

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 561, S. Res. 562, S. Res. 563, and S. Res. 564.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REPRESENTATIVE DON YOUNG

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

ate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 565, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 565) honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Representative Don Young.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 565) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 642, 643, 734, and 789; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the following nominations en bloc: Lisa A. Carty, of Maryland, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations; Laura S. H. Holgate, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador; Christopher John Williamson, of West Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health; and Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance)?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 30; 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; that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Pryor nomination; that the cloture motions filed during Monday's session ripen following disposition of the motion to discharge the Bedoya nomination, and that the Senate vote on the motion to discharge the Bedoya nomination at 11:45 a.m.; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Pryor nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired at 1:30 p.m.; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the provisions of S. Res. 565, following the remarks of Senator CANTWELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

NOMINATION OF ALVARO M. BEDOYA

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I thank the leader for mentioning the move to have a vote on Alvaro Bedoya to be Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. This is such an important task, and I know that the leader probably knows that Mr. Bedoya hails from New York, but it also must be a very proud moment for him as well.

The FTC is the security guard for America's consumers. If a company is lying to its customers about their products and what they can do or teaming up with competitors to keep prices high, the FTC is the policeman on the beat, saying those things are not allowed here.

Mr. SCHUMER. Would the Senator from Washington yield for a minute?

Ms. CANTWELL. Yes.

Mr. SCHUMER. I want to thank the Senator for her leadership on this issue.

We all know that we have seen prices go way up. We also all suspect that a lot of it is due to different kinds of gouging and manipulation. The FTC is

about the best Agency to look for this, but without Mr. Bedoya on the FTC, the chair and the members would be handicapped in moving that forward. This is a really important motion to discharge.

I hope anyone who cares about inflation and rising prices and collusion and all kinds of manipulation to prevent those prices from coming back down should be voting for this motion to discharge and the nomination.

Once again, the Senator from Washington has led the way on this issue, and I salute her. This is a very, very important motion to discharge.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I thank the majority leader for that concise documentation of what really the FTC is about. It is about getting somebody on there who is going to fight to protect consumers on issues.

We know that we need the FTC now more than ever. We needed their muscle during the COVID pandemic, as opportunistic scammers stole \$5.9 billion out of the pockets of Americans, and that is just the reported amount. That doesn't include people who never knew that they were scammed or were too embarrassed to report what happened.

So Congress, on a bipartisan basis, pumped up the FTC's power, and at the end of 2020, we passed the COVID-19 Consumer Protection Act to help root out promoters of dangerous, fake treatments and cures.

Second, we gave the FTC \$30 million in the American Rescue Plan to promote and protect Americans against scams that targeted their COVID stimulus payments.

Last year, we confirmed the FTC Chair, Lina Khan, with support from 21 Republicans in this body, and today we are talking about the next important step in protecting consumers, and that is moving to confirm Mr. Bedoya to fill the last seat on the Federal Trade Commission.

Mr. Bedoya has the right experience we need to tackle the problems that we are facing right now—some of the most complicated and pressing issues regarding how to protect our privacy and protect children's online privacy. I say that because I heard comments from my colleague about Mr. Bedoya and the fact that he issued various tweets about this or that in his time in the private sector.

I guarantee you that if we voted for people based on what their tweets are, there would be a lot of people who wouldn't be approved at all, including some of the people who have been through this process.

Mr. Bedoya served as the chief counsel of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and Law. So I would say that as it relates to the FTC's ability to do some-

thing about reining in some of the bad practices that we see online, I think he is a very qualified person and individual.

Mr. Bedoya graduated summa cum laude from Harvard and holds a law degree from Yale, where he served on the Yale Law Journal and received the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.

So I think that Mr. Bedoya is a person who has dug in on a variety of issues and has the experience and leadership in one of the most critical areas—technology—that the FTC is dealing with today.

So I encourage my colleagues to support him. That is why he is supported by the current Republican FTC Commissioners. They also support his nomination. They say they recognize his willingness and expertise and ability to reach across the aisle and find common ground on solutions that work for people.

It is that skill set that we are looking for at the FTC to help hard-working Americans get a fair shake in the marketplace, whether that is at the pharmacy, the gas pump, or online.

And I know that as a proud immigrant, Mr. Bedoya will also use his role to expand the FTC's work in underserved communities.

The FTC needs to be able to protect all Americans, and to accomplish that, we need to have a Commission that is not deadlocked now but has somebody like Mr. Bedoya, who can help us move ahead on these issues.

He has experience working, as I said, in the Judiciary Committee. In 2009, he cofounded the Esperanza Education Fund, an immigration status-blind college scholarship for immigrant students, and has been working on various issues within the community.

Right now, we need an FTC that is going to look at market systems and make sure there is fair competition to make sure that consumers are protected and that there is a level playing field.

I think his experience here on the Hill lets him understand exactly what that is. He has testified before Congress and State legislatures and appeared in numbers of publications about these critical issues on privacy and on the online world in which we need to have more oversight.

So, finally, Mr. Bedoya's experience on, as I said, data privacy specifically, the internet and making it a safe place for children—he exposed racial bias in facial recognition software, helped to protect innocent people from prosecution and companies that have already collected data on millions of Americans. We need that kind of expertise that Mr. Bedoya knows and understands how we are using that today and what we can do to better protect the American consumer.

I hope that my colleagues will join us to approve and move quickly to discharge the committee of Alvaro Bedoya's nomination to be a Commissioner of the FTC and support his nomination as we get this to the Senate floor.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 AM TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, and pursuant to S. Res. 565, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 30, 2022, and does so as a further mark of respect for the late DON YOUNG, former Representative from Alaska.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:59 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT
BOARD

TRAVIS LEBLANC, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 29, 2023. (REAPPOINTMENT)

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination pursuant to S. Res. 27 and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

LISA DENELL COOK, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2010.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 29, 2022:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LISA A. CARTY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

LAURA S. H. HOLGATE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NANI A. COLORETTI, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CHRISTOPHER JOHN WILLIAMSON, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MALLORY A. STEWART, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE).

C.S. ELIOT KANG, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND NON-PROLIFERATION).