

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5831–S5881

Measures Introduced: Twenty-eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3430–3457, and S. Res. 491–492. **Pages S5851–52**

Measures Reported:

S. 3430, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to expand the mental health care workforce and services, reduce prescription drug costs, and extend certain expiring provisions under Medicare and Medicaid. (S. Rept. No. 118–121)

S. 2973, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to establish requirements relating to pharmacy benefit managers under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–122)

Page S5850

Measures Passed:

Honoring First Lady Rosalynn Carter: Senate agreed to S. Res. 492, honoring the life of First Lady Rosalynn Carter. **Page S5875**

Measures Considered:

Relieve Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program. **Pages S5831–34**

Removal of United States Armed Forces From Hostilities in Syria: By 13 yeas to 84 nays (Vote No. 333), Senate rejected the motion to discharge the Committee on Foreign Relations of S.J. Res. 51, directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in Syria that have not been authorized by Congress. **Pages S5834–37**

Conference Reports:

National Defense Authorization Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the conference report 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 amendments and motions proposed thereto:

Pending:

Schumer motion to recommit the conference report to accompany the bill to the Committee on Conference, with instructions. **Page S5838**

Schumer Amendment No. 1373 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit the conference report to accompany the bill to the Committee on Conference), to modify the effective date. **Page S5838**

Schumer Amendment No. 1374 (to Amendment No. 1373), to modify the effective date.

Pages S5838–39

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report to accompany the bill, 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 Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director.

Page S5836

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

By 82 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. 334), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill.

Pages S5837–38

Appointments:

Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–263, on behalf of the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: Stephen Biegun of Michigan. **Pages S5875–76**

Coker Jr. Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director. **Page S5836**

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 Richard E.N. Federico, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit. **Page S5836**

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 S5836**

Federico Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Richard E.N. Federico, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit. **Pages S5839–42**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5839**

By 63 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. EX. 335), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5840**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3:00 p.m., on Monday, December 11, 2023, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture; that all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired at 5:30 p.m., and that upon disposition of the nomination, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director. **Page S5876**

O'Malley Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Martin O'Malley, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security; that there be one hour for debate equally divided in the usual form on the nomination; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, without intervening action or debate. **Page S5844**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

- 1 Army nomination in the rank of general.
- 6 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Coast Guard. **Page S5881**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Army, Navy, and Space Force. **Page S5880**

Messages from the House: **Pages S5849–50**
Measures Referred: **Page S5849**
Executive Communications: **Page S5850**
Petitions and Memorials: **Page S5850**
Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S5850–51**
Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5852–53**
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Page S5853

Additional Statements: **Page S5849**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5854–75**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5875**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5875**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—335) **Pages S5837–38, S5840**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:50 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5876.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of J. Todd Inman, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Kurt Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Duckworth and Hagerty, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Sara E. Hill, and John David Russell, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, and Ramona Villagomez Manglona, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.