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No. 145

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, August 14, 2020, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Our Father, we wait in reverence before Your throne. Turn and answer us. Cleanse us from sins, creating in us clean hearts, while renewing a right spirit within us.

Lord, help our lawmakers to discern Your voice and do Your will. Give them the ability to accomplish Your purposes on Earth. Speak to them Your wisdom, guide them with Your spirit, and sustain them with Your might.

Lord, restore joy to our hearts, for we trust Your unfailing love.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, August 13, 2020.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. BOOZMAN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the Senate was supposed to spend this week finalizing another bipartisan rescue package for the American people. Millions of laid-off workers needed more Federal assistance to weather the storm. Small businesses needed more support to make payroll. Schools and families need more funding, tools, and certainty with reopening dates fast approaching. Doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers need more backup as they hold the line against this disease. We all need more gas for the race toward more testing, better treatments, and the vaccine that will finish this fight. So last week I canceled the

first week of our August State work period in the hope that the Speaker of the House and the Democratic leader would put aside their ideological demands with no relation to this pandemic and finally let Congress legislate.

Unfortunately, the Democrats have continued to let working families down. They are still rejecting any more relief for anyone unless they get a flood of demands with no relationship to COVID-19.

It has been more than 2 weeks since Senate Republicans put out a trillion-dollar plan to help America reopen, recover, and stay on offense against this virus. Republicans did the same thing that worked back in March. We set up the same process that built the unanimous CARES Act in a matter of days. We laid out a strong marker built by our chairmen and our committees, fitted to real, fact-based needs of our Nation and then invited the Democrats to negotiate.

We want another round of direct cash payments for American families. We want to send \$105 billion to help schools and universities safely reopen and billions more to help working parents with childcare. We want to create new incentives for retaining and rehiring America's workers and for businesses to improve workplace safety. We want to create the smart legal protections that small businesses and university presidents are pleading for, so they can reopen safely for students and workers without paying a ransom to the trial lawyers.

These are the strong policies we proposed because these are the policies our

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



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Nation actually needs. We want to take second runs at the best and most successful parts of the bipartisan CARES Act while adding in bold new steps for this new phase of our Nation's battle.

But as I said right from the outset, Republicans had no illusion that our initial marker would become law. That isn't how divided government operates. There was never any question that bipartisan compromise would be needed to get an outcome. So I expected that, just like in March, the Democratic ranking members would sit down with our chairmen, bring some of their own serious ideas to the table, and work together to build a bipartisan bill. That is what happened back then. But, instead, the country got something else entirely.

Instead of working with our serious framework, the Speaker of the House and the Senate Democratic leader spent weeks insisting on a completely—completely—unrealistic, far-left proposal that even their own Democratic Members mocked as a nowhere messaging stunt the instant it was first released.

Instead of letting their committees and their Members discuss substantive issues across the aisle, they said nobody could negotiate but them. And instead of staying focused on the real needs of our Nation, these two Democratic leaders have held the talks hostage for weeks now—weeks—over nonCOVID-related ideological items, which the political left has wanted since well before this virus hit our shores.

You know what I am talking about. By now, the whole country knows what I am talking about: the absurd issues the Democrats have turned into sticking points; the bizarre, parochial left-wing favors that Democrats have put ahead of the help that working families need right now, like the massive tax cuts for the highest earners in the bluest States—an idea that even supposedly progressive economists have said is “not a good idea”; the trillion-dollar slush fund for State and local governments that have only spent 25 percent—25 percent—of the billions that we sent them back in March, totally out of proportion to any estimate of urgent pandemic shortfalls; the socialist insistence on the Federal Government paying people more not to work—not to work—than essential workers earn when they are on the job.

Go to any kitchen table in America, outside of a few skyscraper penthouses, and put these bizarre demands up against the trillion dollars of real, practical relief that Republicans wanted to get out the door weeks ago. No family in Middle America is saying: Thank goodness. Thank goodness the Democrats are blocking cash payments to me, money for my kids' schools, and money for vaccines until Manhattan millionaires get a tax cut.

No working people are saying: Thank goodness the Democrats are blocking the next small business rescue plan,

money for testing, and rehiring incentives until Malibu, CA, gets Federal money to keep buying more electric cars, which they wrote to the Congress demanding.

Families aren't saying this. Outside of Speaker PELOSI and Leader SCHUMER, even Washington Democrats aren't saying this.

While the press tries its hardest to praise Speaker PELOSI for “playing hardball,” her own House Democrats are rebelling. They say they are “frustrated” and “angry” that relief is being held up over what they themselves acknowledge is a “political wish list.”

“[T]he HEROES Act went too far,” is another quote.

These are Democrats talking about the Heroes Act.

Even the Speaker's own members are not buying their political spin. They want what Republicans want, what the administration wants, what America's families everywhere want. We need to get an outcome.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the White House chief of staff have given ground. They have put new issues on the table that Democrats wanted. They have worked to find commonality. But the Democrats are barely even pretending to negotiate—barely even pretending. The Speaker's latest spin is that it is some heroic sacrifice to lower her demands from a made-up \$3.5 trillion marker that was never going to become law to an equally made-up \$2.5 trillion marker. She calls this meeting in the middle.

That is not negotiating; that is throwing spaghetti at the wall to see what sticks. People who have serious policy proposals that are fitted to actual needs cannot breezily knock off a trillion here and add a trillion there.

Heck, by the Speaker's logic, they should have just opened with their entire \$93 trillion Green New Deal. Then they could have blamed the President for not meeting them halfway at the cut-rate bargain sum of \$45 trillion.

Come on. In point of fact, the Speaker and the leader have not conceded anything at all. They haven't budged on their absurd demands. They just moved the expiration date a few weeks on the exact same crazy wish list, so the pricetag comes down without moving an inch on the merits.

