

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 6363, Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5515–S5579

Measures Introduced: Forty bills and nine resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3304–3343, S.J. Res. 51, and S. Res. 464–471. **Pages S5540–41**

Measures Passed:

Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act: By 87 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. 312), Senate passed H.R. 6363, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2024, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, November 15, 2023, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S5515–26, S5527–29

Rejected:

By 32 yeas to 65 nays (Vote No. 311), Paul Amendment No. 1366, to reduce continuing funding by 15 percent, except for the Department of Defense, military construction, and the Department of Veterans Affairs and to rescind \$30,000,000,000 from enforcement funds provided to the Internal Revenue Service. **Page S5528**

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

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, November 17, 2023.

Page S5515

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, be withdrawn. **Page S5527**

Armenian Protection Act: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration

of S. 3000, to repeal Freedom Support Act section 907 waiver authority with respect to assistance to Azerbaijan, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S5531–33

Peters Amendment No. 1367, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5532**

Commitment to Veterans Support and Outreach Act: Senate passed S. 106, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S5556–58

Schumer (for Baldwin) Amendment No. 1368, of a perfecting nature. **Page S5554**

GAO Inspector General Parity Act: Senate passed S. 1510, to amend provisions relating to the Office of the Inspector General of the Government Accountability Office, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S5558**

Schumer (for Braun) Amendment No. 1369, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5558**

Drive Safer Sunday: Senate agreed to S. Res. 468, designating November 26, 2023, as “Drive Safer Sunday”. **Page S5558**

Congratulating the Las Vegas Aces: Senate agreed to S. Res. 469, commending and congratulating the Las Vegas Aces basketball team on winning the 2023 Women’s National Basketball Association Championship. **Page S5558**

National Rural Health Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 470, designating November 16th, 2023, as “National Rural Health Day”. **Page S5558**

National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 471, expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national

awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children. **Page S5558**

Measures Failed:

Student Loan CRA: By 49 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 310), Senate failed to pass S.J. Res. 43, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. **Pages S5526–27**

House Messages:

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024: Senate began consideration of the House Message to accompany H.R. 2670, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, taking action on the following motions to instruct conferees on the part of the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to be instructed to insist on the inclusion in the final conference report the following motions proposed thereto: **Pages S5529–31**

Adopted:

By 90 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 313), motion to insist on the amendment of the Senate to the bill, agree to the request for conference with the House, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate. **Pages S5529–30**

Reed (for Klobuchar) motion to instruct conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions to provide stability and support, including a pathway to permanent residency, for eligible Afghan individuals in the United States, provided that such stability and support does not endanger United States citizens or the national security of the United States, and to provide additional support for certain at-risk Afghan allies abroad, provided that such support would not negatively impact the safety and security of Afghans who were employed by or on behalf of the United States. **Page S5530**

Reed (for Hickenlooper/Bennet) motion to instruct conferees to insist upon a provision that prohibits any limitation on the use by the United States Space Command of funds for military construction. **Page S5530**

Wicker (for Blackburn) motion to instruct conferees to insist that the final conference report in-

clude a provision to prohibit any action by the United States Government to release funds or assets to Iran pursuant to the document entitled “Waiver of Sanctions with respect to the Transfer of Funds from the Republic of Korea to Qatar” and transmitted to Congress on September 11, 2023. **Page S5530**

Wicker (for Lankford) motion to instruct conferees to increase defense cooperation with Israel in order to reaffirm its right to defend itself against state and non-state actors who seek to undermine Israel’s sovereignty. **Page S5530**

Lummis motion to instruct conferees to insist that the final conference report include subtitle J of title X of division A of Senate Bill 2226, 118th Congress, passed July 27, 2023. **Pages S5530–31**

Wicker (for Cramer) motion to instruct conferees to insist upon maintaining the provisions of H.R. 2670 that support the critical development of the future airborne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capability of the Air Force. **Page S5531**

Wicker (for Moran) motion to instruct conferees to insist upon the provisions contained in section 1049 of the Senate amendment (relating to access to commissary and exchange privileges for remarried spouses). **Page S5531**

Wicker (for Ernst) motion to instruct conferees to insist upon the inclusion title XI of S. 2226, as passed by the Senate on July 27, 2023 (relating to an authorization for the Secretary of State to engage compact of free association countries on identifying or developing national security councils and advising and providing assistance for developing such councils). **Page S5531**

Wicker (for Hagerty) motion to instruct conferees to insist upon the provisions contained in section 1880 of H.R. 2670 (relating to a prohibition on contracting with certain biotechnology providers). **Page S5531**

