayne Palmer, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.

Luke Pettit, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Tina Pierce, of Idaho, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy.

Chris Pratt, of Utah, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Brian Quintenz, of Ohio, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Brian Quintenz, of Ohio, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the term expiring April 13, 2029.

David Rader, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Joel Rayburn, of Oklahoma, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Kimberly Richey, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

Mary Riley, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education.

Audrey Robertson, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy).

Sarah Rogers, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

Reed Rubinstein, of Maryland, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

Kathleen Sgamma, of Colorado, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

Michael Stuart, of West Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Aaron Szabo, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Richard Topping, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Craig Trainor, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Matthew Whitaker, of Iowa, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador. **Pages S869–70**

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

Luke Petit, of Washington, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, which was sent to the Senate on February 3, 2025. **Page S870**

Messages from the House: **Page S858**

Measures Referred: **Pages S858–59**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S859**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S860–61**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S861–64**

Additional Statements: **Pages S857–58**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S864**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S864–65**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:40 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S865.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 69) authorizing expenditures by the committee, and the nomination of Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 119th Congress.

SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, including S. 257, to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, after receiving testimony from Jerome H. Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 70) authorizing expenditures by the committee.

Also, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 119th Congress:

Subcommittee on Energy: Senators McCormick (Chair), Barrasso, Risch, Cotton, Justice, Cassidy, Hyde-Smith, Hoeven, Gallego, Wyden, Hirono, King, Cortez Masto, Hickenlooper, and Padilla.

Subcommittee on National Parks: Senators Daines (Chair), Barrasso, Cassidy, Murkowski, King, Hirono, and Gallego.

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining: Senators Barrasso (Chair), Risch, Daines, Cotton, Justice, Hyde-Smith, Murkowski, Cortez Masto, Wyden, Hirono, King, Hickenlooper, and Padilla.

Subcommittee on Water and Power: Senators Hoeven (Chair), Risch, Daines, McCormick, Justice, Cassidy, Wyden, Cortez Masto, Hickenlooper, Padilla, and Gallego.

Senators Lee and Heinrich are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 74) authorizing expenditures by the committee, and adopted its rules of procedure for the 119th Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorable reported an original resolution (S. Res. 73) authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 119th Congress.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 43 public bills, H.R. 1180–1222; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 39; H. Con. Res. 11; and H. Res. 125, were introduced.

Pages H643–45

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H646

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Strong to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H617

Recess: The House recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

Page H621

Recess: The House recessed at 1:04 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Page H629

Midnight Rules Relief Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 122, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 77) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for “midnight rules”, by a recorded vote of 216 ayes to 205 noes, Roll No. 39, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 38.

Pages H623–29, H629–30

Providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 11, providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

Pages H630–31

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 125, electing a Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives.

Page H631

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H629–30 and H630.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINING THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IN FARM COUNTRY

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the Economic Crisis in Farm Country”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A GOLDEN AGE OF DIGITAL ASSETS: CHARTING A PATH FORWARD

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology, and Artificial Intelligence held a hearing entitled “A Golden Age of Digital Assets: Charting a Path Forward”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA’S STRATEGIC PORT INVESTMENTS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY, PART I

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “Examining the PRC’s Strategic Port Investments in the Western Hemisphere and the Implications for Homeland Security, Part I”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PART 1: COMMITTEE FUNDING FOR THE 119TH CONGRESS

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Part 1: Committee Funding for the 119th Congress”. Testimony was heard from the following Chairman: Mast, Walberg, Westerman, Green of Tennessee, Babin, Moolenaar, Graves, Hill of Arkansas, and Smith of Missouri; and Representatives Meeks, Scott of Virginia, Huffman, Thompson of Mississippi, Lofgren, Krishnamoorthi, Larsen of Washington, Waters, Williams of Texas, Velázquez, Crawford, Himes, and Neal.

REINING IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE STATE: REGULATORY AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW REFORM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust held a hearing entitled “Reining in the Administrative State: Regulatory and Administrative Law Reform”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RESTORING ENERGY DOMINANCE: THE PATH TO UNLEASHING AMERICAN OFFSHORE ENERGY

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Restoring Energy Dominance: The Path to Unleashing American Offshore Energy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RESTORING MULTIPLE USE TO REVITALIZE AMERICA'S PUBLIC LANDS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled "Restoring Multiple Use to Revitalize America's Public Lands and Rural Communities". Testimony was heard from Eric Clarke, County Attorney, Washington County, Utah; Dan Gibbs, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, Colorado; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE GROWTH OF THE WELFARE STATE, PART I

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services held a hearing entitled "Examining the Growth of the Welfare State, Part I". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICA BUILDS: CLEAN WATER ACT PERMITTING AND PROJECT DELIVERY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled "America Builds: Clean Water Act Permitting and Project Delivery". Testimony was heard from Robert Singletary, Executive Director, Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma; Shawn M. LaTourette, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey; and public witnesses.