They have refused Republicans' offer to pass everything that we can agree on. The administration has said: Let's pass things we can agree on right now.

The Republicans don't think that a disputed issue should hold up the most urgent aid for working families, but the answer so far from the Democratic leadership is no. The partisan games continue, so the Nation's pain continues as well.

Laid-off workers and kids and parents and doctors and nurses are waiting for help. Our people are waiting for help. Republicans have been at the table for weeks. We just need seriousness on the other side. American fami-

lies' livelihoods are at stake. American lives are at stake. Democrats must rerun their political calculations and finally—finally—let Congress act.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, here we go again. Another day has passed. Nothing has happened—no incremental progress, no compromise. To some it might just be one day, but for too many Americans, another day fighting for your health or how you will pay your rent or how you will feed your kids is a brutal and terrifying thing.

What is one more day to an average American? It might be a day closer to the rent being due without having money to pay it. It might be another day with insufficient unemployment benefits while bills pile up. It might be another day closer to possibly needing SNAP assistance or help from a food bank.

One more day could mean constrained testing supplies don't pick up as many cases of COVID-19, so the carriers can isolate and protect others. One day today means for one of my staffers—it was move-in day for his oldest daughter at college, but because she couldn't get her test result back quickly enough, that experience, which is an exciting one for a young person, could not happen.

These are not simple legislative days while we follow a negotiation strategy. These are days when Americans are struggling and suffering, and we are not responding.

Democrats are here. We are ready to compromise any day. In fact, we have already offered to meet the White House halfway on the size of the relief effort. Our meet-in-the-middle offer was rebuffed Friday, and it was rejected by the White House again yesterday.

I have heard the majority leader today and on other days characterize the Heroes Act in his remarks as a Democratic wish list. So what I would like to do is walk through the Democratic and Republican proposals side by side. At every step I hope listeners will ask themselves: Which of these agendas is oriented to helping Americans through hard times?

The Democratic proposal includes this: continuing expanded unemployment benefits for the duration of this

crisis; cash assistance for struggling families to avoid eviction and foreclosure rather than just delaying bills and piling up debt; sufficient funding and flexibility for State and local governments so that we don't have a second wave of job loss when those governments are forced to cut their budgets, and so they don't have to cut vital programs and lay off first responders during a global health pandemic; sufficient childcare funding both to help working families and to allow childcare providers to reopen so that we can get back to work; providing K-12 schools with the funding they need regardless of how they choose to reopen so that they can effectively educate students; ensuring every American can have access to free treatment for coronavirus; helping families keep food on the table by giving an increase in the SNAP benefit plus additional funding for nutrition programs; continuing support for America's small businesses; protection for the integrity of our elections during a period of uncertainty and fear. Those are the proposals that are contained in the Heroes Act.

The Republican proposals, combining both the HEALS Act—the Senate GOP proposal—and President Trump's Executive orders, include this: \$1.75 billion to keep the FBI headquarters in DC so as to prevent potential hotel competition for the Trump International Hotel; expanded corporate tax writeoffs for business lunches—another top priority for the White House; sharp cuts to unemployment benefits for workers who are suffering and out of work; broad immunity for large corporations even if they are not taking any actions to protect their workers; the effective elimination of State rules, including a rule in Virginia designed to facilitate the safe reopening of businesses and the economy; undermining important protections and enforcement of long-standing civil rights and disability laws; punishing public schools that choose to follow public health guidance but still want to provide their students with an education by reopening virtually; pushing a tax credit program that would make donations to private school scholarships already deductible as charitable contributions—that would make those now preferred over any other charitable contribution, likely draining money away from other charities and hurting government funding, as well; and finally, stopping payroll tax contributions into the Social Security trust fund, creating huge uncertainty for employers and employees but also threatening to undermine the fiscal future of Social Security retirement benefits.

These are elements of the Republican HEALS Act and President Trump's Executive orders.

Equally important is what is not in any of the Republican proposals—either that offered in the Senate or implemented by the President's Executive orders. Food aid for hungry kids and

families? Nothing. Rental assistance? Nothing. Mortgage assistance? Nothing. Aid to the States and localities where Americans live and work? Nothing. Funding to ensure the integrity of the upcoming elections? Nothing.

So I would ask anyone, which of these proposals seems more likely to help Americans who are experiencing hard times? If anyone is in doubt—and I don't think any are—about what kinds of hard times people are in, yesterday I shared some stories from Virginians who have shared them with me, just as they are sharing them with all Senators. Here are a few more of the constituents who have reached out to me.

The owner of a small business with 18 employees in Northern Virginia wrote me: "My business is struggling, my employees are suffering, and we need further assistance." He went on to describe how his business was completely shut down in the crisis. Even now that they are open, they will be operating at less than half their normal revenue for the foreseeable future. Their PPP and EIDL loan funds—they were glad to get them—have run out, and they need Congress to act to prevent the business from shuttering and those 18 jobs from disappearing permanently.

A woman from Henrico County, which is right outside of Richmond, wrote:

As I watch the news, it gets harder and harder. We desperately need help. . . . My son had COVID, he is still struggling with health issues and cannot work.

A woman in Springfield, here in Fairfax County, has been waiting for information that she needs mailed to her so she can get access to unemployment benefits, but the delays in the Postal Service have left her without the benefits she earned and is entitled to. She is a single mother of five and said: "At this point, I am struggling to feed my family."

A woman from Dumfries in Prince William County said:

I'm asking for help with the aid for the unemployed workers like myself that Covid has affected. We are a family of 4 and I have lost my unemployment that we depended on for groceries. My husband's salary covers the bills but I worked for groceries and any extras. As of now I may be able to get \$190 a week from the state if they reevaluate my claim. Please, I'm asking for bipartisan support on an unemployment package that will help families like mine to make it through this pandemic.

