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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

No. 207

## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 3 p.m.

## House of Representatives

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCHENRY).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 15, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PATRICK T. MCHENRY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God of peace, we pray for Your peace this day. In the hustle and bustle of the season, when our minds are overwhelmed by competing priorities and demanding schedules, we pray for a sense of peace that transcends the day-to-day grind and allows us the quietude to catch our breath.

As the world turns on an axis of struggles for supremacy and the preservation of whole peoples, we pray for peace among the nations. Cause us each to be still and know that You are God, that You alone would be exalted in all the Earth.

In our own hearts, when we find ourselves distressed by personal challenges, concerned for members of our family, fearful of our adversaries, grant

us the peace that is not defined by this life. Let not our hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

O God, You are the Lord of peace. Give us Your peace at all times, in all places, in all circumstances. In every way, Lord, be with us.

In the peace that is found in Your name we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 14, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 14, 2023, at 3:27 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 229.

That the Senate passed S. 265.

That the Senate passed S. 318.

That the Senate agreed to Relative to the Death of the Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor former associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States S. 499

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
*Acting Clerk.*

### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 788.—An act to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow States to issue fully electronic stamps under that Act, and for other purposes.

### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, reported that on December 14, 2023, the following bills were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.R. 1734. To require coordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2670. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 5 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2562. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Livestock and Poultry, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Beef Promotion and Research Order; Reapportionment and Technical Amendment [Doc. No.: AMS-LP-22-0002] received December 7, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-2563. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Water-Source Heat Pumps [EERE-2017-BT-TP-0029] (RIN: 1904-AE05) received December 6, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2564. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's direct final rule — Use of NARA Facilities: Rules for Filming, Photographing, or Videotaping on NARA Property for Personal Use [FDMS No.: NARA-23-0008; NARA-2023-034] (RIN: 3095-AC13) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2565. A letter from the Director, Healthcare and Insurance, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — FEDVIP: Extension of Eligibility to Certain Employees on Temporary Appointments and Certain Employees on Seasonal and Intermittent Schedules; Enrollment Clarifications and Exceptions for Changes in Enrollment (RIN: 3206-AN91) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2566. A letter from the Director, Workforce Policy and Innovation, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's interim final rule; request for comments — Noncompetitive Appointment of Certain Military Spouses [Docket ID: OPM-2023-0026] (RIN: 3206-AO57) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2567. A letter from the Director, Workforce Policy and Innovation, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs (RIN: 3206-AO00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2568. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Hillsborough Bay, Tampa, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0788] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2569. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zones; San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0852] (RIN: 625-AA87) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2570. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zones; San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0861] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2571. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; APEC 2023 Fireworks; San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0870] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2572. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Multi-Year Certificate of Documentation for Recreational Vessel Owners [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0305] (RIN: 1625-AC87) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2573. A letter from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Shrewsbury River, S-32 Bridge, Boroughs of Rumson and Sea Bright, NJ [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0286] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2574. A letter from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Towing Vessel Firefighting Training [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0492] (RIN: 1625-AC64) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2575. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Saint Thomas, USVI [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0838] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2576. A letter from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulations Policy and Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Payments Under State Home Care Agreements for Nursing Home Care (RIN: 2900-AR62) received December 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6839. A bill to provide for improvements in the treatment of detained persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HILL (for himself and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 6840. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from engaging in transactions involving the exchange of Special Drawing Rights issued by the International Monetary Fund that are held by the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. MAST, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 6841. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the Secretary of Commerce to establish a Coastal and Estuarine Resilience and Restoration Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 6842. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, and the STOCK Act to require certain senior officials to report payments received from the Federal Government, to improve the filing and disclosure of financial disclosures by Members of Congress, congressional staff, very senior employees, and others, and to ban stock trading for certain senior Government officials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCALISE (for himself, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 6843. A bill to expand the boundaries of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area to include Lafourche Parish, Louisiana; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 6844. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from entering into contracts with PDP sponsors of prescription drug plans that have a contract with certain pharmacy benefits managers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 6845. A bill to require officials of the Department of Defense to provide a briefing

on the implementation of category management memorandum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 6846. A bill to require the United States Government to assist in the establishment of national security councils in specified countries; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 6839.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for improvements in the treatment of detained persons, and the establishment of an Office of Legal Access Programs.

By Mr. HILL:

H.R. 6840.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution  
The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from engaging in transactions involving the exchange of Special Drawing Rights issued by the International Monetary Fund that are held by the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LEVIN:

H.R. 6841.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Coastal conservation and research

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 6842.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, and the STOCK Act to require certain senior officials to report payments received from the Federal Government, to improve the filing and disclosure of financial disclosures by Members of Congress, congress-

sional staff, very senior employees, and others, and to ban stock trading for certain senior Government officials, and for

By Mr. SCALISE:

H.R. 6843.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article IV, Section 3, clause 2 provides Congress with the power to “dispose of and make all needful rules and Regulations respecting the Territory and other Property belonging to the United States.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill modifies the boundary area for the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area.

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 6844.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section Eight

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prevents PBMs from participating in Medicare if they own a pharmacy.

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 6845.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require officials of the Department of Defense to provide a briefing on the implementation of category management memorandum, and for other purposes

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 6846.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

National Security

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 419: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 513: Ms. MALOY.

H.R. 620: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 923: Ms. MALOY.

H.R. 936: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 953: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1087: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 1088: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 1293: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 1315: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 1319: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 1415: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 1555: Mr. MCCARTHY.

H.R. 1742: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 1756: Ms. MALOY.

H.R. 1776: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 2475: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 2630: Ms. CRAIG, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MORAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.

H.R. 2871: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 2909: Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 2923: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 2949: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 2992: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 3006: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 3269: Mr. LUTTRELL.

H.R. 3376: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 3396: Ms. MALOY.

H.R. 3409: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 3433: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. DELUZZIO, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California.

H.R. 3475: Mr. HOYER, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 3481: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 3713: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 3768: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4310: Ms. MALOY.

H.R. 4315: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 4324: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 4577: Ms. MALOY.

H.R. 4717: Ms. CARAVEO.

H.R. 4818: Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 5030: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 5077: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 5399: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 6003: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. THANEDAR, and Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 6135: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 6530: Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 6585: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 6652: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 6667: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 6673: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 6683: Mr. CORREA, Mr. GUEST, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 6753: Mr. CRANE.

H.R. 6800: Ms. MACE.

H. Res. 850: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 881: Mr. PASCARELL.

H. Res. 895: Ms. PINGREE and Ms. CHU.

H. Res. 901: Ms. WATERS and Ms. TITUS.

H. Res. 915: Ms. WEXTON.

#### DISCHARGE PETITIONS— ADDITIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petition:

Petition 6 by Ms. PRESSLEY on House Joint Resolution 25: Mr. Moskowitz, Ms. Stansbury.