

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4468. An act to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed rule with respect to emissions from vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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-3029. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act that involved fiscal years 2011 through 2018 Military Personnel, Marine Corps; Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps; and Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps funds; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3030. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inapplicability of Certain Laws and Regulations to Commercial Items" (RIN0750-AJ21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 29, 2023; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3031. A communication from the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Bonneville Power Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Annual Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3032. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2022 Data Update Supplement to the 2021 Report to Congress for the Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers Grant Program"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3033. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3034. A communication from the Supervisory Workforce Analyst, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wagner-Peyser Act Staffing" (RIN1205-AC02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 29, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3035. A communication from the Agency Representative, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to the Representation of Others in Design Patent Matters Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office" (RIN0651-AD67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3036. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting,

pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Tort Claims Act—Technical Changes" (RIN1120-AB80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3037. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exercise of Time-Limited Authority to Increase the Numerical Limitation for FY 2024 for the H-2B Temporary Nonagricultural Worker Program and Portability Flexibility for H-2B Workers Seeking to Change Employers" (RIN1615-AC89) (RIN1205-AC18)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-86. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the Federal Housing Finance Agency to rescind all fee increases that negatively impact Pennsylvania homebuyers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 134

Whereas, The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) implemented a change to Fannie Mae's and Freddie Mac's single-family pricing framework by introducing redesigned fee matrices for home purchases, rate-term refinance and cash-out refinance loans; and

Whereas, Under the newly effective change, fees assessed on borrowers with lower credit scores were reduced while fees were increased for borrowers with higher credit scores and moderate down payments; and

Whereas, The majority of mortgages that exist today are known as "conforming mortgages" because they adhere to the underwriting guidelines of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac and are subject to loan-level price adjustments established by the FHFA; and

Whereas, Housing affordability has reached its lowest level in over a decade due to the significant surge in mortgage rates and record home price appreciation; and

Whereas, Imposing higher fees on borrowers further exacerbates the challenge of affording a home within an already constrained housing market; and

Whereas, The increased fees on borrowers with higher credit scores is contrary to the congressionally chartered duty of the government-sponsored enterprises, which is to promote access to mortgage credit throughout the nation, and is unnecessary for the safety and soundness of the enterprises; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Federal Housing Finance Agency to rescind all fee increases that negatively impact Pennsylvania homebuyers; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress, each member of Congress from Pennsylvania and the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

POM-87. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts calling on the United States Government to continue to stand with the people of Israel in their time of need, support the victims of the

recent terrorist attack against the state of Israel and work towards the safe return of those who are being held hostage; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 2462

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, the Terrorist Organization known as Hamas launched a brutal barbaric assault and attack on the State of Israel and brought immense suffering to the innocent civilians of Israel and the region; and

Whereas, the Israeli people have an inalienable right to defend themselves against acts of terrorism; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth mourns the thousands of innocent victims of Hamas's terrorist attack against Israel, including women, children and babies, and is gravely concerned for the many innocent civilians who have been kidnapped and are being held hostage; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth has continuously demonstrated an unwavering commitment to supporting innocent victims of violence and calls for a safe return of the Israelis, Americans and other nationals who have recently been kidnapped and are being held hostage; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth must strongly condemn these heinous terrorist actions by Hamas in Israel; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth stands in solidarity with the Jewish community in Israel, the Commonwealth and around the world; and

Whereas, the recent, sharp rise in anti-semitism, expressed openly and violently, reinforces the need for our collective, continued efforts to stand against hatred and bigotry in the Commonwealth and abroad; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Massachusetts Senate hereby calls on the United States Government to continue to stand with the people of Israel in their time of need, support the victims of the recent terrorist attack against the State of Israel and work towards the safe return of those who are being held hostage; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the clerk of the Senate to the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States, Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

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

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2973. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to establish requirements relating to pharmacy benefit managers under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-122).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Capt. Jason P. Tama and ending with Capt. Zeita Merchant, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 5, 2023.

*J. Todd Inman, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2027.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Mark R. Allen and ending with James B. Zorn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 24, 2023.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Lori A. Archer and ending with Sharon E. Russell, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 26, 2023.

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Sara E. Hill, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

John David Russell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

Ramona Villagomez Manglona, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. WYDEN:

S. 3430. An original bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to expand the mental health care workforce and services, reduce prescription drug costs, and extend certain expiring provisions under Medicare and Medicaid, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3431. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to strengthen the authorities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to enforce the customs and trade laws of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 3432. A bill to permit the use of NATO and major non-NATO ally dredge ships in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 3433. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to propose a new nationwide permit under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for dredging projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 3434. A bill to eliminate certain requirements with respect to dredging and dredged material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 3435. A bill to repeal the requirements of the Foreign Dredge Act of 1906 with respect to dredging and dredged material; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 3436. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for middle-income housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 3437. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to authorize grants and training to support area agencies on aging and other community-based organizations in addressing social isolation among older individuals and adults with disabilities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 3438. A bill to prohibit entities receiving Federal assistance that are involved in adoption or foster care placements from delaying or denying placements under certain conditions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3439. A bill to strengthen and enhance the competitiveness of cement, concrete, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixture production in the United States through the research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of technologies to reduce emissions from cement, concrete, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixture production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 3440. A bill to prohibit the sale and distribution of expanded polystyrene food service ware, expanded polystyrene loose fill, and expanded polystyrene coolers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 3441. A bill to prevent Foreign Terrorist Organizations and their financial enablers, whether in currency or digital assets, from accessing financial and other institutions of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3442. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make timely decisions on applications of retail food stores to accept benefits from recipients of supplemental nutrition assistance through on-line transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3443. A bill to prohibit institutions of higher education, elementary schools, and secondary schools from receiving Federal

funds if those schools or institutions have covered relationships with covered persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3444. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve the accessibility of 9-8-8, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LEE, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 3445. A bill to promote domestic energy production, to require onshore and offshore oil and natural gas lease sales, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 3446. A bill to require Federal banking agencies to report on interactions with non-governmental international organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3447. A bill to reauthorize the program to support residential treatment programs for pregnant and postpartum women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 3448. A bill to reauthorize the Director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to support Holocaust education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3449. A bill to provide low-income individuals with opportunities to enter and follow a career pathway in the health professions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 3450. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to promote collaborative treatment of mental and physical health comorbidities under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 3451. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide mental health and substance use services to incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 3452. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to determine the eligibility or entitlement of a member or former member of the Armed Forces described in subsection (a) to a benefit under a law administered by the Secretary solely based on alternative sources of evidence when the military service records or medical treatment records of the member or former member are incomplete because of damage or loss of records after being in the possession of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3453. A bill to establish a grant program to facilitate peer-to-peer mental health support programs for secondary school students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.