Finally, a woman from Alexandria—just across the Potomac—wrote:

I would like to request consideration for more emergency funding for daycare and preschool facilities. My 14 month old little girl attends daycare 5 days per week. Her daycare is wonderful, but it's at risk of closing in the very near future because it only has 1/3 of the minimum number of enrollees that it needs to be able to afford to stay open. I'm an essential worker in healthcare, specifically in pediatric care, and my husband is an essential Department of Defense employee. If I have to stay home with my daughter, I can't take care of the children of others, and I'm honestly very worried about

the prospects of eventually finding a new job, as healthcare facilities are also suffering a large reduction of daily patients. I ask this from the bottom of my heart. Please provide funding for our daycare and preschool facilities, so they can be here for us through and after the pandemic, so parents in Virginia will be able to continue work now or return to work when it is safe to do so.

It is not about politics. It is not about credit. It is about coming through for Americans when they need it. It is the case that, yesterday, Democratic leaders reached out again to the White House and repeated what they had offered last Friday. Let's meet in the middle. Let's meet halfway between the Republican proposals laid out in the HEALS Act and the President's Executive orders and the Democratic proposal passed by a sizeable majority in the House nearly 3 months ago.

That is what Americans want—negotiate, compromise, meet in the middle, and find common ground, just as we did in the CARES Act. The White House response was, no dice. They refused the Democratic proposal to meet halfway. They said that is not going to happen.

We need to get serious. Days continue to tick by as families face hard decisions. Democrats are here, and we are ready. The White House must stop its "no compromise" position to meet the needs of American families. Let's buckle down, make a deal, and get this done. The American people can't afford to wait any longer.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:53 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 2:43 p.m., when called to order by the Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, after the Senate adjourns today, we will have our regular pro forma meetings through the end of the State work period.

If the Speaker of the House and the minority leader of the Senate decide to finally let another rescue package move forward for workers and for families, it would take bipartisan consent to meet for legislative business sooner than scheduled. As has been the case,

Senators would receive at least 24-hours' notice before any unanticipated votes.

The American people need more help. The coronavirus is not finished with our country, so Congress cannot be finished helping our people. The Republicans have been waiting and trying to pass bipartisan relief, literally, for weeks. I hope our Democratic colleagues will let the Senate act sometime soon.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

##### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 771.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brett H. Ludwig, of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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 the nomination of Brett H. Ludwig, of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

Mitch McConnell, Joni Ernst, John Boozman, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Crapo, Mitt Romney, John Barrasso, Shelley Moore Capito, Pat Roberts, Thom Tillis, Cindy Hyde-Smith, David Perdue, Lindsey Graham, Kevin Cramer, Tim Scott.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

##### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 772.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Christy Criswell Wiegand, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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 the nomination of Christy Criswell Wiegand, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Mitch McConnell, Joni Ernst, John Boozman, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Crapo, Mitt Romney, John Barrasso, Shelley Moore Capito, Pat Roberts, Thom Tillis, Cindy Hyde-Smith, David Perdue, Lindsey Graham, Kevin Cramer, Tim Scott.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

##### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 811.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan.

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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 the nomination of Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan.

Mitch McConnell, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tom Cotton, Marsha Blackburn, Kevin Cramer, Jerry Moran, James E. Risch, Michael B. Enzi, Tim Scott, John Bar-

rosso, Richard Burr, Deb Fischer, James Lankford, John Thune, Steve Daines, Joni Ernst, John Hoeven.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

##### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 646.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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 the nomination of Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Lamar Alexander, Pat Roberts, Mike Crapo, Marsha Blackburn, David Perdue, Kevin Cramer, John Cornyn, Shelley Moore Capito, John Thune, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Cory Gardner, Roy Blunt, Martha McSally, John Barrasso, John Boozman.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

##### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 358.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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 the nomination of Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Mitch McConnell, Mike Crapo, Thom Tillis, Mike Rounds, John Hoeven, Roger F. Wicker, Pat Roberts, John Thune, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Boozman, Tom Cotton, Chuck Grassley, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, Todd Young, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 819.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Michael N. Nemelka, of Utah, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China, and the Western Hemisphere), with the rank of Ambassador.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Nemelka nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 704.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Richard Giacalone, of Virginia, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Giacalone nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 817 and 818.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Alina I. Marshall, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years; and Christian N. Weiler, of Louisiana, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Marshall and Weiler nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a

period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3. An act to establish a fair price negotiation program, protect the Medicare program from excessive price increases, and establish an out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare part D enrollees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 51. An act to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union.

H.R. 1425. An act to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for a Improve Health Insurance Affordability Fund to provide for certain reinsurance payments to lower premiums in the individual health insurance market.

#### 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-5278. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to Congress from the Chairman of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies; to the Committees on Appropriations; and Foreign Relations.

EC-5279. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order that takes additional steps to address the threat posed by mobile applications, in particular the mobile application TikTok, with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5280. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order that takes additional steps to address the threat posed by mobile applications, in particular the mobile application WeChat, with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5281. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import

Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Canada and Singapore; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5282. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Canada, Mexico, and Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5283. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections that was declared in Executive Order 13848 of September 12, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5284. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.187 (Rev 2), Guidance for Implementation of 10 CFR 50.59, 'Changes, Tests, and Experiments'" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5285. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indexing Adjustments for Certain Provisions Under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code" (Rev. Proc. 2020-36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5286. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Paid Parental Leave" (RIN3206-AN96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 12, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5287. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert D. McMurry, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5288. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Preserving Community and Neighborhood Choice" (RIN2501-AD95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 13, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5289. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of 'Principal Place of Business'; Filing Fees for Notices of Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States" (RIN1505-AC65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 13, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5290. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule—Prohibitions and Restrictions on Proprietary Trading and Certain Interests in, and Relationships with, Hedge Funds and Private Equity Funds" (RIN3064-AF17) re-

ceived in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 13, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5291. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Automatic Enrollment Program" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 13, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 10. A bill to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-257).