BUREAUCRATIC BARRIERS: MAKING VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION EDUCATION SERVICES WORK FOR VETERANS AND NOT THE BUREAUCRACY

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled "Bureaucratic Barriers: Making VBA Education Services Work for Veterans and not the Bureaucracy". Testimony was heard from Ken Smith, Acting Executive Director, Education Service, Department of Veterans Affairs.

IRS RETURN ON INVESTMENT AND THE NEED FOR MODERNIZATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled "IRS Return on Investment and the Need for Modernization". Testimony was heard from Kristen Kocielek, Managing Director, Financial Management and Assurance Team, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

MODERNIZING AMERICAN HEALTH CARE: CREATING HEALTHY OPTIONS AND BETTER INCENTIVES

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Modernizing American Health Care: Creating Healthy Options and Better Incentives". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Budget: business meeting to markup the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2025, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the Arctic and Greenland's geostrategic importance to U.S. interests, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine advancing carbon capture, utilization and sequestration technologies and ensuring effective implementation of the USE IT Act, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to continue consideration of the nomination of Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, 11 a.m., S-216, Capitol.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine Native communities' priorities for the 119th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Todd Blanche, of Florida, to be Deputy Attorney General, and Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, 10:15 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider S. 298, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate 30 percent of the employees assigned to headquarters to duty stations outside the Washington metropolitan area, S. 300, to improve accountability in the disaster loan program of the Small Business Administration, S. 371, to require certain reports on small business disaster assistance to be published on the website of the Small Business Administration, and committee rules for the 119th Congress, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine optimizing longevity from research to action, 3:30 p.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Career Ready Students: Innovations from Community Colleges and the Private Sector”, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Protecting American Interests in a Convergent Global Threat Environment”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1048, the “DETERRENT Act”; H.R. 649, the “Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025”; H.R. 1069, the “PROTECT Our Kids Act”; H.R. 1005, the “CLASS Act”; and H.R. 1049, the “Transparency in Reporting of Adversarial Contributions to Education Act”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled “AI in Manufacturing: Securing American Leadership in Manufacturing and the Next Generation of Technologies”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Federal Reserve’s Semi-Annual Monetary Policy Report”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Part 2: Committee Funding for the 119th Congress”, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Censorship-Industrial Complex”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 231, the “Colorado River Basin System Conservation Extension Act of 2025”; H.R. 249, to redesignate certain facilities at Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park in honor of Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr.; H.R. 302, the “Water Rights 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; H.R. 618, to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the City of North Las Vegas and

the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, and for other purposes; H.R. 1001, to provide for a memorandum of understanding to address the impacts of a certain record of decision on the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund; H.R. 1044, to amend Public Law 99–338 with respect to Kaweah Project permits; H.R. 1110, the “Grazing for Wildfire Risk Reduction Act”; and the Committee’s Authorization and Oversight Plan, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Leaving Indian Children Behind: Reviewing the State of BIE Schools”, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency, hearing entitled “The War on Waste: Stamping Out the Scourge of Improper Payments and Fraud”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “From Transformative Science to Technological Breakthroughs: DOE’s National Laboratories”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Driving Economic Growth: SBA Lending Programs and the Vital Role of Community Banks”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “America Builds: A Review of Programs to Address Roadway Safety”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Roles and Responsibilities: Evaluating VA Community Care”, 2:15 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1155, the “Recovery of Stolen Checks Act”; H.R. 1155, the “Recovery of Stolen Checks Act”; H.R. 997, the “National Taxpayer Advocate Enhancement Act of 2025”; H.R. 998, the “Internal Revenue Service Math and Taxpayer Help Act”; H.R. 1152, the “Electronic Filing and Payment Fairness Act”; and H.R. 1156, the “Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 12

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Tulsi Gabbard, of Hawaii, to be Director of National Intelligence, post-cloture.

At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Tulsi Gabbard, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 77—Midnight Rules Relief Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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