Wicker (for Braun/Manchin) motion to instruct conferees to insist upon the provisions contained in section 902 of the Senate amendment (relating to reinstatement of position of Chief Management Officer of Department of Defense), which includes planning and processes, business transformations, and performance measurement and management activities across the Armed Forces, combatant commands, and other components of the Department of Defense to address the backsliding of fiscal responsibility within the Department and appoint a dedicated leader in a senior position within the Department whose mission it is to be a good steward of Federal resources. **Page S5531**

Reed (for Manchin) motion to instruct conferees to insist that the final conference report include the

provision in the concurrent resolution as agreed to by the Senate that directs the Secretary of Energy to establish a nuclear fuel program with the purpose of onshoring uranium conversion and enrichment capacity to ensure a disruption in Russian supply would not impact the development of advanced reactors or the currently operating fleet. **Page S5531**

Rejected:

Wicker (for Rubio) motion to instruct conferees to insist that the final conference report include the provisions to enforce section 212(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII)) to revoke visas and initiate deportation proceedings for any foreign national who has endorsed or espoused the terrorist activities of Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, or any another foreign terrorist organization (as designated under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189)) that has participated in terrorist attacks against Israel and United States citizens before, on, or after October 7, 2023. **Page S5530**

The Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Reed, Shaheen, Gillibrand, Blumenthal, Hirono, Kaine, King, Warren, Peters, Manchin, Duckworth, Rosen, Kelly, Wicker, Fischer, Cotton, Rounds, Ernst, Sullivan, Cramer, Scott (FL), Tuberville, Mullin, Budd, and Schmitt. **Page S5531**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, November 17, 2023, at 7:30 a.m.; Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 10 a.m.; and Friday, November 24, 2023, at 11 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 24, 2023, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Monday, November 27, 2023. **Page S5558**

Bryan Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jeffrey M. Bryan, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota. **Page S5533**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, November 16, 2023, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2023. **Page S5533**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5533**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, November 27, 2023, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, and that the cloture motions filed on Thursday, November 16, 2023, ripen at 5:30 p.m. **Page S5558**

Garnett Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Margaret M. Garnett, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York. **Page S5533**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jeffrey M. Bryan, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota. **Page S5533**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5533**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5533**

Rodriguez Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor. **Page S5533**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Margaret M. Garnett, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York. **Page S5533**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5533**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5533**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Roger F. Nyhus, of Washington, to be Ambassador to Barbados, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. **Pages S5533–34**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Kirk Edward Sherriff, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California. **Page S5579**

Measures Read the First Time:	Page S5539
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Additional Statements:	Pages S5538–39
Amendments Submitted:	Pages S5554–56
Notices of Intent:	Page S5556
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Page S5556
Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—313)	Page S5527, S5528, S5529, S5530

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:43 a.m., on Thursday, November 16, 2023, until 7:30 a.m. on Friday, November 17, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5558.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INDUSTRIAL DECARBONIZATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities in industrial decarbonization, focusing on delivering benefits for the economy and the climate, after receiving testimony from Leah Ellis, Sublime Systems, Somerville, Massachusetts; and Abigail Regitsky, Breakthrough Energy, and Shannon Angielski, Clean Hydrogen Future Coalition, both of Washington, D.C.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States leadership on artificial intelligence in an era of strategic competition, after receiving testimony from Nathaniel Fick, Ambassador at Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy, and Matthew Graviss, Chief Data and Artificial Intelligence Officer, both of the Department of State.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director, Jeff Rezmovic, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, and Suzanne Elizabeth Summerlin, of Florida, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 1898, to amend the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act to make improvements to that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 2088, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to complete all actions necessary for certain land to be held in restricted fee status by the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Sara E. Hill, and John David Russell, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, who were introduced by Senator Lankford, and Ramona Villagomez Manglona, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, who was introduced by Representative Sablan, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine veteran entrepreneurship, focusing on from service to small business success, including S. 38, to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, S. 2184, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Women's Business Center Program, and S. 1469, to require certification of small business concerns as small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans in order to be counted toward goals for contract awards, after receiving testimony from Colonel Timothy Green, USAF (Ret.), Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Veterans Business Development, Small Business Administration; J. Michael Haynie, Syracuse University D'Aniello Institute for Veterans and Military Families, Syracuse, New York; Lisa Shimkat, America's SBDC Iowa, Ames; Major Chris Guerrette, USAF (Ret.), Lickee's and Chewy's Candies and Creamery, Dover, New Hampshire; and Dustin Rhoades, Ability Tech, Sioux City, Iowa.

VA'S FOURTH MISSION: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the VA's Fourth Mission, focusing on supporting our nation's emergency preparedness and response, after receiving testimony from Bobby Small, Jr., Acting Executive Director for Emergency Management and Resilience, Office of Human Resources and Administration/Operations, Security and Preparedness, and Michelle Dorsey,