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2453. A bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-258).

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 2782. A bill to improve provisions of law relating to sexual harassment and assault prevention at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-259).

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 2909, a bill to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration (Rept. No. 116-260).

## 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. PETERS (for himself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 4527. A bill to maintain prompt and reliable postal services during the COVID-19 health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 4528. A bill to strengthen the United States' ties with Latin American and Caribbean countries through diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation, to counter efforts by the People's Republic of China to undermine United States' interests and values in the Americas, and to promote economic development and competitiveness in the Latin America and Caribbean region; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 4529. A bill to improve access by Indian Tribes to support from the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support program (E-rate) of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 4530. A bill to establish a Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program within the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. Res. 680. A resolution condemning the People's Republic of China's use of military aggression to change the status quo at the Line of Actual Control between India and China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. Res. 681. A resolution recognizing the Chinese railroad workers who worked on the Transcontinental Railroad from 1865 to 1869 and the important contributions of those railroad workers to the growth of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. Res. 682. A resolution recognizing the devastating explosion that rocked the Port of Beirut on August 4, 2020, and expressing solidarity with the Lebanese people; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. Res. 683. A resolution designating the first week of August 2020 as "World Breastfeeding Week", and designating August 2020 as "National Breastfeeding Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Con. Res. 43. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should do everything in his power to achieve resolution and repayment of the defaulted sovereign debt of the People's Republic of China held by 20,000 families in the United States represented by the American Bondholders Foundation, LLC; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 145

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 145, a bill to expand opportunity through greater choice in education, and for other purposes.

S. 393

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 393, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices and judges of the courts of the United States.

S. 593

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent

meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes.

S. 624

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to provide for same day registration.

S. 892

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 892, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition, and other materials to win the war, that were referred to as “Rosie the Riveter”, in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.

S. 1954

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1954, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the integration of baseball.

S. 2226

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2226, a bill to require States to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with plans developed and enacted into law by independent redistricting commissions, and for other purposes.

S. 2669

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 2669, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes.

S. 3064

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from

Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 3064, a bill to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia.

S. 3718

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3718, a bill to expand the waiver of affiliation rules for certain business concerns with more than 1 physical location, and for other purposes.

S. 3814

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3814, a bill to establish a loan program for businesses affected by COVID-19 and to extend the loan forgiveness period for paycheck protection program loans made to the hardest hit businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 3832

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3832, a bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology in the redesignated National Science and Technology Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, and innovation, and for other purposes.

S. 4012

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4012, a bill to establish a \$120,000,000,000 Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide structured relief to food service or drinking establishments through December 31, 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 4129

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4129, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds.

S. 4258

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4258, a bill to establish a grant program for small live venue operators and talent representatives.

S. 4303

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, his name and the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors

of S. 4303, a bill to improve State short-term compensation programs, and for other purposes.

S. 4310

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4310, a bill to prohibit in-person instructional requirements during the COVID-19 emergency.

S. 4421

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4421, a bill to provide temporary licensing reciprocity for telehealth and interstate health care treatment.

S. 4474

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4474, a bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act to prohibit the export of certain unmanned aircraft systems.

S. 4491

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4491, a bill to designate methamphetamine as an emerging threat, and for other purposes.

S. 4493

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 4493, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to establish an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 672

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 672, a resolution designating September 2020 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

AMENDMENT NO. 2616

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2616 intended to be proposed to S. 178, a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. HARRIS):



S. 4530. A bill to establish a Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program within the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program Authorization Act, which I introduced today with Senator HARRIS. Representatives JOSH HARDER, JOHN GARAMENDI, JERRY MCNERNEY, GRACE NAPOLITANO, T.J. COX, and AMI BERA—all Democrats from California—and DIANA DEGETTE and JOE NEGUSE—both Democrats from Colorado—have introduced identical companion legislation in the House.

Airborne snow observatory, ASO, technology is a snow monitoring tool that provides precise measurement of depth and water content for every square meter of snow in a watershed. The technology measures snow depth and water content using an airplane-mounted light detection, LiDAR, instrument coupled with an imaging spectrometer.

When combined with conventional snow surveys, ASO provides a near-perfect picture of snow water content.

By near perfect, I mean that ASO estimates snowpack and runoff forecast with 96 to 99 percent accuracy. This is much better than current practices, which only measure snowpack and runoff with 50 to 90 percent accuracy.

These forecast accuracies are achieved by comparing LiDAR measurements of bare ground topography in the summer with multiple measurements of snow depth during the winter. The greatest accuracies are based on once-a-month flights in watersheds earlier in the winter, and twice monthly flights during the spring runoff period.

The much more precise measurements of snowpack that ASO provides will be critical in better managing competing missions of western water storage reservoirs for flood control and water supply amidst a changing climate and growing population.

For example, in a single year, 2018, Turlock Irrigation District used this technology in the Tuolumne River watershed to save 150,000 acre-feet of water supply.

Because they knew precisely how much snow was in the upper watershed of the Tuolumne, Turlock was able to avoid a release of 150,000 acre-feet of water from Don Pedro Reservoir that otherwise would have been required for flood control.

Without ASO technology, Turlock would have had to assume for safety purposes that the melting snow in the upper Tuolumne watershed was at the high end of a wide range of estimates using conventional snowpack technology. With the possibility of a big snowmelt, Turlock would have had to release the extra 150,000 acre feet of water.

With water in California often costing \$1000 per acre foot or more, errors

in water-storage management can cost hundreds of millions of dollars in unnecessary releases from reservoirs and extra groundwater pumping.

