

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8779–S8813

Measures Introduced: On Friday, December 13, 2013, Four bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1823–1826, and S. Res. 320–321. **Pages S8808–09**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Legislative and Oversight Activities during the 112th Congress by the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs”. (S. Rept. No. 113–125) **Page S8808**

Measures Passed:

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee 100th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 299, congratulating the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee on the celebration of its 100th anniversary and commending its significant contribution to empower and revitalize developing communities around the world, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S8812**

National Estuaries Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 263, designating the week of September 23 through September 29, 2013, as “National Estuaries Week”, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S8812**

Adopted:

Reid (for Whitehouse) Amendment No. 2546, to amend the preamble. **Page S8812**

Wreaths Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 320, designating December 14, 2013, as “Wreaths Across America Day”. **Page S8812**

Honoring the Life of Nelson Rolihlabla Mandela: Senate agreed to S. Res. 321, honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela and expressing condolences on his passing. **Page S8812**

Fallen Firefighters Assistance Tax Clarification Act: Senate passed H.R. 3458, to treat payments by charitable organizations with respect to certain firefighters as exempt payments. **Page S8813**

Patterson Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassador, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Pages S8798–S8801

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

By 54 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. 273), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S8798–99**

Patterson and Johnson Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, December 16, 2013, all post-cloture time be considered expired; and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassador, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs); that upon disposition of the nomination of Anne W. Patterson, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jeh Charles Johnson, of New Jersey, to be Secretary of Homeland Security; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Jeh Charles Johnson, all post-cloture time be yielded back and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Jeh Charles Johnson, of New Jersey, to be Secretary of Homeland Security. **Page S8795**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 79 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. EX. 270), Deborah Lee James, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Air Force. **Pages S8779–83, S8813**

By 74 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. EX. 272), Heather Anne Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources. **Pages S8784–98, S8813**

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

By 51 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. 271), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S8783**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Peter A. Selfridge, of Minnesota, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service.

Douglas Alan Silliman, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait.

Robert A. Wood, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament.

Portia Y. Wu, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Thomas Edgar Rothman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2016. **Page S8813**

Messages from the House: **Page S8808**

Measures Referred: **Page S8808**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S8808, S8813**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S8808**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S8808**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S8809**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S8809–12

Additional Statements: **Pages S8807–08**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S8812**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S8812**

Quorum Calls: One quorum call was taken today. (Total—12) **Page S8783**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—273) **Pages S8783–84, S8798–99**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m., on Wednesday, December 11, 2013, and adjourned at 2:11 p.m., on Friday, December 13, 2013, until 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8813.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: On Friday, December 13, 2013, Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Sarah Bloom Raskin, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, and John Andrew Koskinen, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, both of the Department of the Treasury, and Rhonda K. Schmidlein, of Missouri, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, December 16, 2013 in pro forma session.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.