Additional ASO flights to better measure snowpack often have a high return on investment, by one estimate as much as 40:1 for water supply benefits, and 80:1 for all benefits, including hydro, recharge, flood control, and ecosystem benefits.

After several years developing and refining the deployment of snowpack measurement technology, in December 2019, NASA concluded management of the-ASO program and transferred it to the private sector. While consistent with NASA's traditional approach to developing new technologies, this transfer reduces the certainty for Federal support of a program with significant public benefits, including improved water conservation, supply and delivery forecasts across the West.

The bill establishes a snow pack forecasting program at the Bureau of Reclamation within the Department of the Interior.

The Bureau shall implement the program in two phases:

No. 1, the first step is to coordinate with other Federal agencies on how they will work together to improve analyses of snowpack depth. This inter-agency process will result in a report due to Congress by October 21, 2021.

No. 2, following the completion of the report, the Bureau will cost-share with States, water districts, other Federal agencies and other partners on increased LiDAR flights and other activities in particular watersheds.

This program is expected to benefit many Western States, including but not limited to Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountains; the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico; and the Colorado River tributaries in Utah and Arizona, and the Pacific Northwest.

Fifteen million dollars would be authorized for the program from fiscal years 2022 to 2026.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 680—CONDEMNING THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S USE OF MILITARY AGGRESSION TO CHANGE THE STATUS QUO AT THE LINE OF ACTUAL CONTROL BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 680

Whereas, since a truce ended the 1962 war between India and the People's Republic of China, the countries have been divided by a Line of Actual Control;

Whereas the United States officially recognizes the McMahon Line, the Indian state of

Arunachal Pradesh, and encourages a diplomatic solution to remaining contested areas of the border between India and China;

Whereas, due to the disputed nature of the Line of Actual Control, minor standoffs between India and the People's Republic of China have occasionally happened, but prior to June 15, 2020, no military fatalities had occurred since 1975;

Whereas, in the months leading up to June 15, 2020, the People's Republic of China increased troop deployments, built new infrastructure in contested areas, and harassed Indian patrols along multiple sectors of the Line of Actual Control, particularly around the Depsang Plains, Galwan Valley, Hot Springs, and Pangong Lake;

Whereas the events of June 15, 2020, which resulted in the death of 20 Indian soldiers, raises serious concerns regarding the intent of the Government of the People's Republic of China and its military forces;

Whereas this act by the People's Republic of China military occurred during bilateral diplomatic negotiations between the Governments of the People's Republic of China and India, who were attempting to deescalate tensions at the Line of Actual Control;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China's expanded territorial claims in Bhutan's eastern sector is a transparent attempt at expanding its illegitimate claims over the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh;

Whereas the United States designated India as a Major Defense Partner and has taken steps to deepen the bilateral defense relationship, including by elevating India to Strategic Trade Authorization Tier 1 Status and conducting annual joint military exercises;

Whereas the United States Government remains committed to a free and open Indo-Pacific and views China's aggression at the Line of Actual Control, in the Indian Ocean, and in the Western Pacific as a threat to the stability and security of the international community;

Whereas the Government of India has taken steps to secure its telecommunications infrastructure from Chinese security threats;

Whereas it mutually benefits the United States and India to strengthen their Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership through increased defense interoperability, intelligence sharing, access to military installations, and trade;

Whereas the United States and India have signed three foundational military agreements, the General Security of Military Information Agreement, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Understanding, and the Communications, Compatibility, and Security Agreement, and are working to sign the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement; and

Whereas it is in the mutual interest of the United States and India to expand their defense and intelligence relationships both bilaterally, as well as multilaterally through the Quadrilateral Dialogue with Japan and Australia: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the People's Republic of China's use of military force to change the status quo at the Line of Actual Control, as well as its refusal to demarcate that Line in accordance with past bilateral agreements with India;

(2) supports a diplomatic solution that rapidly restores the April 2020 status quo at the Line of Actual Control;

(3) commends India for taking steps to secure its telecommunications infrastructure



from Chinese security threats and encourages multilateral engagement in these efforts, including through the Blue Dot Network;

(4) commits to deepening defense, intelligence, and economic ties with India in line with fulfilling the full potential of the Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership; and

(5) supports bilateral and multilateral partnerships, such as the Quadrilateral Dialogue, to promote a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 681—RECOGNIZING THE CHINESE RAILROAD WORKERS WHO WORKED ON THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD FROM 1865 TO 1869 AND THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF THOSE RAILROAD WORKERS TO THE GROWTH OF THE UNITED STATES**

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

**S. RES. 681**

Whereas the Transcontinental Railroad was 1 of the most remarkable engineering feats of the 19th century;

Whereas construction of the nearly 2,000-mile Transcontinental Railroad spanned 6 years;

Whereas the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad facilitated commerce and reduced cross-country travel time from 6 months to 1 week;

Whereas nearly 12,000 Chinese immigrants (referred to in this preamble as the “Chinese railroad workers”) were employed in the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad, constituting more than 80 percent of the workforce of the Central Pacific Railroad Company;

Whereas the Chinese railroad workers were—

(1) considered indispensable by the foremen on the project; and

(2) respected for their work ethic and discipline;

Whereas the Chinese railroad workers set a world record by laying 10 miles of railroad track in just 1 work day;

Whereas the Chinese railroad workers were—

(1) given the most difficult and dangerous jobs; and

(2) paid lower wages than other railroad workers;

Whereas nearly 1,200 Chinese railroad workers died from work accidents, avalanches, and explosions while working in the Sierra Nevada Mountains;

Whereas, in honor of the courage shown by the Chinese railroad workers in organizing for fair wages and safe working conditions, the Department of Labor inducted the Chinese railroad workers into the Labor Hall of Honor in 2014;

Whereas the fight of the Chinese railroad workers against discrimination set an example for millions of Asian Americans who later came to the United States;

Whereas the descendants of the Chinese railroad workers and the wider Asian-American community view the sacrifices of the Chinese railroad workers as integral to the creation of the vibrant and growing Asian-American community that exists throughout the United States; and

Whereas the legacy of the Chinese railroad workers continues to have a profound and positive impact on life in the United States by advancing the ideals of equal opportunity

and the dignity of work for everyone: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the Chinese immigrants who worked on the Transcontinental Railroad from 1865 to 1869 (referred to in this resolving clause as the “Chinese railroad workers”); and

(B) the contributions of the Chinese railroad workers to the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad and the growth of the United States;

(2) honors the Chinese railroad workers who lost their lives working in the Sierra Nevada Mountains; and

(3) acknowledges all of the risks faced by the Chinese railroad workers in completing the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad while enduring discrimination and unequal pay and treatment.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 682—RECOGNIZING THE DEVASTATING EXPLOSION THAT ROCKED THE PORT OF BEIRUT ON AUGUST 4, 2020, AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE LEBANESE PEOPLE**

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

**S. RES. 682**

Whereas, on August 4, 2020, 2,750 tons of ammonium nitrate detonated at the Port of Beirut, killing more than 200 people and injuring thousands more;

Whereas the dangerous and highly explosive material was unsafely stored at the Port of Beirut since 2014, despite repeated warnings over the threat the stockpile posed to the surrounding civilian population;

Whereas the Secretary General of the Lebanese Red Cross was quoted as saying, “What we are witnessing is a huge catastrophe.”;

Whereas the blast destroyed vast swaths of infrastructure across Beirut and displaced up to 300,000 people;

Whereas the blast destroyed or damaged the entire port of Beirut, through which Lebanon imports the bulk of its food, including the destruction of approximately 120,000 metric tons of desperately needed food stocks, according to the United Nations;

Whereas, prior to the blast, nearly 1,000,000 people in the Beirut metropolitan area, including more than 500,000 children, did not have the means to buy basic essentials, including food;

Whereas Lebanon already struggles to support the largest per-capita population of refugees in the world, including nearly 1,000,000 Syrian refugees currently registered with the United Nations;

Whereas the governor of Beirut predicted that the full cost of recovery and relief could be between \$3,000,000,000 and \$5,000,000,000;

Whereas several Beirut hospitals, already struggling to procure medical equipment and pay medical staff amid the spread of COVID-19, have sustained too much blast damage to admit new patients;

Whereas the blasts coincides with a period of protracted political crisis in Lebanon;

Whereas, after months of political deadlock, Lebanon formed a government in January of this year with the backing of Hezbollah, a United States-designated Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO), and its allies;

Whereas endemic corruption and Hezbollah’s mismanagement has led Lebanon

to the brink of economic collapse, including an 80 percent currency devaluation since 2019, one of the highest rates of public debt, food insecurity, and hyperinflation;

Whereas the United States Government has longstanding concerns about Hezbollah’s use of and influence over the Beirut port as a transit and storage point for its terrorist enterprise;

Whereas the people of Lebanon across the political spectrum have renewed demands for a meaningful change in Lebanon’s political leadership, government accountability, and transparency;

Whereas, following the explosion and public outcry from the Lebanese people, Prime Minister Hassan Diab announced on August 10, 2020, that he and his government would step down;

Whereas international donors, including the United States, have pledged \$297,000,000 in aid to Lebanon at a virtual summit hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron;

Whereas the United States, through the United States Agency for International Development, announced on August 7, 2020, that it would provide more than \$15,000,000 in humanitarian assistance to aid the people of Lebanon following the explosions at the Port of Beirut, and that these funds would support life-saving medical responses and relief for the immediate needs of people facing this tragedy, including food aid for 50,000 people for three months and medical and pharmaceutical support for up to 60,000 people for three months; and

Whereas a stable Lebanon with a credible, transparent government free from Iranian and Hezbollah interference is in the broader national security interests of the United States and United States partners and allies: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) extends its heartfelt condolences to, and stands with, the people of Lebanon;

(2) supports United States Government efforts to provide emergency humanitarian relief in concert with other governments and international partners;

(3) affirms that United States assistance, led by the United States Agency for International Development, should be delivered directly to the Lebanese people through properly vetted channels, organizations, and individuals;

(4) calls on the Government of Lebanon to conduct a credible, impartial, and transparent investigation into the cause of, and responsibility for, the explosion, and include impartial international experts as part of the investigation team;

(5) calls on the investigation team to evaluate and determine the root causes of instability and economic mismanagement that have impacted the people of Lebanon; and

(6) further calls on the Government of Lebanon to restore faith and confidence by prioritizing policies and programs that advance the interests of the people of Lebanon.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 683—DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST 2020 AS “WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK”, AND DESIGNATING AUGUST 2020 AS “NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING MONTH”**

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 683

Whereas all major medical authorities recommend exclusive breastfeeding for about the first 6 months of life and continued breastfeeding for not less than the first year of life;

Whereas the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action has designated the first week of August as “World Breastfeeding Week”, and the United States Breastfeeding Committee has designated August as “National Breastfeeding Month”;

Whereas National Breastfeeding Month focuses on how data and measurements can be used to build and reinforce the connections between breastfeeding and a broad spectrum of other health topics and initiatives;

Whereas World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month provide important opportunities to address barriers to breastfeeding faced by families across the United States and around the world;

Whereas breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy that builds a foundation for life-long health and wellness;

Whereas the evidence of the value of breastfeeding to the health of women and children is scientific, solid, and continually reaffirmed by new research;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention publishes an annual Breastfeeding Report Card, which has found that, while the proportion of infants who were ever breastfed in the United States is increasing, the United States continues to miss targets for exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of life;

Whereas there are substantial racial and ethnic disparities in access to breastfeeding support, resulting in reduced breastfeeding rates and an associated increase in risk for a variety of negative health outcomes;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, the National Immunization Survey reports that 86.6 percent of White infants have ever been breastfed, while—

(1) 74 percent of Black infants have ever been breastfed; and

(2) 79.5 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native infants have ever been breastfed;

Whereas the Healthy People initiative of the Department of Health and Human Services has consistently identified breastfeeding as a national health priority;

Whereas the majority of new parents want to breastfeed but face significant barriers in community, health care, and employment settings;

Whereas, while some parents may choose not to breastfeed or are unable to breastfeed, all parents can benefit from access to education on infant nutrition and wellness;

Whereas protecting and supporting breastfeeding for parents who are able to breastfeed is essential to ensuring critical food security and immunologic protection for the youngest residents of the United States; and

Whereas the consistent and well-documented health, economic, and environmental benefits of breastfeeding show that breastfeeding is an investment that will continue to produce measurable dividends many times over across the United States and for families, employers, and government entities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of August 2020 as “World Breastfeeding Week”;

(2) designates August 2020 as “National Breastfeeding Month”;

(3) supports the goals of World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month; and

(4) supports policies and funding to ensure that all parents who choose to breastfeed can

access a full range of appropriate support from child care and health care institutions, health care insurers, employers, researchers, and government entities.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 43—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO ACHIEVE RESOLUTION AND REPAYMENT OF THE DEFAULTED SOVEREIGN DEBT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HELD BY 20,000 FAMILIES IN THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTED BY THE AMERICAN BONDHOLDERS FOUNDATION, LLC**

Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 43

Whereas sovereign debt obligations (in this preamble referred to as “bonds”) of the Government of the People's Republic of China were offered and sold in United States capital markets;

Whereas the bonds constitute full faith and credit sovereign obligations of the internationally recognized Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the People's Republic of China subsequently defaulted on those bonds;

Whereas the bonds constitute an unpaid general obligation of the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, under the successor government doctrine of settled international law (relating to establishing the continuity of obligations among successor governments), the repayment obligation for the bonds is the obligation of the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to refuse to repay the bonds held by United States citizens and has officially repudiated the debts, which is a clear violation of United States law, international law, and the rules and regulations of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China honored repayment of the exact same bonds held by citizens of the United Kingdom while rejecting the claims of citizens of the United States;

Whereas, since the normalization of bilateral relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China in the 1970s, the United States has shown good will to the People's Republic of China by focusing on an expansion of bilateral trade while deferring discussion of repayment of the People's Republic of China's defaulted national debt;

Whereas, under standard legal principles, the People's Republic of China's defaulted sovereign gold debt has been accumulating compound interest for more 82 years and is estimated to exceed the total amount of the United States national debt to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, as representative of United States bondholders who own the People's Republic of China's defaulted sovereign gold bonds, American Bondholders Foundation, LLC, has proposed using the People's Republic of China's obligations as payment for the United States national debt to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, the Government of the People's Republic of China covered up the outbreak of

the coronavirus disease 2019 (commonly referred to as “COVID-19”) during its early stages, resulting in a global pandemic and more than \$2,000,000,000,000 in financial damage to the United States; and

Whereas the United States Government pays its debts, and so should the Government of the People's Republic of China: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that the President should do everything in his power to achieve resolution and repayment of the defaulted sovereign debt of the People's Republic of China held by 20,000 families in the United States who are represented by the American Bondholders Foundation, LLC, for the benefit of the bondholders and the people of the United States.

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED**

SA 2651. Ms. MCSALLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table.

**TEXT OF AMENDMENTS**

**SA 2651.** Ms. MCSALLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

**SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION GRANTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Transportation shall use any amounts made available to the Secretary for grant programs for covered projects, and not otherwise obligated, to provide additional funds to covered projects.

(b) AMOUNT.—In providing additional funds for a covered project under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall provide an amount equal to not less than 10 percent of the total project costs.

(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—Amounts made available for a covered project under subsection (a) shall not be counted toward the Federal share of the project.

(d) MODIFICATIONS TO AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall modify a grant agreement for a covered project as necessary to provide additional funds under subsection (a) in accordance with the amount determined under subsection (b).

(e) DEFINITION OF COVERED PROJECT.—In this section, the term “covered project” means a highway project, a public transportation project, a rural transportation project, or a tribal transportation project that—

(1) during the period beginning on January 1, 2017, and ending on the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) has been awarded a grant under a competitive grant program of the Secretary of Transportation; or

(B) in the case of a new fixed guideway capital project proposed to be carried out using a grant under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, advanced to the engineering phase under subsection (g) of that section; and

(2) requires additional funding to complete the project due to the effects of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME EN BLOC—H.R. 3, H.R. 51, H.R. 1425

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there are three bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3) to establish a fair price negotiation program, protect the Medicare program from excessive price increases, and establish an out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare part D enrollees, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 51) to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union.

A bill (H.R. 1425) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for a Improve Health Insurance Affordability Fund to provide for certain reinsurance payments to lower premiums in the individual health insurance market.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

#### APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two houses, or by order of the Senate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### APPOINTMENT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 81-754, as amended by Public Law 93-536 and further amended by Public Law 100-365, appoints the following Senator to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission: the Honorable DANIEL SULLIVAN of Alaska.

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 THROUGH TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it 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, August 14, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, August 18, at 12 p.m.; Friday, August 21, at 11:15 a.m.; Tuesday, August 25, at 2:30 p.m.; Friday, August 28, at 2 p.m.; Tuesday, September 1, at 7 a.m.; Friday, September 4, at 10 a.m.

I further ask unanimous consent that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, September 4, it next convene at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon the closing of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume the Ludwig nomination; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:59 p.m., adjourned until Friday, August 14, 2020, at 10 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

ROBERT BENEDICT BOWES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 13, 2025, VICE BRIAN D. QUINTENZ, TERM EXPIRED.

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be colonel

EDWARD J. COLEMAN  
MICHAEL E. KELLY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be colonel

RENN D. POLK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### To be lieutenant colonel

WILLIAM R. BROWN  
JAY M. CHUNG  
JUSTIN W. CROCKER  
JOEL R. HILBORN

CHRISTOPHER M. LOFTON  
EMILY H. SPENCER  
JUDE T. VERGE  
PAUL S. WINTERSTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### To be colonel

JONATHAN BENDER  
JOHN BISHOP  
KEVIN T. BLACK  
DREW R. CONOVER  
KIRBY R. DENNIS  
BRYAN FRIZZELLE  
JOSHUA M. GASPARD  
RYAN M. HANSON  
ANTHONY A. KELLER  
JEROME A. PARKER  
SHAWN M. PATRICK  
JOSEPH RUZICKA  
BRENDA J. SPENCE  
CHRISTOPHER J. VITALE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### To be major

RAYMOND COLSTON, JR.  
DAVID CONRAD  
MITCHELL G. DAUGHERTY  
CHAD EVANS  
JOEL M. FAHLING  
BRETT E. HUMPHREYS  
SCOTT LOUGHRIDGE  
IAN A. MORRIS  
NORRIS E. POTTER  
MATTHEW J. RIVAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

##### To be colonel

JAMES O. BOWEN  
RICHARD P. CIPRO  
JAYSON A. COBLE  
ELIZABETH A. EVANS  
WYATT E. HANSEN  
SETH T. HIBLE  
KEVIN G. LITTLE  
TYRONE V. PATENAUDE  
GERI L. SWARTS  
ROBERT W. WALKER, JR.  
PHILIP A. WINN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

##### To be colonel

ANDREW T. CONANT  
ERIC J. DINOTO  
ROBERT GUEVARA  
BROCK G. LARSON  
TAMMY E. MANWARING  
TANYA S. MCGONEGAL  
PATRICK D. NOLAN  
TODD A. PEGG  
SHANE P. SLATER  
RAVINDRA V. WAGH

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be captain

KRISTEN L. KINNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be commander

JEFFREY B. PARKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be commander

WILLIAM F. BLANTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be commander

MICHAEL J. ARMSTRONG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be lieutenant commander

CHADWICK G. SHROY

##### IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

ANGELA M. NELSON

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AIR FORCE AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 9034:

*To be general*

LT. GEN. DAVID W. ALLVIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. JAMES C. DAWKINS, JR.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

LT. GEN. ANDREW P. POPPAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. JAMES J. MINGUS

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate August 13, 2020:

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICES

RICHARD GIACOLONE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION DIRECTOR.

THE JUDICIARY

ALINA I. MARSHALL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

CHRISTIAN N. WEILER, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MICHAEL N. NEMELKA, OF UTAH, TO BE A DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (INVESTMENT, SERVICES, LABOR, ENVIRONMENT, AFRICA, CHINA, AND THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE), WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on August 13, 2020 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

ARMY NOMINATION OF COL. BRADLEY D. MOSES, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON FEBRUARY 24, 2020.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

#### *Routine Proceedings, pages S5403–S5414*

**Measures Introduced:** Four bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4527–4530, S. Res. 680–683, and S. Con. Res. 43. **Page S5408**

#### **Measures Reported:**

S. 10, to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida. (S. Rept. No. 116–257)

S. 2453, to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–258)

S. 2782, to improve provisions of law relating to sexual harassment and assault prevention at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. (S. Rept. No. 116–259)

Report to accompany S. 2909, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration. (S. Rept. No. 116–260)

**Page S5408**

#### **Appointments:**

**National Historical Publications and Records Commission:** The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 81–754, as amended by Public Law 93–536 and further amended by Public Law 100–365, appointed the following Senator to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission: Senator Sullivan. **Page S5413**

**Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences

authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S5413**

**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, August 14, 2020, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 12 p.m.; Friday, August 21, 2020, at 11:15 a.m.; Tuesday, August 25, 2020, at 2:30 p.m.; Friday, August 28, 2020, at 2 p.m.; Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at 7 a.m.; Friday, September 4, 2020, at 10 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, September 4, 2020, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. **Page S5413**

**Ludwig Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Brett H. Ludwig, of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. **Page S5406**

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, August 13, 2020, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. **Page S5406**

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 S5406**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, August 13, 2020, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. **Page S5413**

**Wiegand Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Christy Criswell Wiegand, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. **Page S5406**

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 Brett H. Ludwig, of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. **Page S5406**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5406**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5406**

**Jarbou Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan. **Page S5406**

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 Christy Criswell Wiegand, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. **Page S5406**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5406**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5406**

**Cullen Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. **Page S5406**

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 Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan. **Page S5406**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5406**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5406**

**Gujarati Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S5407**

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 Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. **Page S5407**

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5406**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Pages S5406–07**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Michael N. Nemelka, of Utah, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China, and the Western Hemisphere), with the rank of Ambassador.

Richard Giacalone, of Virginia, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director.

Alina I. Marshall, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

Christian N. Weiler, of Louisiana, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years. **Page S5407**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Robert Benedict Bowes, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2025.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S5413–14**

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

1 Army nomination in the rank of general. **Page S5414**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Page S5407**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S5407–08**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5408–09**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S5409–12**

**Additional Statements:**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S5412–13**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 2:59 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Friday, August 14, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5413.)

## *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

No committee meetings were held.

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# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 2 p.m. on Friday, August 14, 2020.

## *Committee Meetings*

No hearings were held.

## *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2020

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House

No hearings are scheduled.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Friday, August 14

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

2 p.m., Friday, August 14

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 2 p.m.



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